

Recovery Points



The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1

January 2014

President's Message - UPDATE

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

Larry Pope

MAFWDA President & CORE President

I want to start off by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. 2014 is here and I am sure we will all be busy as usual. But before I go into how busy we all might be in 2014 I want to congratulate Capital Off Road Enthusiasts, Inc. (CORE) for their selection as MAFWDA's 2013 Club of the Year. CORE was busy during 2013 as were all the Association clubs and you will get to read the outstanding nomination submitted by CORE members Andrew Taylor and Cherie Wood. The write up is located within this issue of Recovery Points. 2013 was the inaugural competition for Club of the Year although it was incorporated in the original MAFWDA By-laws years ago. So now it will be an annual event with the winning club selected at the MAFWDA Annual Fall Convention.

So how busy is it going to be for your clubs in 2014?

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

CORE Black Friday Trail Ride

Rausch Creek Off Road Park, Tremont, PA
November 29, 2013

Michael Vincenty

CORE Member

According to the news reports, this year over 97 million US residents (about one third of the entire US population) would be heading out for the Black Friday shopping frenzy. This year, as has been the tradition for over 10 years now, a small band of CORE members bucked this Americana crazy experience and headed out for the trails in Pennsylvania. This year our adventures took us to Rausch Creek Off Road Park (<http://www.rauschcreekoffroadpark.org/>) near Tremont PA.

Joining us this year for this annual CORE event were:

- Mike and Donna in the white Rubicon TJ,
- Paul and Juliette Woscek in the green Chevy S-10
- JC in the black Jeep TJ
- Andrew and Cherie Taylor in the silver Nissan
- Paul Lepine in the silver Rubicon LJ
- Kevin Barnes and Jeff Nichol in the silver Land Rover

I have come to learn that the Black Friday trail ride to Rausch Creek requires that we get on the road by about 6:30 AM. So with that in mind several of us met at the Urbana Exxon to convoy our way into PA. In Urbana we hooked up with JC, Paul L, Kevin and Jeff.

Days preceding this trip it rained extensively in the DC metro area. On the drive out I wondered if Rausch Creek had any snow and if so, how much. The drive up was spectacular. We watched the sunrise and the beautiful sky colors change from dark to red to orange and yellow. The farming fields had all been cut and a frost covered the fields. All of the lakes and ponds were frozen. It definitely felt as though winter was nipping at our heels.

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■ CORE Black Friday Run

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On the drive up we hooked up with Paul and Juliette and finally met Andrew and Cherie at Rausch Creek at about 9:30 AM. Immediately upon our arrival what struck me was the snow on the fresh snow on the ground and the cold temperature. Did I mention the feel of winter?

This was a wonderful trip. It included lots of water and mud, snow, rocks, spinning tires, a recovery, mild carnage, good fun and friends.

We prepped our vehicles, paid our dues, received our maps and headed for the trails on the east property. Access the east property is easy if you depart from the right of the administration office. Of course having not been to Rausch in well over a year, I left the assembly area and went left. This route took the group through the competition course. No worries, I saw another group heading towards the shortcut to B so we followed.

My goal for this trip was to run the greens and blue trails but also find those that included black rated side trails for those in our group looking for more challenges. The first green trail with easy access is green 1a. This trail also includes a nice black rated rock garden so I thought this would be a great start for us. Immediately after entered this trail there is a blue side loop to the right with a nice hill climb. I wanted to get our group to take a shot at this hill climb but could see that another group of vehicles was attempting it and were having difficulties getting one members up and over. We decided to skip this loop and try again another day.

Further down the trail we approached the turn off for the black rock garden. Paul Lepine silver LJ, Kevin Barnes in the silver Land Rover, and Paul Woscek in the green S-10 all were up for the challenge. The rock garden is long stretch of decent sized boulder spread out over a large area. There was a fresh coating of snow covering everything so knowing what your where driving on certainly must have been more challenging. Paul, Kevin, and Paul all negotiated this section quite well while the rest of us watched, took pictures, and

performs some spotting when necessary.



We wrapped up green trail 1a and proceeded to make our way to blue trail 2. Trail is a very nice "club trail". This trail has a nice mix of boulders, rock gardens, hill climb, and water in "Frog Pond" for those up for this. We entered this trail and immediately came upon a rock garden. I asked Donna to spot me through this section especially since I could not make out the best line because of the snow. One great thing about Rausch Creek is that there are plenty of bypasses for the difficult sections. A bypass was available for those who did not want to tackle this rock garden.

