

Recovery Points



The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 1

January 2015

2014 Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance Year in Review

Ken Kyler

MDOHV Alliance Secretary / Treasurer

Our second year was just as phenomenal as our first year! 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, and have been working hard with western civic and social leaders espousing the gospel of OHV recreational tourism. 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 & NOHVCC Workshop for DNR

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. Last year the State officially started the process to create an OHV trail system within Savage River State Forest. The initial

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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

Happy New Year!

I am sure most of you have heard of or watched the new "reality" TV show Alaska Off-Road Warriors. I watched the first episode and that was enough for me. What a farce. Some of you may watch the show regularly and are fans. Well, I am getting on the band wagon with those who oppose the airing of such non-sense.

I agree with Jerry Smith, Director of Environmental Affairs United Four Wheel Drive Associations, in the fact the show gives the perception that all off-road enthusiasts are deranged, irresponsible, and have bad haircuts as depicted in the show. Ok, some of us do. The show has done damage to our hobby/sport by the antics of the group of nuts participating in a race. I am not sure but I would suspect a lot of the terrain being traversed is located within public lands. I don't know about the rest of you but when I go on a trail ride I am not racing to get from point A to point B or seeing how much terra firma can be torn up. Jerry puts it straight to the point by stating "There are a million reasons we could state why watching this failed attempt of "entertainment" is revolting to any responsible human being, but for any responsible member of a 4-wheeling public, this is a total disregard of the way we act, the way we teach, and the way we live!!" As the saying goes, garbage in garbage out. I hope the majority of off-roaders don't watch the garbage and are responsible and projecting a positive image of four wheeling. This show has done a lot of damage to our image and the OHV community as a whole and now the liberal environmentalist will have more ammunition to close or limit access to our public lands.

Mentioning public lands here is something we all should be watching. The US Forest service has completed the final Land and Resource Management Plan for the George Washington National forest (GWNF). The plan recommends for congressional designation of a new National Scenic Area on Shenandoah Mountain, two new Wilderness areas and four additions to existing

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engineering assessment was completed and the Alliance was invited to review the proposed trail layout. To put it mildly, we were underwhelmed. Fortunately we saw this coming and had been working with the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) to conduct a 2-day workshop (at no cost to DNR) on trail design and maintenance.

We used your donations and split the cost with NOHVCC to conduct the workshop. It was money very, very well spent. NOHVCC sent one of their senior project managers, Jack Terrell, as well as Ron Potter who recently retired from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource. Ron spent 37 years as the MN DNR Recreation Systems Manager in the Parks & Trails Division. He is a nationally respected public trails manager and was very, very well received by the MD DNR members who attended. DNR sent two senior leaders and about 20 other employees who ranged from headquarters level planners to local land managers. The workshop was one-day of classroom followed by a day in the field. It was amazing and exciting to see their eyes opened by Jack and Ron over the two days of the workshop. We should also add that when we went to the field, the engineering firm DNR hired accompanied us.

DNR expects all the work to open the trail system to be completed by the end of 2015.

By the end of the workshop, the original plan was totally scrapped and DNR proposed a dual-trail system paralleling the 7-miles of Red Dog Road with interconnecting loops. We went for 5-6 miles of trails to 30+ miles of trails and from 15 users per day to 30 users per day. We believe that a well-designed trail monitoring system will show DNR that even more users per day can be achieved. This is a great start and will be a model for future OHV areas on public land.

DNR expects all the work to open the trail system to be completed by the end of 2015. You can be assured we will stay closely involved with DNR to ensure that happens!

Trail System Monitoring Initiative

Your Alliance was the instigator to start a trail monitoring working group with representatives from the Maryland DNR (Wade Dorsey, Savage River Land Manager), Garrett College (Kevin Dodge), Garrett Trails (Steve Storch) and the MD OHV Alliance (Ken Kyler). Steve has a PHD in Outdoor recreation Management and has done a lot of work on trail monitoring programs that is directly applicable to creating an OHV trail monitoring program. DNR has found seed money to fund some Garrett College

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■ President's Message

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Wilderness areas. Restricts use of current OHV trails and eliminates portions of existing roads each year. What does this mean? Less access to our public lands. This is a growing epidemic within our national and state forests. There is a planned appeal of the Plan set forth for the GWNF. You can access and read the final plan at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj>. These same type of actions are happening all over the country.

