



UNITED FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATIONS INC.
AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
www.ufwda.org

UFWDA e-NEWS June 2007

With the months flying past, the UFWDA annual convention is approaching rapidly. A lot of planning depends on knowing the numbers expected to attend and with accommodation limited by other events in Grand Junction CO, it is important that bookings are made now! Register now too with the convention organizers. www.HighTrails.org Confirm approved delegates with UFWDA to validate voting.

The annual UFWDA Land Use Conference, held as part of the convention, has in the past been based on UFWDA "experts" providing advice on how to tackle land access matters.

For 2007, UFWDA want to reverse that and have our members describe their approaches to managing this widespread problem confronting our recreation. We are hoping to get strong interest in how others manage. What we learn will help shape the future UFWDA direction on access.

Reports can be presented by Delegates or forwarded for discussion, by organizations or members unable to attend. Please get involved. Again we would like to know in advance of the interest and participation levels, so please contact me about this at intlvp@ufwda.org

Peter Vahry

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Exciting New Appointments for UFWDA

The UFWDA Board of Directors (BOD) are pleased to announce the appointment of Todd Ockert to the interim position of Environmental Affairs Director and Marti Pugh to the newly created role of Business Development Manager.

Todd (43) is a resident of Lemoore California with a long interest in four wheeling combined with a US Navy career. Those who have visited the UFWDA forum will have noted his wide interest in the politics of land access.

Marti's role is to improve the awareness of the commercial 4x4 world to UFWDA and she is keen to start making a difference. This will include fund raising and event planning to generate new revenue for UFWDA as well as the traditional roles of business and advertising sales.

Carla Boucher Visits Great Lakes

Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association was pleased to host United Four Wheel Drive Association's Attorney, Carla Boucher, at their quarterly meeting in Mears, Michigan on April 22nd, 2007.

Carla's wheeling background makes her the perfect advocate to fight for and protect the rights of four-wheel drive enthusiasts. There are many attorneys in this country that will take up virtually any cause for a fee. Having an attorney who truly believes in the cause is a very rare commodity. United and its associated members are fortunate to have Mrs. Boucher in their corner.

The message of Carla's presentation was very clear. United Four Wheel Drive Association is being forced to look at individual membership and a significant dues increase in order to continue fighting for land use rights.

This sober message was delivered with supporting facts and reasoning. Carla explained that a portion of the proposed fee increase is to be allotted to hire professional employees to staff United.

Carla discussed several victories that have been achieved in various states over the past year. Carla also discussed how a victory for land use in one state sets the precedent for land usage issues in other states.

GLFWDA's Vice President, Pat Brower, outlined the countless hours of conversation he personally has had with Carla over the phone and in emails, as she has offered invaluable advice on procedural issues and suggestions regarding how Great Lakes can most effectively deal with the issues it is facing.

The consensus at the close of Mrs. Boucher's presentation is that it is in the best interest of Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association's members to support the individual-based membership and dues increase as proposed. Failure to support this initiative will be a devastating blow to wheeling in this country, and could very well be the beginning of the end for the sport we enjoy.

GLFWDA would like to extend their sincere thanks to Carla for taking precious time away from her family to educate the GLFWDA membership regarding the proposed changes in United. This visit also speaks volumes about the willingness of United Four Wheel Drive Association to reach out to its members to offer support, education and encouragement in the pursuit of common goals that benefit wheelers across this nation.

Melanie Rice

UFWDA Forum membership climbs

On June 4 the UFWDA internet forum had its 500th member register. This forum is proving to be a useful tool to reach members and their organizations. It is useful too because this is one forum where people are using their real names, allowing excellent dialogue on 4x4 issues. Check what is happening in your region and UFWDA initiatives....www.ufwda.org/smf/

The numbers continue to climb and by June 15 reached 512 members.