We moved along to the hill climb. This is always a challenge. The hill climb goes straight up, with two deep dug out ruts where your tires go. Once you hit the top, the trail immediately drops off where you need to turn slightly to the left. Because of the steep up climb and immediate drop off, longer wheel base vehicles without a decent lift can high center on their undercarriage with all four wheels losing traction.

Paul Lepine climbed this hill no difficulty spinning his tires a bit to push over the crest. Kevin was next. His attempt required that he take on a bit more speed to allow his momentum to push over the top. His vehicle did get hung up on the undercarriage a bit, but with the extra momentum and a bit of gas he pushed through. JC in the black TJ motored up with no issues. I waited for the others in the back of the group to join us at the hill climb but noted that there seemed to be some kind of delay further back in the line.

Upon investigating I could see Paul Woscek was wrapping up a small recovery effort with Andrew and Cherie's on their Xterra. It seems that the Xterra got hung up on a boulder on the right front side that prevented Andrew from moving forward and backward. The crew used a high-lift jack to lift the right side of the vehicle in order to stack a few boulders under the right front tire to allow the Xterra to clear the boulder. This quick work freed the Xterra and they joined us down the trail near the hill climb. Paul proceeded quickly to traverse the hill climb before I could get a chance to capture the moment.

We proceeded through the remaining portion of trail 2 bumping along, hitting small rock gardens, and getting muddy. The next trail I wanted to hit was blue trail 4.

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■ CORE Black Friday Run

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This trail is one of my favorites. It comprised of a long running and intense rock garden. This trail forces you to concentrate and stay focused on the trail ahead of you, else you get will get hung up. Every one successfully navigated this trail. This brought us to our lunch spot for a time to unwind and catch up with each other.



After lunch we continued through the rest of trail 4 continuing to encounter boulders and rock along the way. Leaving trail 4 I wanted to give those who were so interested in a more intensive challenge an opportunity to take a shot at Crawler Ridge. This is a blue trail that has a nice uphill climb where you meet a decent size collection of boulders near the top. Paul Lepine, Kevin, Paul Woscek, and JC all took the challenge while the rest of us took a breather.

There was an amazing amount of standing water along the trails especially the green trails. Every few hundred yards we cross deep standing water with frozen ice block and floating broken up chunks of ice, all of this indications of recent freezes and more evidence that winter is just around the corner.

It was getting a bit late but I wanted us to have a chance to explore the west side of the park. I really wanted to explore the set of J blue trails that covers the far end of the west side. However, during registration in the morning I was warned that these trails were closed due to ice cover and the fact that they were off-camber.

So instead I hit the green H trail. This is an easy access road that descends into the valley in the west property. From prior trail rides I know that this valley effect keeps the ground much more wet and results in the green and blue trails having a lot more mud. The only concern I had on this trip was the fact that the west side is also a lot shadier than the east side, so I was slightly worried about ice causing us some difficulties. Fortunately, while there were occasional snow patches there was nothing of concern.

We continued until we reached the bottom of the valley and turned right onto green trail 11. This trail bisects the west property. From here the trail turns left to follow the perimeter of the park that traverses from the north to

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MAFWDA Business Partners

MAFWDA has partnered with preferred local businesses. These partners offer special discounts to MAFWDA members. 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).

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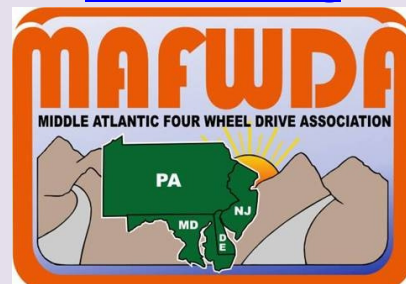
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4785 Carlisle Road
Dover, PA 17315
717-308-1844

Yes we are still on the Web!