I hope none of us are following the example of the goons in that reality show but are responsible when on the trails and are involved in contacting our elected public officials when there is a proposed action to limit or close access to our public lands.

See you on the trails. Those that are left. Be safe.

Larry ❖



Larry Pope is the MAFWDA President.

2015 MAFWDA Annual Meeting and Board Position Elections

Mike Vincenty

MAFWDA Secretary

Many of the MAFWDA Board of Directors positions are up for nomination and election for the upcoming 2015 calendar year. The following positions need to be filled: President, Vice President, Secretary, Director of Conservation/Land Use, Director of Marketing, and Treasurer (out of cycle). Please consider volunteering and contributing your time to keep the organization going.

The elections will be held at the annual MAFWDA meeting. All MAFWDA clubs should send their two delegates to the meeting. All MAFWDA members are strongly encouraged and welcome to join.

The meeting specifics are as follows:

Date: Saturday January 24, 2015

Time: 11 AM to 1:30 PM

Location: Mountain Gate Family Restaurant in Thurmont, MD

Web Site: www.mountaingatefamilyrestaurant.com

Other: Folks attending can order off the menu or do the buffet

See calendar of event below for more information.

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students to do the monitoring under the supervision of Kevin.

You may ask why we should embrace trail monitoring.

Trail monitoring is a proactive way to ensure trails are sustainable and thereby remain open! Green Ridge had no trail monitoring program and was shut down with little warning as an unsustainable trail. We view a well designed trail monitoring program as a defensive measure as well. By being proactive, we can bring volunteers to the trail and mitigate issues before they become problems—something we should have done at Green Ridge. Also, because Maryland manages all forests as “sustainable forests” a monitoring program is vital to their next evaluation. By being proactive and mitigating issues as they arise we can show that OHV recreation is compatible with sustainable forests.

Economic Benefit Meeting with Western Leaders

The Alliance had a social meeting with Senator Edwards, elected state and county leaders, as well as landowners and significant social leaders to continue last year’s discussions on the economic benefits of OHVs to the counties. This time we presented the economic impact that surrounding areas experience from OHV recreational tourism. The attendees seemed quite surprised by the economic benefit the counties could experience. This is a very slow process but we are making inroads. One result was an invitation to meet with Mike Koch who is the executive director of Garrett County’s Department of Planning and Economic Development. Mike thinks OHV recreational tourism can only be good for the county if done right. Our job is to show him it can be.

Future Initiatives

Your Alliance will continue to push forward on the issues above as well as undertake new initiatives.

New State leadership!

The election of Larry Hogan has changed the world and created vast opportunities for us. We believe Governor-elect Hogan will be a strong supporter of building OHV recreational tourism using State land as well as public/private partnerships. It appears that Hogan will appoint Charlie Evans Jr. (who worked as the assistant secretary at DNR during the Ehrlich administration) as the next DNR Secretary. We will be working to get on his calendar and discuss OHV recreation on DNR lands and we will push to reopen Green Ridge State Forest.

Updating Maryland’s Outdated OHV Noise Legislation

Maryland’s legislation on OHV noise is woefully outdated. With the help of AMA, we are drafting an update to use the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) and AMA’s recommended noise standard and testing

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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).

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.

www.adrenalineoffroad.com

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Burtonsville, MD 20866
301-502-6180

River Raider Off-Road



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

www.riverraider.com

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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

Yes we are still on the Web!

