



The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 3

July 2014

President's Message -

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

Larry Pope

MAFWDA President and CORE President

I hope everyone had an opportunity to get out on the trails this past spring. I along with several members from Capital Off Road Enthusiasts (CORE) had the pleasure of participating in the Wheelin For Hope weekend ride at Oak Ridge Estates in central Virginia. I am sure there will be several opportunities for everyone to get on the trail or attend an event this summer.

There are a couple MAFWDA member clubs' events coming up soon; PA Jeeps 19th Annual All Breed Jeep Show July 19 and 20, 2014 in York, PA and the 2nd Annual Mid Atlantic Jeep Festival Aug 16 and 17, 2014 in Frederick, MD. MAFWDA will have a booth at both of these venues. Also in August Preston Stevens, MAFWDA Director of Conservation and Land Use, will be hosting the annual MAFWDA Potomac State Forest Volunteer weekend Aug 8 through 10, 2014. Preston will be providing details in the near future. I am sure

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

2013 Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance Year in Review

Ken Kyler MD OHV Alliance Secretary/Treasurer

We had a phenomenal first year, thanks to your help and a strong Board of Directors. We achieved what many long-time Maryland riders said was impossible; DNR is opening an OHV trail in Savage River State Forest, the Maryland Legislature unanimously passed legislation modifying Maryland's Recreational Land Use statute to apply to the entire State and to cover OHVs. for the first time ever OHVs are included in the State's 5-year Land Preservation & Recreation Plan; and Senator Edwards had a meeting with us and three western counties including State Legislators, county commissioners and county planners to discuss the economic benefits of OHVs to the counties. 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!

SAVAGE RIVER STATE FOREST OHV TRAIL & NEW AREAS

It has been many years in the making and members of your Alliance Board have been working on this long before the Alliance was formed. The State has officially started the process to create an OHV trail system within Savage River State Forest. The initial engineering assessment should be done this spring and the Alliance has been invited to participate with the engineering firm on trail layout and user expectations. This is a slow process and we continue to push DNR on our issues; this needs to be done right the first time. This will be a model for future OHV areas on public land.

Speaking of public land, we also are pushing DNR to acquire more land either through outright purchase or via a public/private partnership to create new OHV continued on page 2 2013 Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance Year in Review from page 1

areas. This is gaining momentum and DNR is actively looking at one parcel in western Maryland of nearly 3,000 acres.

RECREATIONAL USE LANDOWNER LIABILITY LEGISLATION

This legislation was introduced by the Maryland Motorcycle Dealer's Association with support and assistance by the Alliance. It extends the same liability relief to landowners throughout the State that previously were only granted to landowners in Garrett County. It also extends the relief previously restricted to cross-country skiing and snowmobiling to include OHV recreation. Veterans of Maryland legislation initiatives will tell you it is rare to get a statute change on the first effort. This took a lot of action by you calling your representatives and sending emails. This is truly a huge win for us.

5-YEAR LAND PRESERVATION & RECREATION PLAN

For the first time in Maryland's history, OHVs are in the Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPRP)! Every 5-years the State must update the LPRP to identify essential and contemporary issues impacting outdoor recreation and natural resource protection in Maryland. "The Land Preservation and Recreation Plan will help guide land conservation and development of outdoor recreation opportunities over the next five years and builds upon the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to include proactive approaches to address critical issues identified in the planning process. The Plan aims to: provide Maryland's citizens and visitors with safe and easily accessible amenities; encourage the enjoyment and stewardship of Maryland's natural world: and balance outdoor recreation land use with natural and cultural resource protection. It also serves as Maryland's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and qualifies the state to receive funding through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund."

In a nutshell, the State has said it will include the need for OHV trails in their planning! This is huge for our cause. Monitoring how well the State delivers is one of the Alliance's primary functions.

ECONOMIC BENEFIT MEETING WITH WESTERN COUNTIES

Members of the board met with Senator Edwards, and representatives of the three western counties including State Legislators, county commissioners and county planners, to discuss the economic benefits of OHVs to the counties. We discussed the DNR's efforts to open new OHV trails, the concept of Public/Private Partnerships for recreational use of land (similar to the Hatfield/McCoy model), the potential for trails in Washington County specifically near the old Ft Ritchie site, and other challenges and opportunities for OHV recreational tourism. There was a lot of interest and support from those in attendance and that support was evident in getting the landowner liability statue amended as stated above.