Check out:

www.mafwd.org



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 (CORE)
President@mafwd.org

Vice President – Bob Weaver (CORE)
VicePresident@mafwd.org

Treasurer – Clair Kauffman (PA Jeeps)
Treasurer@mafwd.org

Secretary – Mike Vincenty (CORE)
Secretary@mafwd.org

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

Director of Events and Public Relations – Vacant
PublicRelations@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

MAFWDA SAVAGE RIVER STATE FOREST SNOW RUN

February 15-66, 2014
Snow Shoe, PA

Contact: pstevens122656@comcast.net
Web site: <http://mafwd.org>

WHEELIN' FOR HOPE

All proceeds from Wheelin' for Hope go to the American Cancer Society via the Relay for Life of Nelson, Virginia.
April 25-27, 2014

Contact: wheeli4hope@gmail.com
Web site: <http://www.wheelin4hope.com/>

BIG DOGS ICE BREAKER

Gore, VA
April 26, 27

Contact: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

BIG DOGS SPRING FLING

Gore, VA
June 13-15

Contact: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

PA JEEPS 19TH ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW

York, PA
July 19, 20

Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

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■ President's Message

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Busier than ever I hope with trail rides, club events, public land use/access meetings and such, volunteer projects, club and MAFWDA meetings, and so forth. I am looking for one of the clubs to volunteer to sponsor, setup, and conduct a MAFWDA Trail Safety and Recovery Seminar this year for all Association clubs to attend. You can include this in the numerous other things you will compile in your club's nomination write up for the MAFWDA 2014 Club of the Year.

Again, congratulation to CORE on their selection as Club of the Year. I look forward to seeing all the nomination packages later this year. Let me and the other board members know if your club will be stepping up to take the lead on the Trail Safety and Recovery Seminar.

Be safe and have fun on the trails! ❖

Larry



Larry Pope is the MAFWDA President. He is also a member of CORE. ❖

Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Selects 2013 Club of the Year

By Larry Pope, MAFWDA President

Photos Michael Vincenty, MAFWDA Secretary

During the 2013 MAFWDA Annual Convention the Board of Directors and Association Club Delegates had the honor of selecting the inaugural MAFWDA Club of the Year. For 2013 Capital Off Road Enthusiasts, Inc. (CORE) was selected for that honor. Below you will have the opportunity to read the outstanding nomination submitted by CORE members Andrew Taylor and Cherie Wood. I am looking forward to the competition for 2014.

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■ Calendar

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Big Dogs Summer Slam

Gore, VA

August 9, 10

Contact: johnhuntingpilot@yahoo.com

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

Contact: johnhuntingpilot@yahoo.com

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

Big Dogs Main Jambo

Gore, VA

September 27,28

Contact: johnhuntingpilot@yahoo.com

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

Big Dogs Fall Crawl

Gore, VA

October 18. 19

Contact: johnhuntingpilot@yahoo.com

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

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.



Headed to the club for a work out? No sweat. Our Nylon Gym Bag from American Apparel is the perfect way to transport those damp gym clothes back home. Made with a water-resistant Nylon Pack Cloth construction, it's made for the rigorous demands of an athletic lifestyle. With a durable zipper (surrounded by reinforced-Nylon) and Nylon webbing straps, you'll love this versatile and durable bag.6.1 oz.

- 100% Nylon
- Dimensions: 20" x 9" (50.8 cm x 22.86 cm)
- Easily folds into luggage
- Dual handles
- Made in the U.S.A. by American Apparel

\$14.49

■ CORE Black Friday Run

from page 5

the west. While on this trail we came upon black trail 17 off to the right. Here JC up for more adventure decided to hit this trail. This trail was a short U shaped trail that headed up hill, turned left, and descended back to the main trail 11. I decide to take a pass while the other played on this trail. I waited a while and started to get a bit concerned when the rest of the group did not join up. I investigated and walked trail 17 from the opposite end and found JC working his way up the hill climb. What he was about a 1/3rd of the way up and having a difficult time through an extremely rock section covered with boulders his TJ needed to climb.



Kevin, Paul Lepine, and Andrew worked to stack rocks to make a path for the TJ to climb. With tires spinning JC was able to move to the next obstacle. Again more boulders but this time larger with a steeper uphill approach. This section was even more difficult. As much as he tried, the TJ would not climb the rocks and move forward. JC rocked the TJ forward and back hoping to get enough momentum to clear this section. With the tires spinning and rubber smoking, I was getting worried that he could easily snap an axle shaft on the TJ. Fortunately this did not happen, but upon examination of his TJ, we saw that the latest attempts to climb the rocks did manage to rip the muffler and tailpipe off the mounting points. At this point the group wired up the tailpipe and muffler and saved this trail for another day.