SEMA News, report on Australia

www.sema.org/main/semaorhome.aspx?id=57539

Quote... “One of the main goals of the new council, noted McCraw, is to counteract the negative attention the industry has been getting lately and the very real legislative and regulatory threats to the 4WD vehicles. “The various lobby groups, pedestrian interest groups, media organizations and environmental lobby groups have been increasingly successful in their efforts to discredit and restrict the activities of the important 4WD segment of the Australian automotive industry,” he said. “The 4WD Industry Council is our industry response to this pressure.”

BFG Awards to Outstanding Trails

www.redbirdsra.com/

On June 9 2007 the Four Wheels to Freedom club celebrated Trail 4 at Indiana’s Redbird SRA being selected this year as one of the Outstanding Trails by B.F. Goodrich. The Outstanding Trails awards are a collaborative effort by United Four Wheel Drive Associations, BF Goodrich and Tread Lightly!

Other planned dates for awards presentations are:

Rubicon CA... June 30

Tillimook OR... July 28

Ploughkeepsie Gulch CO... August 25

Whipsaw Trail BC Canada... September 15

Flat Nasty MO... October 7

Annual UFWDA Awards

UFWDA recognizes the efforts of four wheelers helping our recreation and others, through the series of annual awards that include:

THE JACK EDWARDS MEMORIAL AWARD is named in honor of Jack Edwards, a long time, dedicated four wheeler from California. Jack Edwards worked hard to strengthen associations and unify all four wheelers, by encouraging their involvement in the sport. In short, Jack Edwards represented what we all strive too be.

The **FOUR WHEELER OF THE YEAR AWARD** is designed to recognize, on a national level, the overall significant achievements and contributions of individuals to the sport of recreational four wheeling.

The **ENVIRONMENTAL FOUR WHEELER OF THE YEAR AWARD** is designed to recognize, on a national level, the overall significant achievements and contributions of individuals to the sport of recreational four wheeling.

The UFWDA VOLUNTEER CONSERVATION AWARD

Volunteer efforts help members of the public enjoy a quality recreation experience. The UFWDA Volunteer Conservation Award is our way of recognizing these volunteer efforts. These efforts include Adopt-a-Trail work, clean-up events, restoration efforts, and other activities that promote environmental stewardship.

Details and nomination forms for these awards can be found at www.ufwda.org/smf/index.php?board=26.0

NOHVCC Library resource

The NOHVCC Library site. This site lists citations of books, book chapters, project reports, brochures, and journal articles on Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) use and management with abstracts and full text documents for most citations.



<http://nohvcclibrary.forestry.uga.edu/eisub.html>

UFWDA Convention Reminder

A reminder of the upcoming convention only 50 days away, but who's counting.

PLEASE REGISTER THIS MONTH AND SAVE ME A LOT OF WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

You may register on-line using a credit card and pay using Pay-Pal. Or you can print out a PDF form and mail it with a check.

DEADLINE DATES:

Ramada Inn for convention rates: **11 July**

If you neglect to register by this date, you will be out of luck. On 12 July I have to return unused convention rooms back to the Ramada. After that date the room fee may be in excess of \$100/night at the Ramada IF they have not already sold them. The entire town is booked solid for a Triple Crown Baseball World Series during our convention dates.

Convention Registration:

On-line: **17 July**

Mailed and postmarked by: **13 July**

Trail rides: **17 July**

Land Use Conference: Carla will not be at the convention and we don't know about John Stewart. Plans are being made for possibly a forum-type discussion on land use issues and maybe some kind of after- convention changes forum. Keep tuned. (Your registration fee includes all 3 meals for Friday).

RV's and Camping:

There is a "[Google List of Area Campgrounds](#)" on the on-line registration. Go to www.HighTrails.org and click on United Convention. Look for Walker Field on the north of I-70 (only 1 mile from I-70). The Ramada Inn is at the I-70 exit for Walker Field.

The parking lot at the Ramada is small and they will NOT allow RV's to camp there. You also will not be able to park your 4x4 trailer at the Ramada. We have located a couple of alternatives.