FUTURE INITIATIVES

Your Alliance will continue to push forward on the issues above. To date, we have been creating the foundation necessary to facilitate OHV riding and driving areas on both public and private property. In that regard we are supporting a landowner in Garrett County who is trying to open a small ATV park. We will continue our education mission by facilitating a 2-day workshop between the DNR and the National Off-Highway vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) on trail design, maintenance and enforcement. We will also be focusing on building support in the counties for economic development through OHV recreation as well as opening new OHV areas across the State.

Ken Kyler

Ken Kyler is the Secretary at the Maryland OHV Alliance. He may be contacted at ken@kyler.com.

OAA takes in more than \$12,000

By Eric Scicchitano Reprint

http://newsitem.com/news/aoaa-takes-in-more-than-12-000-1.1688312

BURNSIDE - The Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA) took in more than \$12,000 during its opening weekend.

The sum represents more than 12 percent of the \$100,000 authority board members hoped the park would generate in 2014. There are 37 weekends remaining to earn the rest. Revenue opportunities would expand should the authority choose to add additional operating hours.

There were 173 passes sold Saturday, the park's public debut. That was followed on Sunday with the sale of 101 passes, and many of Sunday's customers were new.

Two different groups of riders came after visiting Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg.

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In all, visitors to the AOAA from Pennsylvania were joined by others from four different states. About 50 volunteers helped them get registered and acclimated to the new ATV park.

According to Jim Backes, authority board chairman, many of the weekend's customers said they'd be returning.

"We're really happy with that. A lot of the people said they'll be coming to the area this weekend," Backes said of upcoming Memorial Day Weekend. The AOAA will open again Saturday and Sunday. It will also be open Monday for the holiday.

The AOAA is a 6,500-acre area that crosses into five different townships and has more than 300 miles of trails. Visitors are granted full access to the park east of Route 125. An agreement with a private landowner allowing the same on the west hasn't yet been struck; however, guided tours continue on the west.

Visitors said they were impressed by the varied terrain: rocky trails, hills, sand and coal ash, puddles and long straightaways.

Backes said the authority took the advice of visitors who on Saturday said improvements in trail markings were needed. The AOAA volunteers did just that Sunday by posting additional signs. More emphasis was placed on clearer explanations of the trails and larger maps were distributed.

There were no reported crashes or other incidents Sunday, Backes said.

Reprint from newsitem.com web site (6/10/2014)

Editor's Note: Northumberland County Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA) is a 6500 acre motorized and non-motorized recreation facility. The trailhead welcome center is located at 4100 State Route 125, Coal Township, PA 17866-7806. Phone number for the Welcome Center is 570-648-2626.

The AOAA will begin its first season on Saturday, May 17, 2014. During this inaugural season, the facility will be open to motorized vehicles with marked trails on the eastern reserve. The western reserve will be open for guided tours (call the AOAA prior to your group's arrival to set up a tour).

The AOAA will be open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The AOAA will also be open on holidays as follows: Monday, May 26; Friday, July 4; and Monday, September 1st. For pass pricing, see the <u>Adopted Rate Plan</u>.

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 (<u>President@mafwda.org</u>).

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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 (CORE) President@mafwda.org

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

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

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

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

Director of Events and Public Relations – Vacant PublicRelations@mafwda.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 19TH ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW York, PA July 19, 20 Web site: http://www.pajeeps.org

EVOR CLUB CAMPING WEEKEND

Snow Shoe, PA August 9-10 Contact: http://eaglevallevoffroaders.com/wp/contact-us/ Web site: http://eaglevalleyoffroaders.com

MAFWDA POTOMAC STATE FOREST VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

Potomac State Forest, MD August 8-10 Contact: pstevens122656@comcast.net Web site: http://www.mafwda.org

BIG DOGS SUMMER SLAM

Gore, VA August 9, 10 Contact: johnhuntpilot@yahoo.com Web site: http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com Contact: johnhuntpilot@yahoo.com Web site: http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com

CORE CRABTREE FALLS/SHOE CREEK TRAIL RIDE/CAMPING

Near Charlottesville, VA September 6

President's Message from page 1

others have trail rides scheduled and planned for the summer. I remind and ask everyone to be safe while travelling and on the trails. While on the trails please remember the basics of Off Road 101.