We continued following the perimeter of the park on trail 11 until we hooked back up with trail H. From here we wrapped up the west property and made our way back to the parking area via the green trails on the east property. The day had us wrapping up around 5 PM. One great thing about Rausch Creek Off-Road Park is that they provide you access to air so that you may air back up before heading home. All they ask is a small donation. I also noticed that they now will loan you tools and access to a welder if you happened to need vehicle repairs.

On this trip we covered a lot of trails on the east property of the park and just begun to explore the west property. The west property is loaded with lots of trail

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■ CORE Black Friday Run

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of varying degrees of difficulties with more focus on trails blue and above. For upcoming CORE trips I would like to get back to this side of the park and spend more time exploring these trails.

This was a wonderful trip. It included lots of water and mud, snow, rocks, spinning tires, a recovery, mild carnage, good fun and friends. On the drive home I thought about the day's events and I watched the sky fade from pink pastels to darkness and thought about the many trails yet to be explored. How about you join us next time?



Mike Vincenty is the MAFWDA Secretary and an active member in CORE. ❖

Maryland Land Use News

Preston Stevens

MAFWDA Director of Conservation & Land Use

Recently, there have been a lot of ups and downs. Funding has been stopped for work that Green Ridge wanted to do, that would have helped four wheel drive with some mild/moderate access. So, I will be monitoring that situation.

The OHV Stakeholders Group has not met since the St. John's Rock ride. There has been a change in the DNR Secretary position. The focus on trails has backed off some.

Still, the property many know as Wolf's Den, near Kitzmiller, MD has been sold. The gentlemen that bought it would like to flip that property. The State of Maryland is very interested in it, actually, to be used as an OHV park. If that were to happen, this would be an excellent area to use anything from an ATV, Motorcycle, four wheel drive, buggy, or the like; even camping there. I will also monitoring this situation.

The Maryland OHV BOD met on the 15th of November. Great progress has been made regarding mine property access. That is still a work in progress. There are some potential organized rides in normally

closed areas (to motorized vehicles) that may happen. It actually may include most any OHV. That is being negotiated.

There is discussion on establishing a "Hatfield and McCoy" type trail system in Maryland. We will have to watch that one.

Wildlands expansion has been proposed. I do not feel that is a good thing for the Forest and most definitely, not us. The DNR managers were tasked to identify potential area. I feel this is bad, as this undermines their management of these areas, and for us, yet, more loss for future access. Mind you, much of this is in area we have not yet gone. But, some are in areas we could.

The Maryland Legislature has to vote on the proposals.

In your spare time, let your legislators know what is on your mind. Remember, they work for you.



Preston Stevens is the MAFWDA Director of Conservation & Land Use. He is also a member of PA Jeeps. ❖

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).

■ Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Selects 2013 Club of the Year
from page 4



Larry Pope, President MAFWDA, presents Robert Rixham, CORE Member at Large, with the 2013 MAFWDA Club of the Year Award

Here is a little background before you read on. 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.



CORE Members

Now the outstanding write up provided by Andrew and Cherie.

Despite its small size, CORE has continuously shown its dedication and enthusiasm to the promotion of, and participation in, the off-roading community. Its core fundamentals include the responsible enjoyment of our shared resources and the commitment to preserving them. Throughout the year 2013, CORE has actively upheld the values of MAFWDA and has made significant strides in development as a representative of its membership.

The most impressive contribution CORE has made to MAFWDA can be seen in its participation in the board and the activities pursued in support of the board. First and foremost, their own President, Larry Pope, has enthusiastically taken on the role of President for the MAFWDA. Under his leadership, the MAFWDA community has remained active and has made definitive and impressive headway in positive land use activities. In addition, CORE member Bob Weaver

assumed the position of MAFWDA Vice President and member Michael Vincenty holds the position of MAFWDA Secretary. These members have eagerly participated in MAFWDA sponsored events and have worked tirelessly to maintain an active and dedicated membership. In pursuit of this, Michael Vincenty runs and publishes both the MAFWDA website and the Recovery Points newsletter, to keep members informed and to encourage participation.

CORE members have also shown their dedication through their participation in MAFWDA sponsored activities and meetings. At the MAFWDA meeting on May 18th, seven of the twelve attendees were CORE members. CORE also manned the MAFWDA booth at the PA Jeeps All Breed Jeep Show, hosted by membership group PA Jeeps. The event took place on July 20th-21st and CORE contributed 10 volunteers to aid PA Jeeps in running the event and promoting MAFWDA in their booth.

