

Recovery Points

The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 1

January 2016

Twin Mountain Off-Road Adventure Park – Exploratory Run – 10/12/2015

Mike O'Grady

CORE Member

We're always looking for new places to legally wheel and explore. I found a reference to a new off road park in the mountains of West Virginia and suggested a day trip to Twin Mountain in Williamsport, WV.

<http://www.twinmtn4x4.com/>. The park looked smaller than Rausch Creek or Anthracite, but was an hour closer, i.e., 2.5 hours from DC, rather than 3.5 hours for the PA parks. It was also clearly in very beautiful country, so it seemed like it deserved an exploratory run. We went on the Columbus Day holiday, so not everyone had off.

Three of us were able to make the trip.

- Mike O'Grady (member) – Khaki 2001 Nissan Xterra
- Marlon Miranda and Mariela Rizo (guests) – Bronze Land Rover LR4

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...because access to YOUR public land is too important to lose

President's Message

From the desk of the President of the Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association

Larry Pope

MAFWDA President

I want to start by wishing everyone a happy and safe new year. As I always say; the previous year was busy for all of the Association's member clubs. I am sure the successes and activities will continue in 2016. With that said, I anticipate MAFWDA will also be busy this year.

Plans are being made for a spring and summer volunteer weekend at Green Ridge State Forest and Potomac State Forest respectfully. During the Annual MAFWDA Meeting in November I mentioned having this year's meeting in a location other than a restaurant. Although food is always welcomed, especially if the restaurant has a buffet, my plan or idea is to have the meeting and then trail ride at Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AAOA) in Coal Township, PA. We could hold our meeting in the meeting room of the AAOA admin building in the morning then have the trail ride afterwards with lunch on the trail. To do this and make it successful is to have trail guides familiar with the trails at AAOA. In other words I am looking for volunteer trail guides. If you wish to volunteer to be a trail guide please send an email to mamosjp@gmail.com. If everything comes together I will send out an email with details when I send out the notification of the annual meeting. Which is normally held in November.

MAFWDA announces Keith Holman has volunteered to be MAFWDA's Treasurer. Keith has been a member of MAFWDA for quite a number of years and has held other officer positions in the Association in the past. Thank you Keith for stepping up and giving us hand. We will be having BoD elections again this year and we definitely need members to nominate another member or nominate themselves. We are in dire need of a Marketing Director now.

Well that's all I have for this issue of the newsletter so have a fun and safe 2016 and hopefully I'll see you on the trail or at the PA Jeeps show in York.

Larry Pope ❖

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■ Twin Mountain Off-Road Adventure Park

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- Sam Levy and Dave Kimmel (guests) – Black Jeep JK

We all live on the north side of town in Maryland, so we were able to easily meet up just off the Connecticut Ave. exit of the Beltway. The trip took a little longer than the 2.5 hours my GPS due to construction on 66. The ride is quite straightforward and very beautiful, especially on a sunny fall day. It's just straight out 66 to 81. South on 81 to WV55 and then another 40 miles into the mountains. You do want to gas up before you get too far into the mountains. The park is located at 39°11'35"N, 79°0'37"W.

These trails made me feel like I was getting some very good practice driving under different situations and becoming a better off road driver because of it.

The park is still being developed. The owner John Bradshaw met us and agreed to be our trail guide for the afternoon. John was great. Like I mentioned earlier, this is not the biggest park I've ever been to. John probably has no more than 10 miles of trail in total. The trails are very good and different from what we usually drive. They cut back and forth across the mountain. There was no dirt road driving, except the driveway into the park. There are trails at all levels of difficulty from green to red.



There is a lot of bush driving. You really feel like you're in the deep woods, not on a groomed trail, although the trails are probably the best marked that I've ever driven. They even indicate how the trail might differ under different weather conditions, e.g., green when dry, blue when wet. There is not a lot of rock crawling at this park. The mountain trails put you in some tough off camber situations. Nothing too scary or likely to hurt your rig other than some pin stripes, but situations where you really have to concentrate on your driving skills. These trails made me feel like I was getting some very good practice driving under different situations and becoming a better off road driver because of it.

There is also an area that has been set aside with obstacles and water hazards. It's not like the big mound at Rausch Creek where people pull up at wild angles

for a photo op. This is more a training area. A fun training area, but definitely designed to help you improve your driving skills. There is a very nice camping area with toilets and water. Very nice meadow to camp in with fire pits and picnic tables.