There are big movements going on regarding public and private land access for OHVs in Maryland and Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Off-Highway Vehicle Association and Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance are leading these efforts in their respective states. If your club or you as an individual have not joined one or both of these organizations I asked that you or your club consider doing so.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. I am sure I'll see you on a trail somewhere. *

Larry Pope



Larry Pope is the MAFWDA President. He is also President of CORE.

Using the Hi-Lift Jack

By Bill Burke

Reprinted with permission

When meeting my students or clients the day of a class or the first day of training, I start the session at a local 4-wheel drive store. I take people on a short tour of the facility. There are many aftermarket accessories displayed effectively for me to make several points about the various types of suspensions, tires, bumpers, lights, axles, and the other components that make up a 4WD vehicle, and also to accessorize it. There are axle shafts, freewheeling hubs, differentials and drive shafts, all there for me to show what each looks like and talk a little about the pros and cons of each. In my talk about these aftermarket items, there are three things that I always try to emphasize. If you've read any of my other articles, you know that I strongly

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CORE GREEN RIDGE STATE FOREST VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

Green Ridge State Forest, MD September 11 Contact: <u>lpope@core4x4.org</u> Web site: <u>http://www.core4x4.org</u>

BIG DOGS MAIN JAMBO

Gore, VA September 27, 28 Contact: johnhuntpilot@yahoo.com Web site: http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com

EVOR WHEELIN 4 WISHES

Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area, PA October 11 Contact: <u>http://eaglevalleyoffroaders.com/wp/contact-us/</u> Web site: <u>http://eaglevalleyoffroaders.com</u>

BIG DOGS FALL CRAWL

Gore, VA October 18, 19 Contact: Web site: <u>http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com</u>

7TH ANNUAL MASON-DIXON WILLYS JEEP GATHERING

Union Mills Homestead 3311 Littlestown Pike Westminster, MD 21158 October 27 Contact: <u>admin@jeepchasm.com</u> Web site: <u>http://carrollcountytourism.org/ai1ec_event/7th-annual-mason-dixon-willys-jeep-gathering/</u>

MAFWDA ANNUAL MEETING

TBD November 8 Contact: <u>President@mafwda.org</u> Web site: <u>http://www.mafwda.org</u>

CORE BLACK FRIDAY TRAIL RIDE

Rausch Creek Off-Road Park, PA November 28 Contact: <u>mvincenty@core4x4.org</u> Web site: <u>http://www.core4x4.org</u>

Any additions? Contact Mike Vincenty to get them added to the MAFWDA calendar (<u>Newsletter@mafwda.org</u>). ◆

Using the Hi-Lift Jack from page 4

recommend you always take along: 1) tow hooks, 2) recovery strap, and 3) Hi-Lift jack. This article is dedicated to the Hi-Lift Jack.



I've been using a Hi-Lift since I was a kid in the Everglades. We used them to lower the swamp buggies and airboats off the trailers and to pull them back on. We used them to lift the big swamp buggy tires onto the rigs and for a great many other tasks. I have been using the jack for 4WD recovery ever since. Earlier this year, I was lucky enough to meet the great people at the Bloomfield Manufacturing Company in Indiana. They gave Rachel and me a warm welcome and a fun, educational tour of the factory, and reinforced my strong feelings about this well-made and invaluable product.

The Hi-Lift Jack is the only one of its type that meets ANSI standards and is made in the USA with USA steel and parts! As many years as I have been using the Hi-Lift Jack I learned something new-the direction lever (up and down) should always be in the "up" position when the jack is stored. The pins could sustain damage from trail and supermarket impact if in the down position.



There are two types of manufactured jacks: 1) the cast and steel, and 2) the all cast. It has been shown the all cast seems to last a bit longer under harder use, although the cast and steel type lasts for many years. I had an old cast and steel 48" jack I bought at a flea market for \$15 bucks that was old to begin with, and I still got about 15 years use out of it! Then I passed it on to a friend who still has it hanging on his Bronco today. The all cast jack costs a little bit more. The

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■ Using the Hi-Lift Jack

difference is that on the cast and steel the top clamp clevis, the foot piece (base), handle socket, reversing latch and pitman are stamped steel. All parts of both jacks are made on site and meet all the demanding tests. Each jack is fully tested at the factory. Both jacks have a 7000 pound capacity and will lift, push, pull, hoist and clamp equally!