Check out:

www.mafwda.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
President@mafwd.org

Vice President – Bob Weaver
VicePresident@mafwd.org

Treasurer – Clair Kauffman (PA Jeeps)
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

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

CORE NEW YEARS TRAIL RIDE

January 3

Flagpole Knob, GWNF VA

Contact: Andrew Taylor
Email: president@core4x4.org
Web site: <http://www.core4x4.org>

PA JEEPS CLUB MEETING

Sunday January 11, 12 Noon

York Township Parks building
25 Oak Street, York, PA 17402

Contact: Wayne Fish
Email: president@pajeeps.org
Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

PA JEEPS CLUB TRAIL RIDE

January 17

Rausch Creek

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

CORE CLUB MEETING

January 21, 3PM

On the Border Restaurant

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method. It will also address spark arrestors. We are drafting language to ensure this only applies to OHV use on public property and may be waived for races or events. We all follow these standards already so this won't be any change for you. This is primarily a defensive move on our part. We would rather have standards passed that we all already adhere to versus having someone with an axe to grind push through a very onerous law. Noise is a major issue and has contributed to closing OHV parks and other riding areas.

Summary

Your Alliance will be pushing hard on the issues above. We are achieving results many long-time Marylanders though 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! ❖

The MD OHV Alliance, as a State-wide body of OHV recreation enthusiasts, develops and provides a wide spectrum of programs, materials and information, or "tools", to individuals, clubs, associations and agencies in order to further a positive future for responsible OHV recreation.

Web Site:

<http://mdohvalliance.org/>

Facebook:

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

8053 Leesburg Pike
Vienna, VA 22182
703-734-9512

Guests welcome!

Contact: Andrew Taylor
Email: president@core4x4.org
Web site: <http://www.core4x4.org>

MAFWDA ANNUAL MEETING

January 24, 11 AM – 1:30PM

Mountain Gate Restaurant
133 Frederick Road
Thurmont, MD 21788

Phone: 301-271-4373
<http://mountaingatefamilyrestaurant.com/>

Contact: President@mafwd.org
Web site: <http://www.mafwd.org>

PA JEEPS CLUB MEETING

Sunday February 8, 12 Noon

York Township Parks building

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25 Oak Street, York, PA 17402

Contact: Wayne Fish

Email: president@pajeeps.org

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

CORE CLUB MEETING

March 15, 3PM

On the Border Restaurant

8053 Leesburg Pike

Vienna, VA 22182

703-734-9512

Guests welcome!

Contact: Andrew Taylor

Email: perpetualdynamism@gmail.com

Web site: <http://www.core4x4.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 24-26, 2015

Contact: wheel4hope@gmail.com

Web site: <http://www.wheelin4hope.com/>

BIG DOGS ICE BREAKER

Gore, VA

April 25, 26

Contact: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com

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

BIG DOGS SPRING FLING

Gore, VA

June 26-28

Contact: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com

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

PA JEEPS 20TH ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW

York Fairgrounds

York, PA 17404

July 18, 19

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

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

PA Jeeps Scholarship Fund

Wayne Fish

PA Jeeps President

In keeping with the ongoing generosity of PA Jeeps, it has been decided by the membership to continue the annual scholarship program. This exciting program, modeled somewhat after Colorado 4 Wheel Drive Association's program, will seek out aspiring young students, but also include adults wishing to advance their education. The scholarship program will be open to any member of Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive and application forms for the second annual scholarship program will be available in January.

Wayne ❖



Wayne Fish is the PA Jeeps club President.

CORE GRSF Volunteer Weekend 10/03-05 2014

Fred Granruth

CORE Member-at-Large

Participants:

- Larry Pope - CORE member
- Fred Granruth - CORE member
- Robert Rixham - CORE member
- Kevin Barnes, Gigi, Tyler & Kelsey - CORE members
- Serguei Sviatyi and Sabastian - Guests
- Andrew & Cherie Taylor - CORE Members and Guests Steve & Lauri

Several members of CORE participated in a volunteer weekend at Green Ridge State Forest (GRSF). Larry arranged a work project with GRSF Manager Mark Beals. Our project for this weekend was left up to the Forest Service crew; we did not find out the assignment until Saturday morning.