Overall, all of us were impressed and had a great time. John Bradshaw was great and willing to help anyway he could to make it a day to remember. We would all go back again and would strongly suggest that CORE consider Twin Mountain for a large group in the future.❖

2015 Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance Year in Review

Ken Kyler

MD OHV Alliance

Our third year just gets better! Again it was all due to your help, donations and a strong Board of Directors. We continue to make progress on opening the Savage River Trail System, we have continued to work with western civic and social leaders espousing the gospel of OHV recreational tourism, and we have established a strong working relationship with the new DNR administration! It was quite a year and you made it happen with your generous support! As Paul Harvey would have said, now for the rest of the story!

Partnership with DNR

On July 20th, we met with Mark J. Belton, Secretary of Natural Resources, and the newly appointed Assistant Secretary for Land Resources, Darryl Anthony. We had a very positive meeting with the Secretary and Assistant Secretary. We focused on OHV recreational tourism and the economic benefit to rural counties, and public/private partnerships using reclaimed coal mines. We specifically asked him to ensure that the Savage River trail opens next year. Our community has waited almost 5 years for the promised establishment of a public OHV area and it is time to deliver. We also briefed him on the need to have a certified trail builder assist with the trail layout. Construction of sustainable and safe trails is not a job that anyone can do. The State needs to get this right the first time. He promised to engage other departments and remove roadblocks as well as push to ensure a trail builder is part of the construction team. The DNR has been looking at 3,000 acres near Kitzmiller, MD. We have been discussing this with DNR and western Maryland leaders for several years. We asked him to purchase the property and ensure it is operated as an OHV park. This could be the southern anchor to a joint public private riding area similar to Hatfield-McCoy. The Savage River trail

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MAFWDA Recommended Businesses

The MAFWDA membership recommends these local businesses for your four wheel driving accessories and services. If you own a business or know of a business that would like to become a Business Partner contact Larry Pope MAFWDA President Director (President@mafwd.org).

Adrenaline Off Road LLC



Your one stop shop for all of your parts and service needs. Installation is available for everything that we sell. Buy, sell, trade used parts and entire vehicles. Find your lowest advertised price and we will match or beat it.

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www.extremeterrain.com

7 Lee Blvd, Suite 100
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1-800-988-4605

River Raider Off-Road



High quality off-road enhancements for the four wheel enthusiasts.

www.riverraider.com

6389 Rockhill Rd
Chambersburg, PA 17202
717-262-3079

Mount Zion Offroad



We provide complete service for your Jeep with experienced techs, specialized tools, and a knowledgeable staff.

www.mountzionoffroad.com

4785 Carlisle Road
Dover, PA 17315
717-308-1844

Steinjäger Inc.



Steinjäger was founded in 2013 by principals of Midwest Control Products Corp to better serve the motorsport market with application-specific products.

www.steinjager.com

Hwy 9 West
Box 299
Bushnell, IL 61422
309-772-3163

■ 2015 Maryland OHV Alliance Year in Review from page 2

would be the northern anchor. In that regard, we asked Secretary Bolton to engage with the Department for Economic and Business Development to request a Joint DNR/DBED working group to look at OHV recreational tourism state-wide.

It gets better!

On October 23rd, we had a follow-up meeting with Daryl Anthony, Assistant Secretary for Land Resources. In this capacity, he is responsible for Engineering and Construction, Maryland Environmental Trust, Forest Service, Land Acquisition and Planning, Wildlife and Heritage, Maryland Environmental Trust, and the Maryland Park Service. For such a busy man, I was surprised and pleased that he gave me nearly 2-hours of his time. I should add we spent a good portion of that time discussing his awesome Jeep Rubicon and some of his wheeling adventures! Asst Sec Anthony is definitely an off-road guy!

Early on in our conversation Daryl stated that DNR recognizes OHV/ORV use as a viable recreational opportunity and DNR will provide opportunities for this use. The rest of the conversation supported that. I have no doubt that he is committed to opening and maintaining OHV riding areas on State land.

Much of our conversation regarded the Savage River trail systems. He stated frequently that DNR must ensure that it is done right the first time. He shares our concerns that without heavy involvement from the end user group, DNR is at risk of building a trail system no one wants or would use. As a wheeler, he is personally vested opening Savage River for OHV use.

