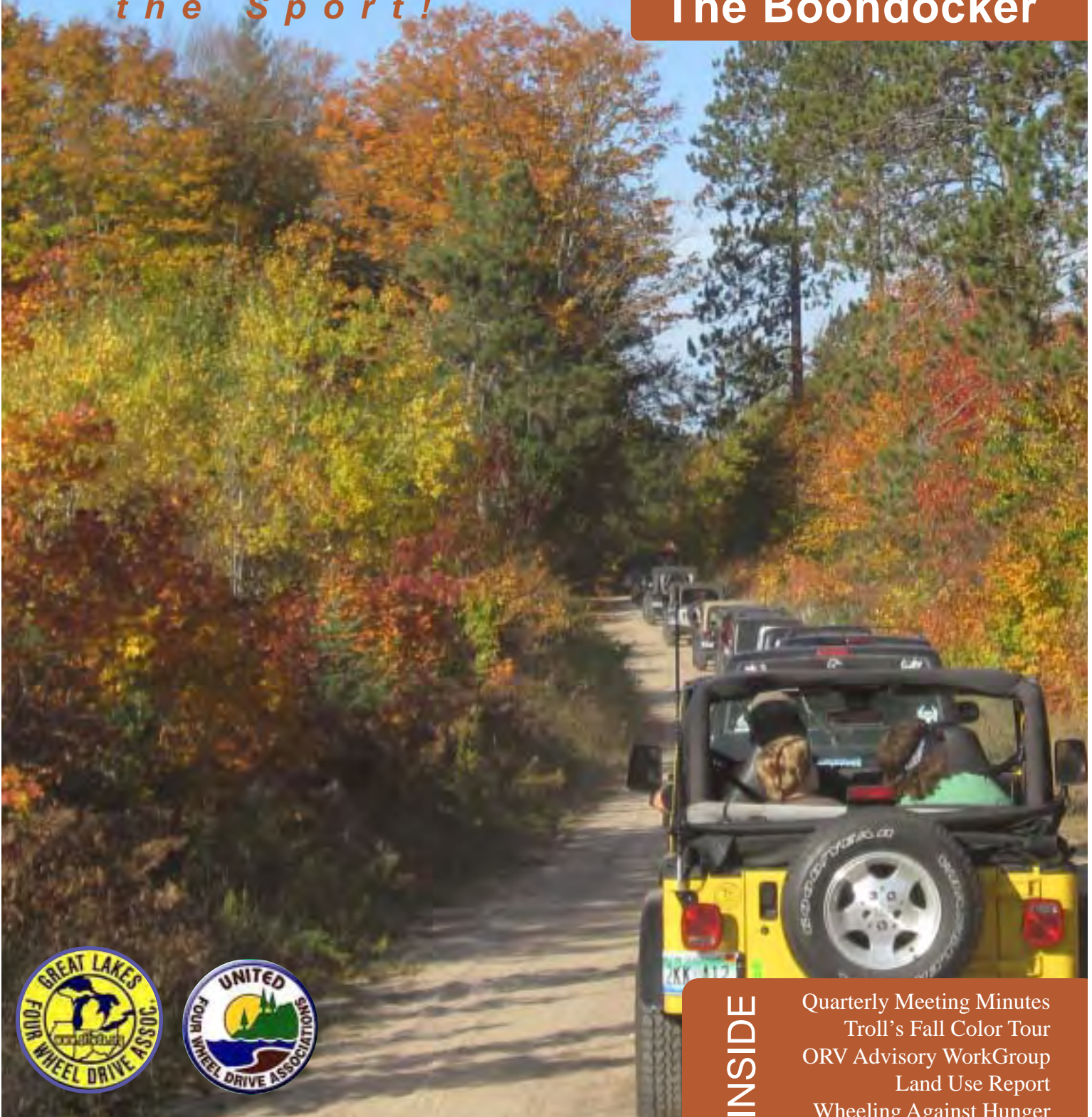


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The Boondocker



INSIDE

- Quarterly Meeting Minutes
- Troll's Fall Color Tour
- ORV Advisory WorkGroup
- Land Use Report
- Wheeling Against Hunger
- More!

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Summer 2011

Executive Board

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president@glfwda.org

Vice President

Paul Hittie
2444 E. Hill Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
810-241-2482
vicepresident@glfwda.org

Recording Secretary

Carl Jarema
secretary@glfwda.org

Treasurer

David Smith
treasurer@glfwda.org

Membership Secretary

Pamela East
membershipsecretary@glfwda.org

Additional Contacts

Associate Membership Secretary

Position Available
amsecretary@glfwda.org

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 contact 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.

Additional Contacts

Land Use Committee Chair

Pat Brower
231-865-1345
landuse@glfwda.org

Four Wheel Drive Awareness Training

Position Available
training@glfwda.org

Trail Ride Committee Chair

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trc@glfwda.org

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editor@glfwda.org

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On the Cover:

Amazing View on the Trolls Fall Color
Tour in October

On the rear cover:

More of Michigan's beauty on the
Trolls Fall Color Tour

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Stories and articles are submitted from various Association Members. The views and opinions expressed in the stories and articles within are solely those of the individual, or individuals who submitted said stories or articles. Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association neither advocates, endorses, nor recommends any of the said views or opinions.