Even with a winch I have had to use the Hi-Lift jack. Sometimes I have been hung up on a stump or rock and winching will tear my transfer case out. I'll lift the rig up, then winch carefully off the obstacle.

Recently, I was in the New Jersey Pine Barrens, and one of the deep pockets of quicksand was not letting go of my rig. My Superwinch S9000 was pulling two vehicles to me, and my D-90 was still not moving out of the hole. I had to use the Hi-Lift jack to lift the front of the vehicle up to break the suction, then winch out of the stuck situation. I have always used the 60" jack because it gives me an extra foot of lift or when using it as a hand winch extra distance to pull before I re-rig it. The 48" jack works for those rigs with standard tires and suspensions. With long travel suspensions and taller tires, the 60" really works best.



There are a few Hi-Lift accessories that make life easier. The bumper adapter is great for holding onto those metal edges of bumpers and can be adapted to fit other types of bumpers. The lock rack and bumper mount kit are great to secure the jack on the outside of the rig. There is also a "fix-it-kit" that is handy to have just in case. I haven't had to use mine yet in all these years, but you know Murphy, so I carry one anyway!

I have used the jack to hold my axle to the frame with a log as a spacer when I broke a leaf spring once. You can imagine the looks I got on the highway on the ride home with the top of the jack sticking out of the engine compartment and a log in my wheel well! I was able to drive home and fix the problem in my garage and not on the muddy trail (even if I could find a spring in the woods).

A basic list of equipment to carry with the Hi-Lift jack when using it as a recovery and lifting tool while on the trail would be: two short slings or tree protector straps (8' x 3"), 3 D-shackles 3/4" pin diameter min., 25 feet of 3/8" chain with holding hooks—high grade tensile strength—work gloves, a board approx. 18" square or diameter with a bolt in the middle that fits the hole in the jack base, and for extreme cases, 25' or 50' of 5/16" cable (wire rope).



The board is so you don't drive the base of the jack into the mud. The bolt is when the board gets off kilter, the jack does not slide off the board. This is for the lifting procedure. The wire rope is to extend your reach when using the jack as a hand winch. I have used a Pull-Pal portable anchor successfully many times with the jack.

You get stuck! Ascertain why and on what you are stuck. Sometimes it's best to pull the vehicle out backwards! To rig the Hi-Lift jack for hand winching, you simply connect an end of one of the straps to the tow hook or in your receiver.

The other end of the strap is connected with a D shackle to the top clamp clevis of the jack. The top clamp clevis should be in straight alignment with the jack, not in its clamping position. The base of the jack is facing away from the vehicle. Place the other strap around a suitable tree or anchor, taking care not to chafe the tree bark. If using a Pull-Pal, you do not need to use this other strap. Use a D shackle to connect the strap around the tree, or place the D shackle in the end of the Pull-Pal and run the chain through the D shackle enough to connect the hook to a link. Do not put the point of the hook in the link hole. The hook should be made so that the link fits in the hook jaw and will hold the entire load to tensile strength.

Run the other end of the chain to the jack. Again, the wire rope is to extend the reach of the assembly. Always use the chain first at the jack tongue, then extend the reach with the wire rope between the chain and the anchor.

DO NOT USE a recovery strap with this operation as it will stretch too much.

With the chain, you can tighten the rigging by "choking" the chain (shortening it) and connecting the hook to an

■ Using the Hi-Lift Jack

appropriate link. The chain is looped around the tongue of the jack. Now get the rigging as tight as possible and begin to jack using the handle. Use work gloves and watch your fingers.

The vehicle will begin to move as you jack. Be careful it doesn't roll over you and watch closely the tires and steering, keeping it aligned to where you want to go. It may take a full jack length to set the Pull-Pal. Once the jack is all the way to the top, secure the vehicle from rolling back in the hole. Move the jack reversing lever down. Loosen the chain. Choke the chain tight and begin again. I have found it sometimes takes 2 or 3 jack lengths to get a vehicle out.