Economic Benefit Meeting with Western Leaders

We have continued to meet with civic and political leaders in Allegheny and Garrett Counties. This is a slow process to build support but we are making excellent progress. The new Garrett County Commissioners are very interested in the economic benefits of OHV recreation tourism -- that in itself is a big win on our part.

We met with the mayors of Barton, Midland,

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DO YOU KNOW YOUR MAFWDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Your MAFWDA Board of Directors is composed of volunteer members who contribute their free time to keep the organization going. Currently we have the following folks on the BOD:

President – Larry Pope
President@mafwd.org

Vice President – Bob Weaver
VicePresident@mafwd.org

Treasurer – Keith Holman
Treasurer@mafwd.org

Secretary – Mike Vincenty
Secretary@mafwd.org

Land Use Director – Preston Stevens (PA Jeeps)
LandUse@mafwd.org

Director of Events and Public Relations – Vacant
PublicRelations@mafwd.org

Director of Marketing – Vacant
Marketing@mafwd.org

Do you have free time and are willing to help MAFWDA? If so contact one of the Board members at the email addresses above. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PA JEEPS CLUB MEETING

February 14, 2016

Contact: Jennifer Watson
Email: events@pajeeps.org
Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

PA JEEPS TRAIL RIDE

February 20, 2016

Contact: Jennifer Watson
Email: events@pajeeps.org
Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

BIG DOGS

April 30-May 1, 2016

Ice Breaker
Email: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://bigdogsoffroad.com>

WHEELIN' FOR HOPE

April 30-May 1, 2016

All proceeds from Wheelin' for Hope go to the American Cancer Society via the Relay for Life of Nelson, Virginia.

Contact: wheel4hope@gmail.com
Web site: <http://www.wheelin4hope.com/>

BANTAM JEEP HERITAGE FESTIVAL

■ 2015 Maryland OHV Alliance Year in Review from page 3

Westernport and Kitzmiller to discuss how OHV tourism could benefit them. These towns are economically challenged and OHV's could be a huge boon. They were cautiously receptive. We at least have a foot in the door!

Future Initiatives

In 2016, Assistant Secretary Anthony would like to see another NOHVCC workshop conducted for Park personnel. We'll be working hard on that.

We will be meeting with business leaders and clubs in southern and eastern Maryland to discuss how they may benefit for our efforts in western Maryland as well as our partnership with DNR.

Lastly, we will keep DNR's feet to the fire to get the Savage River Trail System opened as promised.

Summary

Your Alliance will be pushing hard on OHV issues. We are achieving results many long-time Marylanders thought impossible. This is all because of your strong support. We are a tax-deductible 501(c)(3) organization and we have been achieving great results with your funds! ❖

Butler, PA 17404
June 10-12, 2016
Web site: <http://www.bantamjeepfestival.com>

BIG DOGS

June 24-26, 2016

Spring Fling
Email: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://bigdogsoffroad.com>

PA JEEPS 21ST ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW

York Fairgrounds
York, PA 17404
July 16,17
Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

BIG DOGS

August 13-24, 2016

Summer Slam
Email: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://bigdogsoffroad.com>

BIG DOGS

September 9-11 13-24, 2016

Main Jambo
Email: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://bigdogsoffroad.com>

Any additions? Contact Mike Vincenty to get them added to the MAFWDA calendar (Newsletter@mafwd.org). ❖

PA Jeeps Scholarship

Once again PA Jeeps will be offering a \$1,000 award to the applicant deemed most deserving by the PA Jeeps Board of Directors. Applicants must be a member in good standing of PA Jeeps or Mid Atlantic Four Wheel Drive. Click the link below to download the application which includes detailed information on how to submit your application:

[PA Jeeps Scholarship Application](#)

GOOD LUCK!!!

PA Jeeps Past Events

11/14 - 7th Annual JW "Black" Trail Ride at the AOAA

Only 3 members and their Jeeps attended (Jenn, Keith and Chris). They spent much of their time on a new big rocks trail called 'M'. Jenn was heard to say that "...this had to be one of the hardest black trails for a long time...". The only carnage mentioned was Jenn's nonfunctional rear locker and her damaged motor mount. The trails at AOAA are a little harder than at Rausch Creek, for example a blue rated trail at AOAA is more akin to a blue/black at Rausch Creek. The trails are different than Rausch Creek, some likened them to the trails at Paragon.