Boondocker Submissions

Content for The Boondocker is provided by association members.

We would be glad to receive your articles, pictures, event dates, technical write-ups or trails from the trail. Take a few minutes to write up some highlights of your most recent club event or off-pavement excursion and be sure to include pictures! You may see your event in the next issue!

Please note that any submission for the next Boondocker should be sent via e-mail to editor@glfwda.org before December 15, 2011.

Save the Dates!

Wednesday June 13 – Saturday June 16, 2012

Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association, in conjunction with The Mounds Off-Road Vehicle Area, Bundy Hill Off Road Park, Rocks and Valleys Off Road Park, and Silver Lake State Park, will be holding a four parks in four days adventure tour. Visit four of Michigan's favorite lower peninsulas wheeling spots. Each park will offer camping, activities, and endless fun for the whole family. There will be possible prizes for attending all four days events. Drive your junk to all four locations or, if you're weak hearted, trailers are allowed. All vehicle styles and sizes are welcome. No one will be left out.

Details are still being worked out, so keep tuned to GLFWDA.org forum or your local off road forums for more information. Guaranteed to be a great time for all.

Calendar of Events

SoFO's SnoFari January 27-28 West Branch, MI	Twisted Trails Season Opener April 7th Twisted Trails Copemish, MI
GLFWDA Winter Quarterly Meeting January 27th In Conjunction with Snofafri West Branch, MI	Blessing of the Jeeps May 5 th Mesick, MI
Sno*Blind Expedition February 10-12 West Branch, MI	4xKIDS Run May 10-12 The Ranch French Lick, IN
Chili Run February 25th Mounds ORV Park Mount Morris, MI	GLFWDA Lower Peninsula Park Adventure June 13-16

If your club wants to put a date on the Boondocker Calendar, just email the date with a description of the event and contact information to the

Boondocker Editor at editor@glfwda.org

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DON'T FORGET!

To help our association save unnecessary expenses, this publication can be viewed and printed online in a PDF format for no cost. Also, as a benefit, the online version is available for download typically a week or more before the paper copies can be printed, mailed, and delivered!

Please contact the Membership Secretary and ask her to remove you from the mailing list for this paper copy.

Past issues are available at
www.glfwda.org/boondocker.html

Current issues are available on GLFWDA's website via the Forums. Follow the link in the Members section for the latest online version!



President's Message

Do you realize what you have made possible this last year as a Member of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association? These past 12 months have given us a lot of great things, including:

- ✓ Pat Brower representing your interests as a member of the Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Workgroup - MSTAC (Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Council).
- ✓ Pat Brower and Bob DeVore representing your interests as members of ORV Safety Education Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Paul Hittie and Pat Brower representing your interests as instructors at the MI-DNR ORV Safety Education Academy.
- ✓ Pat Brower and Bob DeVore representing your interests as members of MMRC (Michigan Motorized Recreational Council).
- ✓ Steve Walker representing your interests as a member of Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Council.
- ✓ Pat Brower representing your interests as a member of Up North Trails Collaborative (RAC).
- ✓ Steve Walker and Pat Brower representing your interests as members of the Drummond Island Comprehensive Resource Management Plan Writing Team.
- ✓ Ryan Hoffman, Paul Hittie and Bob DeVore representing your interests at the MI-DNR Roscommon dual use trails discussion.
- ✓ Pat Brower and Bob DeVore representing your interests while knocking on doors and shaking hands with your legislatures, at the Capital Building in Lansing.
- ✓ It simply is not possible to identify each and every one that has had a part in representing your interests in fostering relationships with CRAM (County Road Association of Michigan, the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission, the 56th Maintenance Project, the Dunham Lake Road Reroute, the Grand Traverse Route, the West Higgins Lake Route Proposal, the Oscoda County Regional Advisory Council for Forest Service Activities, Savanna Restoration Project and Forest Plan Litigation funding and the completion of Phase III at The Mounds Off-Road Vehicle Area.

Just as it is impossible to identify each and every one that has had a part in representing your interests this past 12 months; this list is far from complete in recognizing what you have made possible this last year as a Member of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association. I would truly like to THANK the Membership for sticking by the GLFWDA e-Board and acknowledge their undying efforts to the tasks at hand.

On behalf of the e-Board and myself personally, I would like to THANK Each and Everyone of You for your Membership and for doing and helping out when you can. Lastly, I ask to reflect on why you joined the Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association. With this reflection, I also ask you to reach out this coming year and bring a brother, a sister, a buddy, relative or whatever into our Membership for as I have said many times, "A snowflake all by itself is of little consequence, but a whole lot of snowflakes together can be of grave concern."

In closing I leave you with this quote:

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free." —Ronald Reagan

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob DeVore (aka Jarhead)

Federal Issues

Savanna Ecosystem Restoration Project

GLFWDA will assist Otto Township with their litigation of the Savanna Project. Non-tax deductible donations to assist with the costs of litigation can be made at

Donations@GLFWDA.org. Make sure to list "Savanna Litigation" in the notes so we know where the funds are intended to go.