I have also found that, on occasion, there are no good anchor points and no Pull-Pal available. I have then had to lift each corner and build an elevated road bed. This procedure takes time, but you are stuck and going nowhere fast anyway, right? This usually happens in boggy areas where there are deep ruts and the vehicle is high-centered.



Take the time to gather large rocks or log pieces not stones or brushwood. Lift each corner up as high as needed, bringing the tire into the air. Build 2 or 3 feet of road (or longer) at each tire extending in the direction you want to go. Sometimes it only takes that much of a start to get the vehicle going again.

Once out, go back and repair the trail damage, replace the rocks and log pieces off the trail (kinda' like replacing your divot in golf) and carry on!

There was a time when the trail was off-camber and my lockers walked me off the edge to a precarious situation. The winch started out okay, but then the rig began to slide like a pendulum. I got out the Hi-Lift and anchored the rear of the vehicle using the hand winch method and brought the back end back a little. I got in and started winching again. As the vehicle started to "stretch," I spun the tires a little and the vehicle slipped sideways back onto the road off the edge. Whew! That was one day I was glad I had all my recovery equipment with me! When using these methods of recovery take care with lights, body panels, and fingers, and do not overstress the equipment.

The hardware you use should exceed the capacity of the jack so the jack is the weak link.

There is a shear pin on the jack that will break (another reason to carry the fix-it kit) if the capacity is exceeded. Of all the vehicles I've extracted, including Hummers, I have never sheared the pin.

Use the jack carefully. Give it regular maintenance, and it will give you many years of great service. Mine hangs out on the front bumper up high so it is easy to access. I spray some WD on it once in a while. When using it in the bush I sometimes just pour water or mud "juice" on it to help "lubricate" it. Hose it off when you get home. Spray some white lithium grease on it and it's good to go! ❖

TREAD Lightly! Leaving a good impression.

Bill Burke's 4-Wheeling America LLC

http://www.bb4wa.com

Middle Atlantic 4WDA Potomac State Family Four Wheeling/Camping Outdoors Weekend

Preston Stevens MAFWDA DATE: August 8th, 9th and 10th, 2014

DIRECTIONS: From Baltimore-Take I-695 to I-70 West (Frederick) to I-68 West (Cumberland) just past Hancock. You will exit from the left lane. *Use caution, sharp turn.* Continue I-68 to Exit 14 US 219 SOUTH. Stay with US 219 SOUTH on into Oakland. On the back side of Oakland, you will have to make a left at a light on a hill to stay with US 219 SOUTH. At the next large intersection you will continue straight onto MD 135 East. (from this point on, you will only pass 2 gas stations known to be open. A Liberty station at the next light on your left, or the BP station in sight of the next turn on your right on 135. *Please gas up before getting to the campsite.*) Next you will get to MD 560 SOUTH by taking a right at the light in Mountain Lake Park.

OR

Exit off of I-68 onto Exit 19, MD 495 South. (left at end of ramp) Eventually, it will change into 135 West continued on page 10

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. <u>www.core4x4.org</u> 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 4×4'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. <u>www.midatlanticjeepfestival.com</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/MidAtlanticJeepFestival</u> midatlanticjeepfestival@gmail.com

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



MAFWDA Camping Weekend from page 7

at a flashing light. Later, you will see a BP on your left. (*gas up there*). The light you will come to is **MD 560**, turn left.

You will cross over some railroad tracks and head up a steep hill. Follow 560 around by making a left on the crest of that hill, which will take you through Loch Lynn Heights.

Stay on 560 South for a while. You will go down a large steep hill. At the bottom, the road will start to veer to the right. Next your make a **left turn onto White Church Road**. You will go up this hill and come to a **fork in the road**. **Go to your left**. The road will drop down in service level and will feature some very sharp turns and often its share of pot holes. You will go through a farm and then start down a grade. The road will soon become gravel/dirt. You will eventually come to **another fork in the road**. There will be a **DNR sign in the middle** of the fork. **Take the right fork** which will head you up hill. The road will swing right at the top and straighten out.

Look for a **yellow gate on your right close to the road**. The road will hit the road you are on at 90 degrees. Turn right there. You have arrived.

If you come up to a concrete outhouse on your left, you missed the turn.