12/12 - Christmas trail ride (club sponsored) at Rausch Creek

10 members and numerous family members attended this club sponsored trail ride on a balmy 61F day in December(?) The group started off together and travelled to the Fire Pit, where half the group, led by Noel, went off to tackle the black trails at the back of the Fire Pit. The remainder of the group were able to watch from the Fire Pit as most of the trees had been logged. From there the group, led by Peter, went off to explore various green trails around Lake Christy, finding along the way a few hill climbs to test suspension flex. Next the two groups joined back together and completed the first half of the TATAs trail before stopping to bask in the sun whilst enjoying lunch. From there they headed to 101 and J. Once down J the group again split with Noel taking one group to run the blue trails, starting with 15 and ending with 23, plus a few diversions in between. Peter's group headed for 11, before taking the twisting trail 14, and then back on 11 to reach the corner of the park. Next was a small detour to play in some muddy ruts, before heading for the washed out gulley and onto H. The groups joined back together at 18B and H. Shortly thereafter Mike DeChristopher found he had a suspected broken rear pinion in his extended YJ, so he ended up being towed back up H and to the office. Just as people were departing Mike Smith found he had

broken his steering box, so Noel loaned him the box off of his YJ so he could drive home. ❖

News Items Wanted

The MAFWDA "Recovery Points" newsletter is always looking for interesting articles and news items for publication. If you or your club has something that you would like to share with other members of the fourwheel drive community, please shoot an email to Mike V (MAFWDA newsletter editor) at Newsletter@mafwd.org and he will ensure your contribution is included in the next published edition.

"Recovery Points" is published quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct).

Do we have your email?

As a member of MAWDA, you should be receiving periodic communications from your fellow MAFWDA Board Members. If you haven't been receiving these messages, we probably do not have your current email address. Shoot Mike V your email address at Secretary@mafwd.org and he will ensure you are added to the MAFWDA email list.

Also all current MAFWDA members are encouraged to post items of interest for follow four wheelers on this public email list. Simply send email message to mafwd_news@mafwd.org.

Republicans' Big Stand for Hunters

Kyle Feldscher

Washington Examiner - Reprint

Congressional Republicans are trying to make it easier for hunters and fishermen to bag a deer or hook a trout on federal land.

They are pushing legislation that would give people more access to land owned by the government, an issue that drove a group of militants last week to occupy a building in a federal wildlife refuge in eastern Oregon. The bill would also allow hunting, fishing and sportshooting on federal lands unless the managing agency bans those activities.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, is hoping the third time is the charm for the Sportsmen's Act, a bill she introduced in February that cleared the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in November. It has been introduced twice but has failed to make it through Congress due to various political side disputes.

The bill brings together a number of disparate concerns for outdoor enthusiasts under one piece of legislation, but the heart of it is improving access to

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■ Republicans' Big Stand for Hunters

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U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands. Murkowski said the biggest provision is what she's calling "open unless closed," which dictates that federal lands are open to the public unless the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management has a reason to close them.

Murkowski said the federal government too often closes off its land temporarily for no real reason or closes it with an eye toward permanent closure. Her legislation would end that practice, she said.

"As a result, our sportsmen and sportswomen will have increased access to public lands," she said in a floor speech last month.

Access to federal land became a national issue after a group of militants seized the headquarters of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oregon. The group, led by the sons of Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy, who engaged federal authorities in a high profile standoff in 2014, opposes the federal control of large swaths of the West.

The federal government owns huge portions of most Western states. It owns more than 60 percent of Alaska, 45 percent of California, 36 percent of Colorado, 61 percent of Idaho, 85 percent of Nevada, 53 percent of Oregon, 48 percent of Wyoming and almost 65 percent of Utah, according to the Congressional Research Service.

The bill would allow states to manage some of the federally owned lands and would set new guidelines for federal purchases of land. While the anti-government extremists do not recognize the authority of the federal government on the government-owned lands in the West, they often do recognize state authority.

"We should pair increased funding for state-based programs with increased authority for states to manage public lands," Murkowski said, "and we should consider giving governors a say on federal land acquisition."

Other provisions in the bill include preventing the closure of federal lands for more than six months, reducing red tape for film crews and requiring the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service to take public comment on all potential closures of their lands. Currently, those two agencies do not have to hear from the public before closing federal lands to recreational use.