Hunting/Snowmobiling ban in Semi-Primitive Areas

The comment period for this will have closed shortly before this report is printed. GLFWDA will be submitting comment supporting Alternative 3. This would redefine several Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized Recreation Areas to other classifications more suited to the uses those lands actually witness on a regular basis.

State Issues

Legislation

GLFWDA is involved with the legislative process again this year. The LUC recently met with Representative Huuki's staff, CRAM, DNR, and Republican Policy staff to review the 3 Draft Bills just released from the Writers. A few corrections were made and the Bills were resubmitted to the Writer for revision. There is a great deal of language from the Bills we introduced last year, with some minor changes. Carried over to these Bills from last year's Bills:

- Increase Permit Fee to \$30.50
- Liability protection for maintenance workers/grant recipients
- Increase in Permit Trigger from 20 people to 75 ORVs
- Define "Other Route" to mirror the recent Attorney General's opinion

GLFWDA will meet with the Writer and Huuki's staff again when the new Drafts are out to ensure they say what was intended. Then they'll be released to Committee early next year.

Drummond Island ORV Route

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is coordinating the development of a Drummond Island Comprehensive Resource Management Plan (Plan). As part of this process, they have created a Drummond Island Plan Writing Team, which is comprised of a variety of organizations, agencies,

and individuals with an array of interests concerning natural resources and Drummond Island. GLFWDA has secured two positions on this Team.

The purpose of the Writing Team is to create a Comprehensive Resource Management Plan that would provide resource management recommendations and alternatives that are acceptable within the mandates of the DNR's mission, while meeting the overall needs of Islanders, DNR, and resource users. The Plan will also focus on strategies for providing quality hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities, and promote Drummond Island as a special place to attract resource-based tourism.

Meetings have concluded and the final recommendations will be released for public comment when they are presented to the Natural Resources Commission in February or March 2012.

County Issues

North East Michigan Council of Governments

The NEMCOG intends to produce a comprehensive recreation map for their area. The electronic map would list any and all trails, from hiking and biking, to orv and kayak routes. They've received considerable attention from other areas and it is believed that this would serve as a template for other regions to use promoting their areas. GLFWDA has met with the program administrators and GIS specialist to gage their knowledge of the issues surrounding back-country driving. They had little. It was suggested they consider including a brief summary of the rules for each major jurisdiction as well (CRC, State, and NFS). They were excited to hear that GLFWDA has a strong desire to work closely with them to ensure the map's accuracy across all the jurisdictions involved.

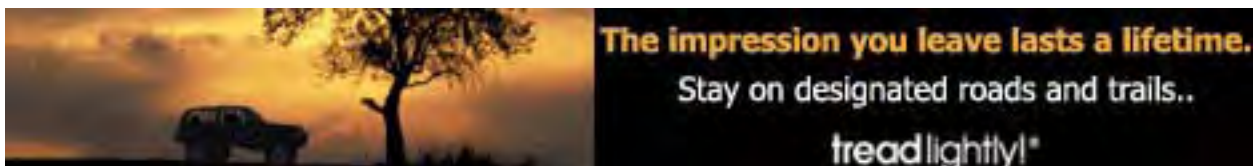
Oceana Rustic Roads Project

The LUC's next step will be working with an Attorney to determine which course of action would be appropriate for this workgroup to focus it's energies upon to gain maximum impact for the rustic travelways in Oceana County.

Sullivan Township Scramble Area

This project could also use some additional assistance. If you are interested in a project near the Muskegon/ Ottawa county line, please contact LandUse@GLFWDA.org to find out how you can help.

See our Update on the ORV Advisory Workgroup on Page 8!



UFWDA 4x4 Awareness Course Returns to Kalamazoo

by Paul Hittie

Recently UFWDA was invited by the Sundowners Off Road Club to conduct a 4WD Awareness course in Kalamazoo, MI. The Sundowners also hosted a training session back in 2008. To cut down on travel expenses for the program, UFWDA contacted a couple of local Chief Instructors in the area to organize and lead the training – Pat Brower (UFWDA Business Manager) and me. Somewhere along the way we mentioned that there would be free food available, which drew the attention of an additional volunteer to help lead the session – UFWDA Treasurer Bob DeVore. Pat and I previously teamed up to conduct another training session here in Michigan back in July 2011, when we provided a scaled down version of the UFWDA 4WD Awareness program to help prepare a select group of Michigan Conservation Officers as instructors for Michigan’s ORV Safety Education program.”

The UFWDA program has recently undergone a number of revisions aimed at updating the Student Handbook thanks to the combined efforts of Dave Logan (SFWDA) and Peter Vahry (UFWDA International VP). The program now includes an excellent set of Power Point slides in addition to the overall freshening up the Student Handbook received. Wayne Rynbrand, President of the Sundowners, hosted the training in an appropriate facility for a bunch of Jeepers to gather – his garage. We were joined by several members of his club plus a handful of participants who had recently traveled together as part of an organized outing through Gangbusters Getaways.