If the gate is closed, just open it and let yourself in. You will see where to camp to your left. If you have a large trailer or motorhome, you may need to camp in the open area. Again, you will see what I mean. Please consider other folks, as if you have a tent or small popup, save the larger flat level areas for the larger rigs. This is a large area to camp with lots of options for whatever you use.

DESCRIPTION OF TRIP: This is a family oriented trip, which features outstanding primitive (dry) camping, in the woods, excellent scenery, very enjoyable four wheeling on old wooded CCC roads, possible swimming, fishing, unique shopping opportunities and a great chance to do some team conservation work.

We may do some wheeling on Friday. Keep in mind, we will be wheeling on some routes rarely traveled. So, if you have a chain saw or bow saw, gloves and safety glasses, please consider bringing them along.

Lunch will probably be at the campsite. Then some more wheeling. Dinner. Then, do some more wheeling or swimming and then some nice campfire. Sunday, will feature some more wheeling, possible swimming, etc. Monday, chill out day. Shopping, fishing and packing.

I have reserved the site from August 6th ^{thru} the 13th.

You and your friends and guests are more than welcome to come up earlier and/or stay later. You very well may be on your own at those times. Trust me, there are far more things to do than time to do them. I very much recommend the extended stay. We have been doing that for decades, now. The most difficult time is going home.

TERMS AND EXPECTATIONS TO WHEEL ON THIS

TRIP: Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a very unique opportunity. We will be wheeling on some routes that are normally closed to any motorized vehicles. Some may be open during Deer Season, some others for snow mobiles, some never open. Otherwise, they are gated closed. Please keep in mind, the only time you can have access there, is with this outing. If you venture up there on your own, you will be cited and worse than that, stand to cause all of us to lose that valuable access. This is almost too good to be true. So, let's make sure that is never becomes just that.

Historically, we do a bit of trail related volunteer work on that Saturday Morning in return for some fun, family wheelin'. Last year, we were focused on re-opening our favorite routes that Super Storm Sandy had closed with 30+ inches of very heavy, wet snow. Everyone there last year said, they wanted to finish what we started. If Forest Manager, John Denning is still good with that, then that is our plan. If we have a large enough group, we can break off into some smaller groups, as to cover more ground in a shorter period of time.

Everyone worked very hard last year. Still, we never made it all the way through. My goal is for everyone not to work as hard, yet complete our task. Hey, if we do not finish, we do not finish. It will keep. All the same, every year, the group has somehow made these work details a lot of fun. Last year, you all did the very same thing. Lots of laughter, sweat, tired mussels and smiles. Each year, our folks restore my drive to keep our sport alive.

DESCRIPTION OF FOUR WHEELING: The roads we plan on using are typically very tight; little used old Jeep trails, often there from either the C.C.C.'s work, old timber operation or another multiple use trail, such as a snowmobile route. Some have not seen any sort of maintenance in 20 to 30 years or more. In most cases, a stock Jeep can handle most of these roads. There are a few difficult sections that may be an issue or fun if you will. They feature some rocks, steep grades and sometimes wash outs. Most of these trails are not suitable for a large full size rig and if the conditions are not dry, some routes would not be open to full size rigs. If conditions are very wet, some routes may have to be avoided. The area dries quickly, so if we cannot do a road one day, we may be able to do it the next.

We will wheel on Saturday and some years on continued on page 11

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 <u>Newsletter@mafwda.org</u> and he will ensure your contribution is included in the next published edition.

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

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.



Organic Men's T-Shirt

- 100% organic cotton jersey
- Ring-spun 5.5 oz. organic cotton
- Classic Fit with side-seam construction
- Machine Wash Cold
 \$24.99

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 <u>Secretary@mafwda.org</u> 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. �

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Sunday, morning. How about you make plans to do at least a morning ride on Sunday? That is a nice frame of mind to leave with.

RULES: <u>Tread Lightly!</u> Or not at all! Everyone will air down, no exception. If you get hung, up, do not rip up the trail. These routes are typically not open. If we mess them up, they will be closed to us, too. No Alcohol on the trail rides. No exceptions! Pets are permitted. Owners must keep control of their pets and clean up after them. No independent wheeling. We go as a group, only. Still, if you want to explore around on the non-gated, open roads, that is fine. Plus, you, can hike or ride a bicycle around, or go fishing, swimming, site seeing, etc., anytime you want.