I arrived at Group Site 1 at approximately 2:30 on Friday afternoon. Larry was already set up and was out and about looking for a stake for his canopy. It

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■ CORE GRSF Volunteer Weekend

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was a nice warm, sunny afternoon around 60 degrees and the bugs were out in force! I started to erect the "Taj Mahal" and after ingesting a couple of gnats it was time for some OFF DEEP WOODS spray. Five minutes after I finished with the tent, Larry arrived back at the camp site.



If you don't know, GRSF has only primitive camping, no water, no shelters and no toilet facilities, but the group sites have a porta-potty. Well, guess what? Ours was locked and the park personnel gave Larry the explanation "we changed suppliers and they are the only ones who have keys to unlock and we forgot to call them". The answer to the question "does a bear poo in the woods" was you will too!

The answer to the question "does a bear poo in the woods" was you will too!

Larry had bought 2 bundles of fire wood from the Exxon station (all they had) and I had 3 bundles left over from the spring volunteer weekend. Kevin advised Larry that he was bringing firewood. Hopefully we would have enough for Friday night. We finished setting up my canopy over the picnic table and put on the sides to protect us from the wind.

Robert, who lives in Parkersburg, WV, arrived after his 3 ½ hour drive around 5:00 pm. Since everything was set up all he had to do was his cot!

Kevin and his crew (wife and kids) arrived before dark. After setting up his trailer and canopy, he unloaded the wood that he brought. It should be enough for Friday night and Saturday morning!

Serguei and his son, Sabastian, arrived next and...he brought 3 bundles of wood! It did not take long for him to set up as they were sleeping in their Jeep.

Last to arrive was Andrew and Cherie along with Steve and Lauri. Usually their gear is contained in the back of the Xterra, with the extra people, Andrew was towing a trailer! Luckily Andrew brought his porta potty and it was erected next to the locked one. After setting up their tents it was time for dinner. We entertained ourselves around the campfire Friday evening. It was not too cold and the fire was nice.



As anyone who camps knows, you do not sleep late as there are no curtains to close to keep the light out! We started a small fire and everyone had breakfast. About 9:00 am the Forest Service crew arrived and we discussed our work assignment. We were going to clear brush along the access road to campsite 46. We "loaded up and moved em out" and our caravan was on the way at 9:30 am.

Campsite 46 is one of the secluded ones, down an access road and hidden from view. When we arrived, we traveled down the access road to the campsite. A Toyota 4runner and several people were at the campsite. They were happy to see us! Seems like someone either left the lights on in the vehicle or plugged in too many electronics...the result was a discharged battery. The Forest Service crew gave them a boost and they were on their way. One side of the access road had light trees and saplings to the edge of the road and the other was not as badly overgrown. We trimmed back both sides of the road, dragging the brush into "holes" in the tree line wherever we could. The excess we piled into the empty areas around the campsite, but not on the campsite proper. We finished the clearing in a little over an hour due the tremendous turn out of volunteers (13). We headed back to Group Site1 for an early lunch and then for a trail ride.



After lunch we hit the trail. There are no longer any actual "off road" trails located in GRSF but there are plenty of dirt roads and some can be fairly rough (there is even one with a sign that reads "4X4 only"). Yes, I know, it is not an off road trail; however, it is not pavement either. We did a 63 mile ride, Seruei had an app on his phone which plotted our route (<http://gps.motionx.com/maps/78de97790a1fa6f3e67c201b725a3a0c>).

After our "trail" ride we went to the Exxon station to

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gather supplies and fire wood. Alas, there was no fire wood to be had. Robert and I with Kevin & crew following drove to the Little Orleans Campground Store and bought a "Double Stack" of firewood for Saturday night (was to be in the 30's!) After having dinner, the fire was lit. Andrew and Cherie announced that Steve had been sick all day and they were going to break camp and head home. Even though we had a lot of firewood it was getting colder...and colder and colder. Robert began eyeing up the 12" logs that were around the campfire ring for seating. Eventually these logs made it on the fire and we had a roaring fire going. It was cold overnight and the fire still had embers in the morning that were used to get the breakfast fire going. We burned all the wood we had to keep warm while having breakfast

After breakfast we broke camp and were gone by noon.