In addition to participation in MAFDWA-sponsored events, CORE members have also maintained a constant voice in the online community and in off-road publications. In the year 2013, CORE has added 6 new trail reports to their website and has many more planned. They contributed a trip report to the July issue of the MAFDWA newsletter, Recovery Points, on a recent trip to the Green Ridge State Forest. They have also contributed several articles to United's Voice, including an article on their recent trip to Green Ridge State Forest, and were included in an article about their participation in a volunteering project at Potomac State Forest.

CORE has also been a strong advocate for positive land use activities and has participated in a number of campaigns to promote them. The group spent the weekend of October 11th volunteering at Green Ridge State Forest, helping to maintain the forest and build relationships with the forest staff that may lead to future use of currently closed trails. On the weekend of August 2nd, CORE joined MAFWDA in their volunteering efforts at Potomac State Forest. The volunteering efforts at this event helped clear storm damage from Hurricane Sandy and reopen potentially life-saving fire trails to the park rangers. These events helped promote a positive view of the off-roading community in hopes of gaining access to public and private lands, but also as an effort to maintain positive relationships with local land managers and aid in conservation efforts through trail maintenance and repair.

Recently, there have been a number of opportunities for CORE members to show their support to the efforts of positive land use in the DNR proposal on the expansion of the ORV trail system. CORE members attended several meetings on this topic to provide vocal support to this cause, including the Maryland

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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

info@core4x4.org

Keystone Off Road Club



Lewistown, PA

KORC is an off road enthusiast's club that was formed in August of 2012. We are a family oriented four wheel drive club with members ranging from novice to decades of experience. KORC invites new members. If you have one and want to hang out and make new friend's you should come wheel with us a few times and maybe you will see for yourself that this is a fun club.

www.keystoneoffroadclub.com

korclub1@gmail.com

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

Mid-Atlantic Jeep Club

Mid-Atlantic Jeep Club

Frederick, MD

Home of the 2013 Maryland Jeep Festival.

www.midatlanticjeepfestival.com

midatlanticjeepfestival@gmail.com

■ **Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Selects 2013 Club of the Year**
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DNR meeting on June 9th. CORE members also participated in a number of online campaigns and questionnaires to show their support of reopening public land in Maryland. And finally, CORE became a member of the Maryland OHV Alliance in an effort to support these campaigns and further connect with others in the community.

The year 2013 has been an active and prosperous year for CORE and its ongoing efforts to promote positive land use and the enjoyment of fun and safe off-roading activities. They have maintained a steady schedule of events including Big Dog's Ice Breakers, Wheelin' for Hope, and trail rides to Casparis, Peter's Mill, and Flag Pole Knob, among others. They have dedicated themselves to volunteering their time in positive land use campaigns in Green Ridge State Forest and Potomac State Forest, as well as in the online community. Through these efforts CORE has not only exhibited a positive example of an off-roading community, but has also been a prime example of upstanding club membership in MAFWDA. They have made every effort to actively engage their club members in MAFWDA sponsored activities and have gone above and beyond with their enthusiastic participation. Each CORE member is delighted to be a part of such an active and forward-thinking organization and proudly dons their MAFWDA stickers on every rig! ❖

AOAA looks toward bright future at final meeting of 2013

**By Rob Wheary (Staff
Writerrob_w@newsitem.com)**

SHAMOKIN - At their final meeting for 2013, members of the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area Authority spoke with optimism for the upcoming inaugural season for the proposed recreation area.

"We had a great year with everything that we have accomplished as our first year as an authority," chairman Jim Backes said at Monday's meeting. "In January, we were setting up authority by-laws and regulations. We've had a great year, but 2014 will be even better."

Backes said a lot of work still needs to be done on mapping and signage on the 6,500-acre site, and hiring staff. For the next meeting, he will create a full list of priorities for the AOAA in 2014 to review.

The five-member board, in planning for a 2014 opening, worked toward establishing the rates for passes to the park, giving county residents a discount

up to 30 percent.

"We have had a number of requests and inquiries about group discounts, but right now, with this being our first year, we have to see what our costs are and we have to try to break even at least. Depending on how we do, we would revisit that issue next year," Backes said.

The 2014 rate card was approved on a 5-0 vote with Backes, Dave Crawl, Pat Mack, Barry Yorwarth and Mike Schwartz's support.

The board also approved policies that govern how new trails could be formed and existing trails are maintained.