The experience level of the participants varied from almost zero time in the dirt to a couple with far more years of offroad driving experience than me – for those of you reading this that have never participated in the 4WD Awareness program, the program is primarily designed for new or relatively new four wheelers. However, ‘wheelers with moderate experience can benefit from the straight-forward presentation of the program, and even experienced 4x4 users can usually take home something new, and maybe unlearn a bad habit or two. The mix of newer and more

experienced participants enhances the program – in fact there were a number of times that Pat and I functioned more as facilitators while the participants engaged in discussions and provided real-life examples of the subject at hand. After lunch we traveled to a parcel of property nearby that the Sundowners lease for special events to give everyone an opportunity to use the skills discussed in the morning session, and to use some of the recovery and safety equipment available.

Our training continued on Sunday for a small group of more experienced students that were seeking certification as Chief Instructors. Their training was focused on preparing, facilitating and leading 4WD Awareness classes in the future. We are hopeful that we will soon find opportunities for them to put their skills to work as we follow up on more opportunities to bring the UFWDA 4WD Awareness program to more Michigan four wheelers – one of our students who was relatively new to off highway driving but not 4x4 vehicles was the owner of a Jeep dealership in northern Michigan went home to determine what resources he would need to put together to host a future training class at his dealership. GLFWDA conducts annual training for the seasonal staff at Silver Lake State Park, and is currently working with a local adult community education program and The Mounds Off Road Park to provide additional training opportunities around the state so the addition of several new trainers to assist our existing cadre of 4WD Awareness Chief Instructors is a welcome addition.

For more information about the UFWDA 4WD Awareness program, please visit <http://www.ufwda.org/education/ufwda-4wd-awareness-program> If you would like information about scheduling a training session in your local area, contact UFWDA President Jim Mazzola at president@ufwda.org And if you are already a Chief Instructor in the UFWDA 4WD Awareness program and would like to help with future training sessions, or if you would like a copy of the updated Student Handbook to see the changes, please contact Jim.



Participants at the UFWDA 4x4 Awareness Course practice safe strap recovery and winching techniques during the practical portion of the training session held on property leased by the Sundowners



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Off Road Vehicle Advisory Workgroup (ORVAW)

From the DNR Website as prepared by: Steve Kubisiak, Recreation and Trails Program Coordinator

A meeting of the ORVAW was held at the Ramada Inn on Saginaw Highway in Lansing on Nov 9th.

BUSINESS ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

How the Safety Education Money is Used

Corporal John Morey, distributed and reviewed a handout detailing the ORV safety education fund. Appropriation by department/DNR division: Civil Service \$1,200, DTMB (information technology) \$13,600, Grants (education grants to counties) \$150,000, FMD (grant administration) \$6,600, Law Enforcement Division (education supplies, materials, equipment, personnel, instructor academy, etc.) \$87,400, Marketing and Outreach (printed student/class materials, personnel, guidebooks, etc.) \$54,100. Annual revenue is approximately \$200,000. Fund balance is decreasing rapidly. End of FY 2010 was \$285,000. End of FY 2011 estimated is \$190,000. **Chair Dunn** asked what impact implementation of the on-line course would have on the budget. **Cpl. Morey** replied it is unknown at this time. **Tim Kobasic** asked if the snowmobile safety instructors were notified about the on-line snowmobile safety education course. **Cpl. Morey** said there was a press-release and noted the on-line course is not intended to replace the hands-on course, but to provide an alternative for certification.

ORVAW Appointments

Chair Dunn, announced that Tim Kobasic, John Chad and Jim Faiella have been reappointed for two year terms.

Legislative Ride Update

Amy Trotter reported she received an email from Jim Faiella who has contacted

Representative Bumstead's office to begin planning a legislative ride in the Baldwin area next May. Amy is compiling a list of invitees and will work with Jim.

Tim Kobasic reported the UP ORV Tail Development Association invited legislators to a 7 hr. work secession this year but it fizzled out. They are planning a recreational ride with UP legislators

next spring noting Representative Huuki is very supportive of the ORV program.

ORV Program Budget Needs

Chair Dunn, distributed an information from the long-range financial workgroup that was convened in 2008-9. **Steve Kubisiak** explained the workgroup identified 29 budget need categories and estimated funding level to support the optimum program. He said in order to meet the optimum program desired by stakeholders a fee of \$35 - \$45 would be needed. The first column of the handout shows the optimum budget that was proposed for 2010 and the second column illustrates program reductions by category that would be needed if a \$30 fee were instituted. **Chair Dunn** noted that while a \$45 fee may be the optimum a \$25 - \$35 fee may be more politically palatable. Discussion by the ORVAW members then turned to questions about specific program categories and the need for more information. Staff will provide the ORVAW members with the full 10 year plan that was developed by the long range financial planning workgroup and the current FY 2012 budget. **Amy Trotter** asked if anyone has approached the State Park Blue Ribbon Panel. Chair Dunn will contact Erin McDonough.