Fred ❖

Fred Granruth is an active member of CORE.

Can "Multiple-Users" Rule the World?

Del Albright

Reprint

I'm so tired of the vocal minority (with money) influencing my public lands that I could puke! I say it's time for multiple-use to rule the world! (g). By that I mean, it's time that we take back control of how land use decisions are made in this country. It's time for recreation and multiple-use to rule!

How do we go about that? How do we get after-market manufacturers, RV groups and industry, motorized recreationists, equestrians, mountain bikers, AARP members, SUV drivers, hunters, etc. all rowing in the same boat so we control the boat? Well, it's a big order; but we can do it.

Do you have any idea how large our numbers would be if we were standing side by side with everyone who tows a SUV behind their motorhome; everyone who has a four wheel drive; everyone who snowmobiles; everyone who like to ride horses or dirt bikes or mountain bikes; everyone who buys after-market products for their toys; everyone who plays on a personal watercraft; everyone who makes a living off of public lands; and so on and so on??? HUGE! We would literally rule the world because that would be the majority of Americans.

Unity; united front; cohesive effort; banding together; and being on the same side, are all ways to say the same thing. In order to achieve such unity, we must learn the first step: SHARE. Within our own ranks, we must learn to share the trails; share the public lands; share our opportunities with others to increase understanding and tolerance. There's an old saying: "Seek first to understand; then be understood." By learning to share with others, we learn their needs and they ours. Once we can see how another use of public lands fits with ours, we can develop a way to share those public lands to the benefit of all.

There will be times when uses of public lands conflict with each other. That's normal. But here is where we must help our public land managers develop a plan to accommodate the many uses and minimize the conflict. We all need to be a part of this process. We also need to be presenting a unified front while doing so. If I am a dirt biker, then I should help my local public land manager develop a trail system that accommodates both my needs and those of hikers and equestrians. Some trails we can share; some we should set aside for single use or limited use. But I should be right there helping to develop that plan.

If I am a four-wheel drive person who likes to snow-wheel, then I should help my local public land manager develop a trail system that accommodates both my needs and those of snowmobilers and cross-country skiers. We need to work together in order to fully and effectively share the trails while providing great experiences for all users.

The same thing is true for those who make a living off the public lands. Timber harvesting, mining, grazing and other uses are legitimate uses of public lands in many places. We should be seeking ways to help public land managers find opportunities to allow legitimate use of our lands, while still accommodating the needs of recreationists.

Can you see why so many public land managers feel a bit helpless at times? What an overwhelming task they face! And the reason many of them are frustrated (and our land designations get so screwed up) is that WE'RE NOT IN THERE HELPING THEM!

We OWN public land. It's ours. It's our right to recreate, make a living, walk peacefully, ride a horse, sled in the snow, crawl over the rocks, whatever. But public land managers can no longer do it without us. You must be part of the solution. We need to educate our elected officials also. It's the same old story; but this time, the ending can be influenced by us. Sharing trails is one big solution to a national problem.

You can read all the demographic studies you want; and the bottom line is there's more of us (people) than ever before and there's a lot more to come. Besides an expanding population base, more of us are "taking

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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
<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

Mid-Atlantic Jeep Club

Mid-Atlantic Jeep Club

Frederick, MD
Home of the 2013 Maryland Jeep Festival.
www.midatlanticjeepfestival.com
<https://www.facebook.com/MidAtlanticJeepFestival>
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 secretary@mafwd.org for information on how your club can contribute to MAFWDA.

■ Can “Multiple-Users” Rule the World?

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to the woods” for many reasons. The use of public lands is growing at an alarming rate. Unfortunately public lands are a limited, fixed asset. There’s only so much to go around. This is one reason many radical protectionist groups are advocating more Wilderness — to preserve and protect from public use what is left.

The counter to this is shared trails, cooperative land management, public involvement and better use of what public lands we have. We can help guide this process.