The Wal-Marts in the area do NOT allow RV parking overnight.

Trailer to the convention:

If you are pulling a trailer or RVing it, I would recommend you pick up I-25 anywhere south of Colorado (it starts at El Paso, TX) and take it to Denver and pick up I-70 (west) to Grand Junction.

Taking US 50, US 550, or US 285 from southern Colorado will keep you on mostly 2-lane mountain roads. It may be a little further on I-25 and I-70 but you will be on better and faster roads.

All-4-Fun:

If you are going to All-4-Fun in Salida, its 170 miles from Grand Junction and only one mountain pass to pull, Monarch Pass, which is 4 lane and fairly easy.

Driving, Going Home:

From Grand Junction: I recommend going US 50 all the way to I-25 at Pueblo. It's extremely scenic (and mostly downhill). Or you can pick up US 550 in Montrose and go through Durango into Farmington, NM.

From Salida: Take US 50 east to I-25.

Talking about the convention, have all of you done your homework re the by-law changes and have you reviewed the new Business Plan???????

If not, go to <http://www.ufwda.org/smf/index.php?topic=626.0> and get busy. Be in the know and be able to make qualified and informed comments now and at the convention.

I look forward to seeing you in Grand Junction. *Remember, we are trying to make this convention the best time you can have with your clothes on.*

More questions? ufwda2007info@hightrails.org or call me at 303-425-7480, cell 303-589-4996.

Gene W. King
2007 UFWDA Convention Chairman for CoA4WDCI

UFWDA Message Through Magazines

The UFWDA message has been hitting the mainstream 4x4 magazines, with writing by John Stewart (the previous UFWDA Land Use Director) due to appear shortly in J Rations, Standard Issue 7.

www.jrations.com/

Quote

"The bottom line is HOW CAN WE ALL UNITE..... we cannot win or gain ground with the enviros if we don't have UNITED NUMBERS. It also takes MONEY..... not arguments of who started what, who's to blame, who called who a name, who didn't agree and who did, or who split a group vs who didn't."

Sandee McCullen

SEMA News reports on online Toyota 4x4 component sales

www.sema.org/Main/ArticleDetail.aspx?contentID=57638

"Between May 10 / June 8, fans of Toyota's rugged machines spent a combined \$446,462 on parts and accessories for the FJ Cruiser, 4Runner and Land Cruiser via online auction, according to data from Terapeak, a developer of market-focused research software that monitors online sales and auctions. Newest among those vehicles, the FJ accounted for a little less than 20% of the total, while the bulk of sales went toward the 4Runner, a vehicle in production since 1984. The remainder—approximately \$77,000—went to Land Cruiser enthusiasts."

Australian 4x4 Gathering 2008

http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au/4_x_4_national_gathering.htm

The 6th Australian 4WD Gathering was hosted by the Independent 4WD Club of Tasmania. The gathering was held at Girl Guide Holiday Centre at Seven Mile Beach 24km outside Hobart in March of 2006. The gathering that year was run under the National 4WD gathering banner with a 4 day tag along tour of the West Coast, leading into the gathering, led by the Braddon 4WD Club of Tasmania. Over the 4 days of the event there were a number of demonstrations of Safety Gear, Campers, Vehicle Preparation, Vehicle Management Chips & more. Ron Moon 4WD Journalist & Adventurer gave an entertaining talk as well as Phil Rush Bush Poet. A variety of tag along trips were run, as well as in camp activities. The days were full and the nights entertaining

So now we come to the 7th Australian 4WD Gathering at Mitta Mitta Victoria on the doorstep of the High Country. March 21 - 24 Easter 2008.

We want you all to come along and have a really good time. With pre and post tag along tours of the High Country. Tours of the area lots of in camp activities like fishing, playing golf or tennis, meet old friends, make new friends, come join in the fun.

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