2012 Meeting Schedule

Chair Dunn opened discussion on the 2012 meeting schedule and asked if 4 meetings are necessary. It was the consensus of the workgroup to hold quarterly meetings. Tentative dates are February 8, May 9, August 8 and November 7. **Amy Trotter** will check availability of MUCC office. The workgroup will confirm the schedule by email.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ORV Law Review Committee

Tim Kobasic, expressed concern with the safety education teaching text and that the test should be matched to the age of the student. He believes 97% of the students already ride and expressed concern with the 90% cc issue. He noted problems

see ORVAW pg 9



with test content regarding operation of full size vehicles. He proposed a two-tier curriculum, one for youth under age 16, and one for older adults. He also suggested that anyone born after 1990 be required to take a safety course. **Cpl Morey** asked Mr. Kobasic to send him his concerns and recommendations concerning the ORV safety education program so he can share it with the safety education workgroup.

Drummond Island Update

Pat Brower, reported the Drummond Island Writing Team met for the second time last Monday and Tuesday. The topic was recreation and he was very pleased with the outcome of the consensus based recommendations. The first meetings addressed hunting, fishing and trapping, the second meeting dealt with recreation, and the third meeting scheduled for December 7 and 8 will address education and outreach. No details will be available until the final plan is published.

STAFF REPORTS

SB 248 Update

Steve Kubisiak, referred the workgroup to the House Committee summary of SB 248 in their meeting packets. He said the Governor's Office has implemented changes in the way state

departments do bill analysis and that official positions will now be issued by the Governor's Office. **Tim Kobasic** expressed concerns with the legislation citing possible implications to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and Park Endowment Fund. **Amy Trotter** said MUCC is opposed the legislation. **Tim Kobasic made a motion seconded by Amy Trotter that the ORV Advisory Workgroup oppose SB 248. Motion unanimously carried.**

Chair Dunn will advise the Michigan Snowmobile and Trials Advisory Council on the action taken by the workgroup.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

Bill Gilbert supports a two-tier ORV safety education program and believes the more education the better and safer the program will be in the future.

Kristin Throll, Recreation Program Coordinator, Huron-Manistee National Forest reported they are taking comment on their Forest Plan revision until December 23. She announced that Rose Ingram and Ted Schultz are retiring and the forest has been directed to operate at a 10% reduction.

Amy Trotter reported that MUCC has an action alert on HB 4684 and is opposed. The bill would prevent the DNR from issuing orders to restrict equine riding on state lands and could jeopardize federal wildlife funding.

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Autumn in Michigan means apple cider, pumpkins, trees turning color, and the annual Trolls Color Tour. This year's event took place on October 8th and started in Wolverine. The week before the event had the club finalizing plans. We scouted the route, counted replies on the web forums, and purchased hot dogs.

The forecast was for warm, sunny weather. But we were prepared for anything (because we have gotten anything-even snow!). This time the weatherman was right and we enjoyed a beautiful day. With everyone gathered at the park, and an appearance from the "The Troll" (thanks T-Way!), we held a quick driver's meeting, then sent group one on their way. About ten minutes later group two headed off to the woods.

The route meandered along county roads, snowmobile trails and woods roads. Group two took a short break along a river for some cider and doughnuts (thanks Gary!). The real fun came just before lunch when the trail went up and over some sandy hills. After a helpful tug and some time for radiators to cool, it was a short run to lunch. However, it ain't wheelin' til someone breaks and that break was a drive shaft. Fortunately, he still had front wheel drive and it was a short ride to a main road where he could get back to civilization.

Lunch was cooked up by our own Brent (Bluejay) and consisted of grilled hot dogs. We had a beautiful view of Thumb Lake and some were tempted to go swimming in the alluring water. (Actually, some other people enjoying the park did go for a swim, with no ill effects!)

After lunch, some people went their own way, and the remnants continued on as one group. Once again, breakage happened as an axle decided to part company with the jeep! However, he made contact with his people to come get him with a trailer, so we left one person with him (thanks Vic!) and continued on to the finish. Once we arrived in Elmira, a small group went on to Dead Man's hill to enjoy the view over the Jordan River Valley, while the rest of the group went on to other adventures.

Many participants offered to help the Trolls cover the food costs. We agreed that the food was "on the club" and offered instead to accept donation on behalf of The Manna Project – a non profit organization that supports local food banks. Participants donated a total of \$110 to this worthwhile cause.

The Trolls thank all who came and look forward to seeing all of you next year!



Fall Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order: 10:02 am Eastern Standard Time
- II. Introduction of Executive Board
 - Paul Hittie, Pam East, Carl Jarema, Dave Smith
- III. Approval of Minutes: Minutes were unanimously approved
- IV. President's Report
 - a. None
- V. Vice President's Report – Everything is covered in the agenda below
- VI. Secretary's Report - Nothing to report
- VII. Treasurer's Report
 - a. All trail maintenance money is in
 - b. Membership dues are strong
 - c. Drummond Island Repeater
 - a. \$400 + has been raised in donations
 - b. GLFWDA will donate \$1,000
- VIII. Membership Secretary's Report
 - a. 249 current, 86 expired, 2 new associate members
- IX. Associate Membership Secretary's Report
 - a. None
- X. Web Site Administrator's Report
 - a. None
- XI. Boondocker Editor's Report - Ed Schroeder
 - a. Summer Issue will be ready to go out Beginning of Novemeber
 - b. Fall issue deadline will be in mid December
- XII. PR Committee
 - a. None
- XIII. Trail Ride Committee Report –
 - a. None
- XIV. 4WD Safety Awareness
 - a. Need a member to head up the position
 - b. Sundowners still have a couple openings October 15. \$35 for the day, \$15 on Sunday for the Chief Instruction training
- XV. Land Use Report – KOTARO
 - a. Savanna Eco System
 - a. Ottwa Township Clerk looks to stop the NFS plan in favor of keeping rustic roads open
 - b. Baldwin Area
 - a. Looking to establish actual 4x4 routes in the area
 - i. Need Mappers, focusing on old/closed trails.
 - ii. Mapping can be done by using old maps and walking or horse riding the closed trials
 - c. ORV Permit price change
 - a. \$16.25 currently only covers ½ the operational costs for the ORV system.