Let’s take back control of our public lands! Get in the game any way you can. Through involvement, sharing, understanding, tolerance and cooperation, we can “rule the world.” ❖

Reprinted with permission from author.



Del Albright is a career professional advocate promoting trail access and landuse for responsible off-pavement motorized recreation, as well as outdoor photojournalist. Del has 50 years of off-roading responsible motorized recreation; 30 years of career landuse and trail access work; 25 years of outdoor photojournalism.

You can follow Del at these online resources:

Web Site: <http://delalbright.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LanduseDel>

Quote

“Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter.” **[Mark Twain]**

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.” **[Winston Churchill]**

“While physics and mathematics may tell us how the universe began, they are not much use in predicting human behavior because there are far too many equations to solve. I’m no better than anyone else at understanding what makes people tick, particularly women.” **[Stephen Hawking]**

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.



- Unstructured 100% brushed cotton canvas Baseball Cap
- Adjustable hook/loop tape closure adjusts from 20" to 24"
- Crown measures 3 1/4"
- Low Profile Brim with sweatband
- Hand wash with warm water and mild detergent
- Hang Dry Machine Washable

\$15.99

Do we have your email?

As a member of MAFWDA, 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.

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@mafwda.org and he will ensure your contribution is included in the next published edition.

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

Quick Bites

AOAA gets new ride

Sarah DeSantis (Staff

Writersarah_d@newsitem.com)

Reprint – December 16, 2014

BURNSIDE - Staff at the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA) has a new set of wheels.

At Monday's meeting the AOAA authority accepted a proposal from Schreffler Equipment Inc., of Pitman, to purchase a 2015 Polaris Ranger XP 900 EPS for \$15,292 plus title fee.

The purchase is conditioned upon final approval from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, which is helping to fund the new equipment through a grant.

The side by side will be used to assist with a variety of manpower tasks, such as improving trails. Authority members made the selection based on the features available on the machine as well as price.

After a motion had been made to approve the purchase, authority member Pat Mack pointed out an additional benefit of choosing Schreffler Equipment as the supplier.

"Here's another example of helping out a local business," he said.

The authority also voted to advertise a request for qualifications and pricing from surveyors for projects regarding AOAA boundary lines and surveying needs in 2015.

BRC's Del Albright Inducted Into Off-Road Motorsports Hall Of Fame

BlueRibbon Coalition

Reprint – November 5, 2014

POCATELLO, ID (November 4, 2014) -- The BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) is proud to announce the recent induction of one of its own, Del Albright, into the Off-Road Motorsports Hall of Fame (ORMHOF). Del has been a long time advocate of recreation access, and originally served as BRC's organizational facilitator, after which he served for many years as a BRC Ambassador to the recreation community. Most recently, he has been serving as BRC's Director of Operations.

"Del Albright has shared 33 years of wisdom, knowledge of leadership, and supervision to help keep public lands open to the public," ORMHOF stated on their website. "He has spent time working on trails, attending meetings, writing letters, joining and starting organizations, and meeting with legislators to effectively save access to public lands."

"While [Del] is known for doing all of these things, in addition to being the ambassador for the BlueRibbon Coalition, his most significant contribution to off-road motorsports sets him apart from others in land-use: educating and mentoring the OHV community. His extensive background in leadership, supervision, and management has allowed him to mentor many other land-use advocates through Recreational Leadership Training courses and Volunteer Leader and Land Stewardship classes," ORMHOF continued.

"Del has also mentored smaller groups, such as 4x4 clubs, as well as 'Friends of' organizations that have modeled themselves after the Friends of the Rubicon, which Del was a principal founder of many years ago," ORMHOF concluded.

Three members of the BRC Board of Directors-John Stewart, Kay Lloyd and Jack Welch-were present at the ceremony for Del's Induction into the Off-Road Motorsports Hall of Fame.

"It was an honor to be present at the induction [of Del Albright] into the Hall of Fame," stated Jack Welch, BRC Board member. "He is very deserving and we at BlueRibbon are proud to have him as part of our TEAM!"