For existing trails, if they are in need of maintenance, they will be logged onto a list. As time, equipment and man power become available, items listed in the trail maintenance log will be addressed.

All normal trail maintenance will require the use of hand tools, and chainsaws will only be used to clear downfalls across the trail, dangerous trees or limbs overhanging. No trail can be widened or changed, and no trees over five inches in diameter at chest height will be cut.

If volunteers want to do the work, one person will be identified as a team leader and be the point of contact for the authority. All volunteers must sign a waiver of liability.

The new trail policy gives the authority more say on what the trail will be used for and requires more checks, including GPS tracking, a complete walk through and approval from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Northumberland County Conservation District.

Payments for work on the AOAA trail head project were approved for the following firms:

- Paul Risk Associates, of Quarryville, \$174,775.
- Shannon A. Smith, of Myerstown, \$11,591.90.
- Kreco Electric, Inc., of Coal Township, \$21,607.44.

Change orders were also approved for \$1,773.66 and \$1,320 to Kreco Electric for additional costs to provide 14 pole light fixture arms and wiring for garage door openers and wiring and receptacles for a back-up digital video recorder; and \$22,890 to Paul Risk Associates, for costs of excavation and backfill from the transformer to an electric pole, to supply electricity to the AOAA trail head building.

Monday's meeting also marked the authority's last meeting at the Northumberland County Career and Arts Center. Starting Jan. 16, all board meetings will be held at the trail head.❖

Reprint from newsitem.com web site (12/17/2013)

2014 Savage River State Forest Valentines Weekend Snow Run

Preston Stevens

MAFWDA Director of Conservation & Land Use

Folks, Forest Manager, Ranger Wade Dorsey has agreed to allow us to have our annual snow run on the Negro Mountain section of the Savage River State Forest. The actual trail ride will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2014.

This trail ride is suitable for most any properly equipped licensed four wheel drive vehicle. Depending on the conditions, stock 4x4's can do some of the ride. Do understand, conditions can change in a minute up there. Be prepared.

Necessary equipment:

- 1) Tires suitable for running in snow.
- 2) Full tank of gas. I recommend filling up the night before. There simply will not be time for us to stop in the morning to fill up. Remember, the days are short.
- 3) Food and beverages (non-alcoholic)
- 4) Extra warm clothes. More than you think you will need.
- 5) Sunglasses!
- 6) Tow hooks/Secure attachment points.
- 7) Tire gauge
- 8) Flash Light
- 9) Hat and gloves
- 10) Boots

Recommended Equipment:

- 1) More warm clothes and shoes
- 2) Matches
- 3) Air Compressor
- 4) Spare Tire
- 5) Skip Plates. Not a must on all trails, but most definitely on others.
- 6) CB Radio
- 7) Shovel
- 8) Snatch Strap (NO METAL HOOKS)
- 9) Camera
- 10) Beer and snacks for Saturday Night

Winter in Garrett County is far different than in our area. It gets and stays much colder than around here and the weather changes in minutes. It honestly could be 50's (not likely) one day then 10 degrees and snowing like crazy the next. Yes, it does snow when it

is bitter cold up there. One year, it snowed 50" up there on top of about 2'.

So, carrying a lot of extra, dry clothes and a blanket or two in your vehicle makes all kinds of sense. Typically, we get back to the motel right around dark or 5:00pm. Yet, due to conditions, we did not get back until 8:00pm one year. It can happen.

Also, make sure your vehicle is in good mechanical condition. While things can happen that now one could ever predict. To hold up the entire group due to pure neglect is not fair. It is also dangerous in those parts.

Here is the game plan. Folks will arrive on Friday. We would try to all stay at the Casselman Inn, on US Route 40 in Grantsville, Md. (310-895-5055). I-68 West to Exit 19. Turn right at the end of the ramp. Then turn right onto US 40 (Main Street). Go a few blocks and the Casselman Inn and Restaurant will be on your left. The Motor Inn is in back of the place and to the left. You register in the large white building that resembles a large house. I strongly recommend that you make your reservation ASAP.

Many of us will have breakfast right at the Casselman. Typically, they have an all you can eat buffet set up. Yet, you can still choose to be served. Allow yourself enough time.

I know you all want to get the most out of your time there, so, let's figure on lining up on the road behind the Motor Inn by 9:00am. Please be on time or you may risk being left behind.