- Legislation is currently seeking an increase to \$30.50
- d. Increase for permit requirement
 - a. State looking to increase the number of people / vehicles that are allowed before a permit is required.
- e. ORV advisory board
 - a. Unclear is the changes to the DNR / EPA will affect this or board or not
- f. Drummond Island Route
 - a. Much of the land used by the route was purchased with Pitman-Robertson funds. These funds were meant o be used for allowing hunting access to previously private land. Because the ORV route has been so popular, it may be affecting hunting in the area and can pose a risk to the route.
- g. 56th Street Repair
 - a. County was considering abandoning the road. GLFWDA members as well as local residents flattened the road and blocked illegal trails. More volunteers and heavier equipment would have made the work faster and better.

XVI. Trail Maintenance

- a. All Reports were turned in on time
- b. Spring work check came in September, Club checks will be out shortly
- c. All inspections came back good
- d. Roscommon Voice Article
 - a. Article talked how GLFWDA was doing a poor job with trail maintenance in the area
 - b. DNR set up a meeting with the snowmobile users that were complaining about the trail conditions. ATV users in the summer, and Snowmobile riders in the winter are not able to drive a fast as they

see Meeting pg 12



would like because of the “whoops” and other trail conditions. This trail is not part of GLFWDA route, but one of the local snowmobile clubs

- c. A letter was written to the Roscommon Voice clarifying the trail maintenance rules and responsibilities and asked to have a retraction statement written in the next issue.

XVII. Old Business

- a. none

XVIII. New Business

- a. Elections
 - a. Vice President – Congratulations to Paul Hittie
 - b. Recording Secretary – Congratulations to Carl Jarema
 - c. Membership Secretary – Congratulations to Pam East
 - d. There were no other nominations for these positions
- b. Award Nominations
 - a. Details on Website
 - b. Association Member of the Year
 - c. Associate Member of the Year
 - d. Club of the Year
- c. GLFWDA Quarterly Meetings
 - a. Board will make every effort to hold meetings the Friday / opening day of meetings that are planned with a 4x4 event
- d. UFWDA
 - a. United looking at changing the dues structure because membership is down. Possibly because clubs and regional groups are working on local issues
 - b. Gary suggested that UFWDA focus on improving their image and product to entice people to rejoin, then discuss due changes
 - c. Ed Schroeder suggested a hybrid system.
 - i. Specified number of UFWDA members per club to get voting rights. This would incentivize clubs to get their members to join and pay into UFWDA
- e. Travel / Office expenses
 - a. Board members to receive reimbursement for travel / office expenditures. Sponsorships will be sought to offset the cost of materials

- b. Dave suggested to limit total expenditures at \$2000
- c. There was also an amendment to only reimburse base on actual funds (receipts included) and will not include miles or food.
- d. Dave Motioned, Pam seconded.
- e. Motion Passed

XIX. Club Reports

- a. Trolls – 56 Trucks at the Color Tour. Great outcome
- b. MSG – DOA was a success and is getting better every year. Working on the DI HAM repeater
- c. What Lies Beyond – Food Donations for Thanksgiving at the Mounds. Money is also welcome and goes 7x as far as a can of food.