Mike Leonard, the ocean resource policy director at the American Sportfishing Association, said the legislation also takes the step of redirecting funds in the Land and Water Conservation Fund from land purchases to conservation.

He said the bill would be a formal signal from Congress to the Obama administration that hunters and anglers should be prioritized when it comes to running federal lands. Many hunters and anglers also would be happy to have a more stable habitat for the game they hunt and fish.

"It really improves access for hunters and anglers, and makes sure they have clean and healthy fish and wildlife resources to go after," he said.

The bill also would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency from banning lead fishing tackle, which is a top priority for Leonard's organization.

Instead, the measure would leave it up to the states to make decisions about whether lead tackle, commonly used in sinkers, lures and other baits, needs to be banned.

"It's a natural resource issue and where there are localized issues from discarded tackle, that should be a local issue," he said.

The Sportsmen's Act has appeared in various forms for the last five years, but supporters are hoping there's enough positive momentum to push it through Congress this year.

Senate Democrats have previously blocked similar legislation by attaching gun-control legislation to it, which Senate Republicans found unpalatable when they were in the minority. In 2012, the legislation died because one provision would have caused new spending, which Senate Republicans blocked.

The bill is being considered by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which has jurisdiction over certain provisions in the bill. Democrats on the committee, who include some of the most environmentalist senators in the party, may move to block the bill again. A spokesman for committee Democrats declined to discuss which portions of the bill could be at issue.

The Democrats and Republicans on the committee are at odds on some pieces of the bill but are trying to work out their differences before a hearing on the measure, according to a committee aide.

A Republican Senate might give this iteration of the Sportsmen's Act a better chance. Mike Tadeo, a spokesman for the Republicans on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, said they feel there's more of a positive feeling around the legislation this time.

"[Murkowski] has spent a lot of time trying to educate her colleagues about it and it passed out of the committee with a bipartisan majority," he said.

President Teddy Roosevelt started the first official beginning of "preserving" scenic wonders on a national level; but have we now gone too far? ❖

DEMENTED DENIZENS

by Brian Zaikowski

dementededdenizens.com



Let me direct your attention to the planet to your left, known as Earth. Often considered the insane asylum of the galaxy.

Quote

"Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced." **[Soren Kierkegaard]**

"Desire is the key to motivation, but it's determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal - a commitment to excellence - that will enable you to attain the success you seek." **[Mario Andretti]**

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." **[Thomas Jefferson]**

MAFWDA Online Store

Get your MAFWDA merchandise here!

Did you know that Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association has an online store? Here you can purchase great MAFWDA branded merchandise on the online store. Tee-shirts, sweatshirts, coffee mugs; we got it all!

<http://www.cafepress.com/mafwda>

This month's featured item.



- Beach Tote Bag
- 100% cotton (14 oz.) canvas
- Dimensions: 12" x 16" x 5¾"
- Outside pocket with Velcro® closure
- Inside pocket with flap
- Available in 3 colors

\$20.99

Member Clubs



PA Jeeps

Home of the PA Jeep show

York Pennsylvania area

PA Jeeps, Inc

P.O. Box 212

Shrewsbury, Pa 17361-0212 717-309-0513

www.pajeeps.org

CORE

Promoting Responsible Four Wheeling



Washington DC metro area

CORE is organized as a nonprofit organization for the purpose of providing social, educational, and recreational four wheel drive activities for its members and guests, as well as participating in and supporting civic activities for the betterment of the community.

www.core4x4.org

<https://www.facebook.com/core4x4>

info@core4x4.org

Eagle Valley Off Roaders



Lock Haven, PA

Eagle Valley Off Roaders is a family based non-profit four wheel drive club open to all makes and models of 4x4's.

EVOR is committed to promoting stronger family bonds and raising children to both enjoy and respect their environment by maintaining existing public trails and expanding trails on private lands that are open to our use. EVOR participates in trail clean ups and cuttings to help ensure that future generations can enjoy our sport.

www.eaglevalleyoffroaders.com

jim@eaglevalleyoffroaders.com

Are you missing something? Where is your club? If you would like your club to be represented here, contact Mike Vincenty at secretary@mafwda.org for information on how your club can join and contribute to MAFWDA.

MAFWDA Newsletter
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