We will have a short driver's meeting, as to make sure we all are on the same page. Depending on conditions, we will head to one of the entrances. We will have lunch somewhere out on the trail close to Noon. Then we will figure on wheeling until 4:00 or 4:30pm. Thus, everyone can get back in time to freshen up (get warmed up) for dinner. I will see about renting a small meeting room that they have on the ground level of the motor inn. We all can socialize as late as you care to.

Sunday. The Casselman Restaurant is closed on Sundays. But, Annie's Kitchen in Accident, MD. Is open and has an awesome breakfast. Well, Sunday trail rides depends on how everyone feels. Just about 1/2 of the times we went there, everyone was simply too tired to wheel anymore. If we do, it will be a short, easy ride.

This event is for Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association members and friends. Yes, your friends can bring their rigs. Please stress to them that we have to do everything right, so we can keep a tradition going. Everyone will air down. We have to leave this place in nice condition. If we encounter snow mobiles, yield the right of way to them. We will, in part, be on

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■ 2014 Savage River State Forest Valentines Weekend Snow Run

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their trails. Never seen one there, yet, but, it could happen.

The trails range from (when dry) mild to moderate. Throw some snow and/or ice on them, it is an entirely different story. There are some rather steep grades. One feature is loose stones. There is a "rock garden". Tow hooks and skid plates are a must there. Banging a rock or getting hung up is not out of the question. Not recommended for stock vehicles. But, they can go around. No problem. Some trails are just rides through the woods. Well, until it snows. The Power Line Trail has the most features on it.

There is a stream crossing. That is completely off limits, at least for now. Please, do not even ask. If someone goes there, we are done, for good. Look, I like it too. But, at least we have a place to wheel.

Please keep in mind, nature can throw us a curve ball. Unusually high temperatures could keep us off of that particular area. Do not worry. We will find something fun to do.

I would appreciate it, if you could let me know if you are pretty sure that you are going. That makes it much easier to figure out a game plan and who all to look for.

I should have my cell with me. 443-605-3573 Yes, there is good cell service at the Casselman.

Bring the entire family. I hope to see you there! ❖

Preston

Maryland's OHV Trails May Be Gone...But Not For Long Thanks To New OHV Alliance

Dave Halsey

NOHVCC Contributing Writer

Across the country, many OHV success stories can be traced back to the actions of a very few people. In Maryland, Ken Kyler stepped up to the plate along with some additional riders. And while his success cannot yet be measured in trail miles, it can be measured in building a coalition of riders working to create a positive future for OHV recreation.

"Two years ago, the state essentially closed all the OHV trails," said Kyler. "We were down to a nice trail of 18 miles. After the DNR closed that, we banded together. But instead of forming a specific club, because there are many motorcycle, ATV and truck clubs around, we formed an alliance of all the clubs.

The Maryland OHV Alliance (MDOHVA) is truly a single voice for all the clubs in the state of Maryland."



MDOHVA was organized in March of 2013 by Kyler, secretary/treasurer, and Mike Twigg, owner of Twigg Cycles in Hagerstown, MD and president of the Alliance. It is a 501(c)(3); has a board of directors representing many OHV user groups; and voting members from 18 OHV clubs, associations, and local businesses. "Even though Mike is a dealer and I'm a motorcycle rider, we think about all the user groups in everything we do. We are the grease to make things happen. We facilitate success, providing solutions and activities that make things happen for the clubs," said Kyler.

Even before the OHV trails closed, Kyler was using his skills and experience as a dirt bike rider, retired military officer, and chess player; working quietly and effectively to create partnerships between riders and agencies. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) asked him to be part of the state's first OHV Stakeholders Working Group. He is also a member of the MD DNR Land Preservation and Recreation Plan review committee, working with the state to open new areas to OHV recreation. And he is working with Allegany County to develop reclaimed coal mines for OHV recreation.

"We have two OHV initiatives," explains Kyler. "One is a private land initiative, because in western Maryland there are many reclaimed coal mines. It's in a great

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Do we have your email?