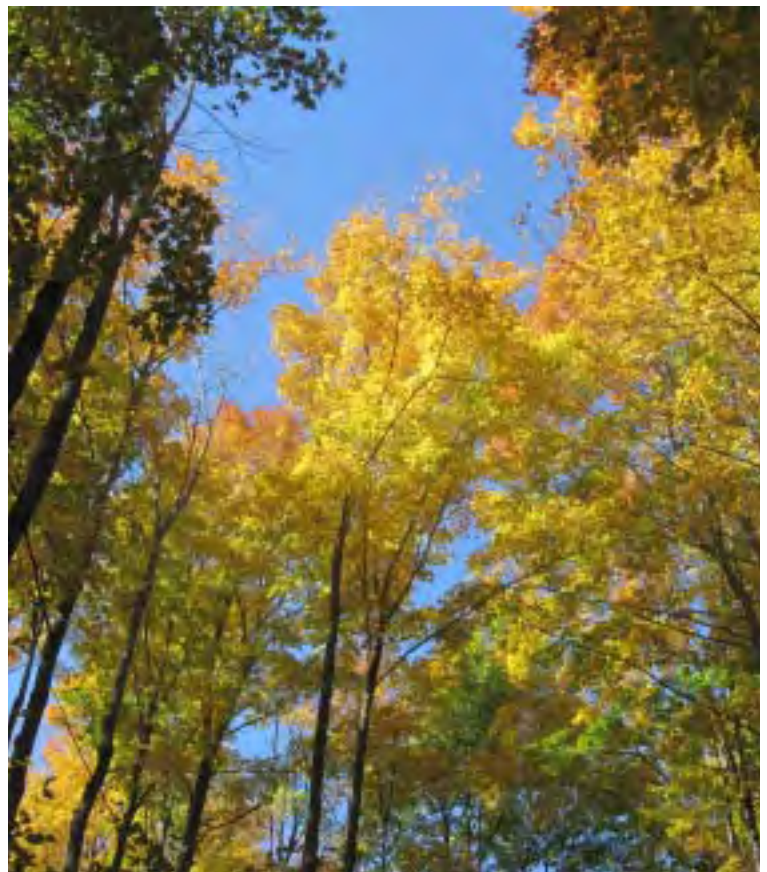
XX. Associate Members Reports

XXI. Upcoming Dates of Importance

- a. 2012 Quarterly Membership Meeting Dates and Locations
 - i. **January 26th – 28th**, in conjunction with SnoFari

XXII. Members Discussion

- a. Ed Schroeder Motioned to Adjourn
- b. Second By Dave Smith
- c. Meeting Adjourned



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Store Manager
 Kevin Bentz
 1627 Eureka Rd.
 Wyandotte, MI 48192
store@glfwda.org

GLFWDA Club Listing & Contact Info

Mid-MichiganFourwheelers

Member since 1990
 Director: Ron Roggow
 4125 Roosevelt
 Hemlock, MI 48626

Mud, Sweat, and Gears

Member since 1987
www.msg4x4club.com
 Director: Tim Yocum
tim.yocum@koltanbar.com



SoFO - Michigan

Member since 2005
 Website:sofo.glfwda.org
 31026 West Chicago
 Livonia, MI 48150
 734.776.6072
sofomich@gmail.com



Tri-City Trail Riders

Member since 2003
 Director: Steve Gradowski
 1634 Hotchkiss Rd
 Freeland MI 48623
nvrenuf@gmail.com



Troll Fourwheelers

Member since 1993
www.trolls4wdclub.com
 7200 Bunker
 Indian River, MI 49749
nephd@blazeconnect.net



What Lies Beyond Jeep Club

Member since 2007
 PO Box 718
 Flint, MI 48501
www.whatliesbeyond.org



Two Trackers Four Wheel Drive Club, Inc.

PO Box 88063
 Kentwood, MI 48518-9998
www.twotrackers.com
www.twotrackers.org



UNITED FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATIONS

P.O. Box 316
 Swartz Creek, MI 48473
 1-800-44-UFWDA



Wheeling Against Hunger - "Moundsgiving" 2011

by Ed Schroeder

Thanksgiving day. There are always a few slow hours of anticipation from the time you wake up until the time when the turkey is on the table. What's an avid Four-Wheeling enthusiast to do to pass the time? It seems as long as The Mounds ORV Park in Genesee County has been open, the answer for many has been to go get their rigs muddy for a few hours at the park Thanksgiving morning. Some call it the Turkey Day Massacre. Genesee County Parks and Recreation prefers the more benign label of "Moundsgiving". Whatever you call it, every year hundreds of rigs start lining up hours before the park opens for a chance to have some fun wheeling before the big dinner. The park has everything from sandy scramble areas and deep mud pits to tight trails in the woods and a rock crawl area - attracting everything from daily drivers that rarely get off-pavement to truly extreme rigs on tractor tires.

Several years back, members of What Lies Beyond Jeep Club of Michigan (WLB) began setting up in the pavilion at the Mounds Thanksgiving morning to pass out free coffee, hot cocoa, and snacks to the many families hitting the park for the day. We call it our "warming hut" and it's a chance to meet other off-pavement enthusiasts and introduce them to WLB. The first year we figured the sight of us freezing in the pavilion all day might garner some sympathy and we put out a donation bucket for anyone interested in contributing to a local charity. That bucket did so well, the next year we (informally) advertised a hat and glove drive and were overwhelmed at the number of items we collected (all of which went to the kids at Whaley's Children's Center in Flint)

For the last three years WLB has advertised this event as a canned food and cash donation drive on behalf of the Eastern Michigan Food Bank (EMFB). To formally advertise the event, we are required to pull a permit and pay for insurance. Fortunately, as a Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association member club, we were able to get the insurance through GLFWDA for just \$125. It still seemed like a steep price to pay to put on a canned food drive but the first year the BOD at GLFWDA generously agreed to pay half the cost and our event has since been written into their annual policy. What a great benefit of Club membership in the association!