FISHING: There is fishing in Laurel Run, the Potomac River or several other areas outside of the Laurel Run/Wallman area. The Jennings Randolph Lake and Youghiogheny River Lake are excellent places to take any kind of small to medium sized power or non-power boat. Jennings Lake is a beautiful, unique place to boat, swim and fish. It is rarely, if never crowded. It is loaded with fish. They just do not always bite. Broadford Lake and the Savage River Reservoir require the use of an electric motor or paddles. You can fish from the bank or pier at Broadford. Of course, there is Deep Creek Lake. There is a small usage fee at each location. Excellent fishing there. You must have a Maryland Fishing Fresh Water License. Also, a trout stamp to fish the River and Laurel Run, if over the age of 16.

SWIMMING: Last year was not so good to go swimming. Yet, most years, it is great. There is a nice swimming hole in the Potomac River that is a local favorite.

CAMPING: There are NO hook ups. No set camping pads on our site. There is a concrete outhouse in easy walking distance from the site, but not too close. The ground is rocky. Plastic or cheap metal stakes are generally worthless there. You will actually be camping under the trees. Typically, it is 10 to 20 degrees, or more cooler than in Baltimore. Even 5 to 10 degrees cooler than Oakland.

The camping fee is for the entire site. Thus the cost will be divided up amongst the attendees, based on camping families/units. Where you camp is first come, first serve. Still, if you have a smaller rig or tent, before you set up on that wide real flat, level site, remember, some folks will be coming up with a trailer or camper that requires that sort of site.

MOTELS: There is one right in Mountain Lake Park. I have to be honest with you. I know very little about it or how nice it is. There are a few right in Oakland, as well. The one in Mountain Lake Park is right near an *continued on page 12*

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auto parts store. How can you beat that?

AUTO PARTS: There is a nice auto parts store right in Mountain Lake Park and there is a Ram/Jeep Dealer in Mountain Lake Park and other parts stores and dealers in Oakland. These seem to be real good folks. Still, try to make sure your vehicle is in good, well maintained order. For yourself and others with you.

WEATHER: Garrett County is the wettest region in Maryland. So, rain is not out of the question. The temperatures may range as high as the upper 80's (rare) to as low as the low 40's at night. If it is very humid, (possible, but not typical,) Avon's Skin So Soft or a good bug repellent can save your trip. Bring extra clothes. Just me on that one.

ITEMS TO BRING:

<u>Required</u>

Your own water, camping gear or Motel reservations, food and cash to go toward the group camping site.

Tow hooks on your rig (Yes, folks have indeed needed a pull)

Tire Air gauge (Take my word for it, airing down is a huge help, beside protecting the resource)

Spare Tire and Jack (A plug kit is not at all a bad idea. Guess how I know that)

Start out with **a full tank of gas**. (Please fuel up before getting to the campsite. There is a BP station in site of the turn off to Route 560. You probably will not burn that much. Still, you do not want to have to cut your day short due to low fuel)

Recommended gear

31" **tires or a bit larger**, all or mud terrain (not a must, but you may have to fore go one or two routes with smaller tires)

Skid plates (some routes are very rocky)

Flash light(s) (It gets dark there. Real dark!)

Matches (old school, but when you need them, you need them)

Small travel cooler for trail ride snacks and cold drinks (no alcohol on trail) (I recommend a soft cooler)

Sun glasses (hopefully, they would be a must)

Hat (trust me, it can make for a better trip)

Sun screen (even in the mountains, you can get a sneak attack sunburn)

Bug repellent (usually not an issue. But, we have been known to use some)

Extra water (Think primitive camping. You may want to wash up, as well as for cooking and drinking. Sometimes it is simply too chilly to swim)

Extra toilet paper (We are not the only ones that use that outhouse. Plus, always keep a roll in your vehicle)

Air Compressor (Mine and Keith's saved my weekend, last year)

Rain gear (That way, it will not rain. Sounds good, anyway.)

Tarp to cover your tent (Same reason as the rain gear. Besides, it is really loud in a heavy rain. LOL)

Bow and/or chain saw (please bring and use your safety gear when using the chain saw)

Work gloves (They can really make it easier to do this work and save your hands)

Tools, especially to disconnect sway bar and a hammer for tent stakes.