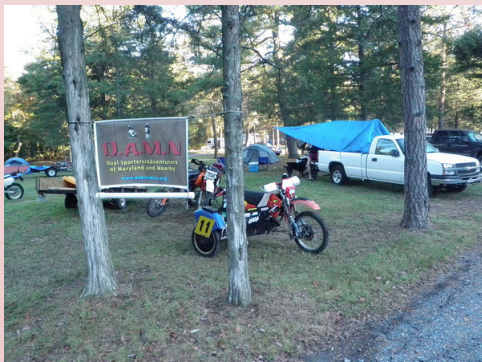
As a member of MAWDA, you should be receiving periodic communications from your fellow MAFWDA Board Members. If you haven't been receiving these messages, we probably do not have your current email address. Shoot Mike V your email address at Secretary@mafwda.org and he will ensure you are added to the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

■ Maryland's OHV Trails May Be Gone ...

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area to ride, and truly emulates what's in the Hatfield-McCoy Trails (in West Virginia). The second initiative is to educate the state to create a state-owned OHV park. There are many sand and gravel pits in eastern and southern Maryland. We can't work like West Virginia, because we don't have a central organization. Our goal is to get it started, then get the counties to come together and lease all the land and run it the same way."



Thanks to the efforts of MDOHVA and its broad-based executive team, the state has a short trail system on the drawing board, reports Kyler. It includes single track and two-track trails, with the potential for 40 trail miles in the future. The Alliance is working with the state legislature on liability issues, but is unsure if they will succeed on their first attempt, given the political climate in Maryland. However, Kyler is optimistic that success is coming. "We formed just last March, and we're pretty happy with what we have been able to accomplish. The word is getting out, people are seeing our success, and are encouraged."

To see the complete list of MDOHVA member clubs and associations, and follow their progress to rebuild an OHV trail system in Maryland, visit their web site at: <http://mdohvalliance.org/>. ❖

Ken Kyler is a new Associate State Partner with NOHVCC, and is putting NOHVCC resources to work through the efforts of MDOHVA. To see a list of who is a NOHVCC Partner in your State, go to our [State Contacts page](#). Each State can have one Partners and several Associate State Partners. Contact us at trailhead@nohvcc.org for more information or to become a NOHVCC partner.

Wheelin' Through a Winter Wonderland

Contributed By: James Junkin

Wheelin' Through a Winter Wonderland
(Sung to the tune "Walkin' In A Winter Wonderland")

Wheelin' Through a Winter Wonderland
(Sung to the tune "Walkin' In A Winter Wonderland")

Beads pop off, are you listenin'
Cold wind through - your ears is whistlin'
Your winch falls apart, your engine won't start
Wheelin' through a winter wonderland

Snow is deep, your butt is freezin'
Broke a birfield, it ain't pleasin'
You're starting to slide, on your wheels, then your side
Wheelin' through a winter wonderland

On the hillclimb we can barely make it
Traction's really nowhere to be found
Pull the cable, snatch the block and fake it.
Or claw along and put the hammer down!

Later on, we'll perspire
Drying gloves by the fire
Counting things that we broke, "That's Wheeling" we'll joke,
Wheeling through a winter wonderland...

Reprint from

4wheeldrive.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ/Ya&sdn=4wheeldrive&cdn=autos&tm=337&qps=161_8_1216_867&f=00&tt=14&bt=7&bts=7&zu=http%3A/www.ifsja.org/humor/wonderland.html

Quote

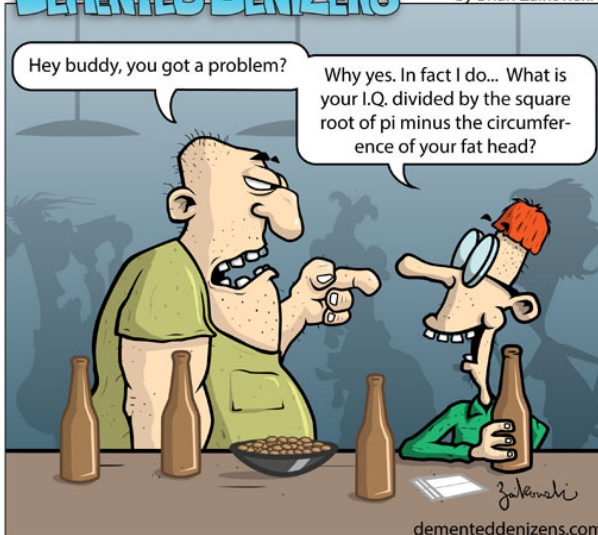
"If there are no stupid questions, then what kind of questions do stupid people ask? Do they get smart just in time to ask questions?" **[Scott Adams]**

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." **[Plato]**

"By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest." **[Confucius]**

DEMENTED DENIZENS

by Brian Zaikowski



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