While always grateful for food donations, the folks at EMFB are able to stretch cash donations amazingly. They tell us they are able to provide 60 meals for just \$10, so they have asked us to stress this when seeking donations. This year, Michigan Wheelers provided us with a dozen coffee mugs as incentives and agreed to Match the first \$100 in Donations (Thanks Pam!). We filled the mugs with Hot Cocoa packets and candy canes and offered them as a thank you gift with any \$10 donation. Once again the Michigan Wheeling community astounded us with their generosity. We collected 238 lbs of food Thanksgiving morning and an amazing \$420 in cash / Check donations. WLB matched Michigan wheelers \$100 donation bringing the total cash collected for EMFB to \$620. If my math is correct, that means the Michigan Wheeling community provided over 1,300 meals for families in need this holiday season!

All of us at What Lies Beyond want to take the chance to say "Thank-you" to all the folks that stopped by the pavilion with their donations. We are already making plans for next year's event and we are looking forward to seeing everyone out at the Mounds!

Associate Membership Directory

4BYFOURS

6148 Airline Rd.
Fruitport, MI 49415
231-206-0784

The Dam Site inn

US 31, 1.5 miles S of Pellston
231-539-8851
www.damsiteinn.com

Bundy Hill Offroad Park

www.bundyhilloffroad.com
9960 E Chicago
Jerome, MI 49249

Ken Mitchell's Signs & Graphics

715 George
Midland, MI 48640
Contact: Brian, Stephanie
Mitchell
989-835-3964

Kris' Splicing

www.krissplicing.com
krissplicing@att.net

Jeeperz Creeperz

www.jeeperz-creeperz.com
1627 Eureka Rd.,
Wyandotte, MI 48192
734-281-8141
sales@jeeperz-creeperz.com
Contact: Kevin Bentz

Michigan Wheelers

www.michiganwheelers.com

Rocks & Valleys Off-road Park

US 127 between Clare & Harrison
1/2 mile W of Snow Snake
Ski & Golf
989-539-1448



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Why Become a Member?

In unity there is strength. Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association is dedicated to upholding the rights of citizens, and the continued use of public lands. Public lands belong to its citizens to RESPECT, to PROTECT, and to ENJOY. If you support these principles, your membership will add your voice to the millions of other recreationists who are striving to protect their rights and freedoms. GLFWDA believes, with firm conviction, in this right and this trust. GLFWDA believes that citizens have the right of access and to enjoy these public lands, by vehicle, as well as by other means. GLFWDA recognizes that citizens who use these lands, in return, have an obligation to uphold the trust – to respect the land, and so conduct their activities that the public interests are protected. We invite the cooperation of all in upholding the right of citizens to continued use of the public lands they jointly own.

We urge individual four-wheel enthusiasts to become members of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs, or to form new clubs, and to affiliate with the Association. We invite the support and participation of related businesses as Supporting Associate Members of GLFWDA.

Individual Membership Application

Date: _____

Screen Name on GLFWDA.org _____ Other 4WD Affiliations: _____

Name: _____ 4WD Vehicle: _____

Address 1: _____ Phone Number _____

Address 2: _____ Interests: Trail Rides Mud Bogs

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Camping Rock Crawling

Send your completed application with your check for the \$40 yearly individual dues made payable to "Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association" to:
Membership entitles you to receive the "Boondocker" newsletter - please include your mailing address.

Pam East
2580 Liegl Drive
Alanson, MI 49706
membershipsecretary@glfwda.org

GLFWDA Associate Membership Information

If you own, operate, or work for a business that might be interested in being a supporting member of GLFWDA, then we have the deal for you!

Associate Membership Benefits

- Your business information listed in The Boondocker, a quarterly e-publication of GLFWDA.
- A Certificate of Appreciation.
- A GLFWDA Window Decal.
- Two (2) ID cards with your GLFWDA Associate Membership number.
- A chance to be nominated Associate Member of the Year.
- A welcome to attend all GLFWDA sponsored events.
- Company exposure to four-wheel drive enthusiasts from all over the country and all around the world through the GLFWDA website.

Remember: No Trails = No Sales!

For more information, please visit our Associate Membership information page:
www.glfwda.org/index.php?page=joinam

5 levels of membership for Associate Members:

- **Level 1** \$50/Year Receive 1 copy of The Boondocker per issue.
- **Level 2** \$100/Year Receive four business card size ads per year in The Boondocker and 5 copies of The Boondocker per issue.
- **Level 3** \$150/Year Receive four quarter-page ads per year in The Boondocker, 10 copies of The Boondocker per issue, and a banner ad placed into rotation in the forums.
- **Level 4** \$200/Year Receive four half-page ads per year in The Boondocker, 15 copies of The Boondocker per issue, and a banner ad placed into rotation in the forums.
- **Level 5** \$300/Year Receive four full-page ads per year in The Boondocker, 20 copies of The Boondocker per issue, and a banner ad placed into rotation in the forums.

INSIDE

- Quarterly Meeting Minutes
- Troll's Fall Color Tour
- ORV Advisory WorkGroup
- Land Use Report
- Wheeling Against Hunger
- More!



www.glfwda.org

Fall 2011

Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Assoc.
 c/o Paul Hittie
 2444 E. Hill Rd.
 Grand Blanc, MI 48439



DATED MATERIAL DO NOT DELAY