(Unfortunately, I have had to use mine on numerous occasions)

Chairs for sitting around Camp Fire (To me, one of the highlights of the weekend. Being around the campfire with friends and family)

CB radio (channel 34) (It is way more fun being able to communicate with each other on the trail)

Cell Phone (service is limited, but does exist at the campsite) (Stand in the clearing and point your right hand toward the satellite and lift your left foot up 6" and talk real loud)

Lantern (Hey, they are a big help there)

First Aid Kit (Just so you will not need it. Consider one with a snake bite kit. We never needed one. But, they are there. There is a reason the one road is called Rattlesnake Ridge)

Camera (Come on, this is Garrett County and you will be with great friends. Need I say more?)

WHO CAN ATTEND: Any Middle Atlantic Member in good standing, potential member and invited guests. All attendees are expected to follow the rules of Tread Lightly! And help out with the work detail, as long as they are physically able. Please contact me (Preston) as to let me know that you and your guests are coming up, including a vehicle count. That is not required. It simply helps me to lay out the trail ride schedule. By all means, I encourage you to bring the entire family up and friends. It is an outstanding family location. There literally tons of things to do in Garrett County.

This is one of the nicest areas that you will ever get to wheel and camp at with your entire family. I look forward to hearing from you. As you near the camp continued on page 13

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site and want to make contact. If by CB radio, turn your squelch all the way off, so you can hear weak signal. Use Channel 34 and keep trying. Hopefully, I can hear you. Oh, do not worry if you will not arrive until the wee hours of the morning. We all have jobs.

My Cell Phone Number is (Verizon) 443-605-

3573. Remember the signal is only but so good up there. Keep trying. ❖

See you there! Preston

Quote

"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone." *[Ronald Reagan]*

"My next-door neighbor's two dogs have created more shovel-ready jobs than this current administration." [Governor Gary Johnson]

"When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity." *[Albert Einstein]*

"A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man." *[Lana Turner]*

MAFWDA 2014 Club of the Year and BoD Nominations

A notice to all the Association clubs to submit their nomination packages for MAFWDA 2014 Club of the Year will be forth coming in the next few days. Your nomination packages are due to Mike Vincenty, <u>Secretary@mafwda.org</u>, not later than October 18, 2014. Voting will be taking place at the MAFWDA Annual Meeting currently scheduled for November 9, 2014 at a location yet determined. Details and nomination template will be sent via email to all the clubs in the near future. Please ensure you capture all the great things your individual clubs have accomplished in 2014.

MAFWDA is also looking for volunteers to step up and nominate themselves or nominate someone they know for the MAFWDA Board of Directors positions of President, Secretary, Director of Conservation/Land Use, Director of Marketing, and Treasurer (out of cycle). The elections will be held at the meeting in November. �

Larry Pope.

Quick Bites

Wisconsin Four Wheel Drive News Piece Video

Check out the "Off-Roading" news piece that NBC15 WMTV from Madison Wisconsin prepared and broadcast for its viewer ship. Active United Four Wheel Drive member Luana Schneider is the lady standing outside of her Jeep.

Access the following link to watch is great short video:

http://www.nbc15.com/video?videoid=2862344

Grand Opening Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA)

The Northumberland County Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA), a 6500 acre motorized and non-motorized recreation facility, announced its grand opening on May 17, 2014.

Access the following link for the latest information for the AOAA off road park: <u>www.anthraciteadventure.com</u>

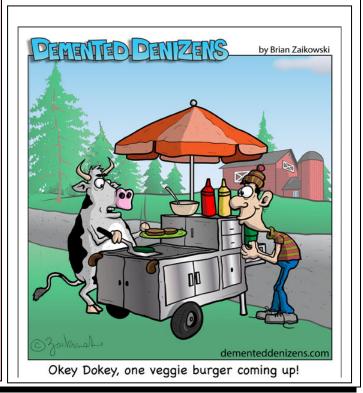
The Passing of a Great One

Mark A. Smith, a world-class adventurer and 4x4 motorsports pioneer who organized the first gathering of Jeep owners for an off-road trek along the torturous Rubicon Trail over the Sierra Nevada, died June 9 at age 87.

He lived life on his own terms.

Read more here:

http://www.sacbee.com/2014/06/11/6476970/obituarymark-a-smith-87-founded.html



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