See Something Missing Here?

Where is your club contribution to this newsletter? Where are your trip reports pictures and events? Folks in MAFWDA are interested in hearing what your club is up to and also in participating.

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by Brian Zaikowski



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MAFWDA Land Use Report

Preston Stevens

MAFWDA Director Conservation/Land Use

Happy New Year all,

Another year has come and well, it's gone. 2014 did feature some interesting events four wheel drive wise. 2015 "should" bring on even more and new interesting features.

Last February, MAFWDA was fortunate enough to bring back an old B4W tradition, a snow run on the Savage River State Forest. We were very much welcomed by the staff and management of the Casselman Inn in Grantsville, Md. While there was actually "too much snow," (who would ever thought we would say that!), we still managed to have a lot of fun. Larry submitted an excellent article that totally captured the feel of the event last spring.

For 2015, we will not be able to hold that very event. The Forest Manager is seeking to have that even formalized. If that occurs, there will not be any magic hoops to jump through. Still, there will be some restrictions. This would include group size and would be dependent on weather conditions. If it is too warm, then, no wheeling on that area. So, I will keep you updated on that, as news develops.

The St. Johns Rock OHV area is to open later on this year. While it probably will not offer the four wheel drive community a whole lot, the OHV community as a whole will have a pilot program that may lead to more places and expansion of that area.

The OHV Stake Holders group met again this year and it was mostly good news. Still, progress is slow. One proposal got blown out of the water by the residents local to the area proposed. That was no surprise. Still, disappointing. On the other hand, the property at Kitzmiller, Md. aka: Wolfs Den, Lupa Tana, North Hill..., has been purchased by some gentlemen that are all about OHV. In fact, right now, you can access that property. But, at \$120.00 per year. I suppose that would depend on how many times a year you figure to go there. The State is looking at the land to purchase for OHV recreation. There is good and bad in this, as I see it. The good, it would become far more affordable. The bad, no one will commit to this land being for OHV forever. It was already mentioned of a 100 acre section that would be protected and off limits. I really cannot tell you what would be the best for us.

Access to this property would be outstanding for us. Plus, it is rather close to the Potomac State Forest. That could make for some dandy events. Plus, there is camping on that property, as well. It would truly be a win-win if we get that open, out right. At the same time, I have spoken with one of the owners and have been

invited to check this area out. I will simply have to make time to do this and see about some others of you to come along. To me, wheeling is like swimming. You just do not do that by yourself.

As you can see, the Maryland OHV Alliance has made huge strides this past year and has its sights on an even bigger year coming. We truly have a lot of friends and have gained some new ones.

The Potomac State Forest event was still a success, even with a very weak turn out. Still, we fail to connect two roads that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The word I got from the membership is to keep this even alive and well. As long as I have commitment to that, I will work to keep it going.

I had sent out a piece about the George Washington National Forest. To be honest, with things going on in my personal life, (not really bad, just a lot) I have not had the chance to digest it. But, apparently, Larry Pope, has. I can only tell you, bombard the USDA Forest Service with your letters. The 10 year plan sounds horrible for us. We still need to try to fight this off. If you lose, at least we did not just throw in the towel. We use to spend countless outstanding weekends on that National Forest and had more fun than one can imagine; getting involved works.

A new person has stepped up to replace me on the United BOD. This, hopefully, will give me a bit more time to spend on our local issues. It looks like my life may be getting back to more of a normal state on the home front.

Lastly, I so very much want to Thank Larry Pope and Mike Vincenty for the countless hours that they have dedicated to this association over the past year. Larry has done more for this association over the last couple of years, than any of us in the past have done all put together. Don't misunderstand me; folks like Wayne Fish did a tremendous amount for this organization. Larry simply raised the bar.

Mike puts out a very professional looking newsletter and a web site, second to none. We are truly blessed to have these folks with these talents on our team.

Happy New Year all! ❖



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

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9073 Harris Place
Frederick, MD 21704

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