

Low Range Ramblin'

a publication of:

Inland Empire 4 Wheelrs

In this issue:

- *Roundup & Membership
- *President's Corner
- *Minutes
- *Calendar & Events
- *Reports & Pictures
- *Safety



WHO IS IE₄W?

The Inland Empire 4 Wheelers is a family oriented 4x4 club formed for the enjoyment and preservation of 4 wheeling. We consist mainly of short wheelbase vehicles such as Jeeps, Toyotas, Suzuki's although we do get an occasional long wheelbase vehicle. If you have one of these, expect to go some places where you could possibly



sustain body damage. We have monthly club runs that take us from the deserts to the mountains. We could easily end up in the snow, rocks, or sand. As a club, we are dedicated to the preservation of our public lands and our family sport. We welcome new members to join us!

IE4W ROUNDUP

Come meet new friends! Bring your 4X4 ! All Four Wheelers welcome, Old Timers and New. Bring the family for dinner & enjoy it with new friends. Find out where to go Four Wheeling! Learn the newest tricks of Four Wheeling. Check out Radical videos & vehicles. Vehicle Safety advice available.

Come Play On Our RTI Ramp! The articulation ramp is a great tool for checking the effect of modifications you have made to your vehicle. For example, it can be used to check brake line length, if your shocks are the correct length for your lift, etc.

From the North, take the Washington Street exit off the Southbound 215 freeway and turn left at the light. From the South, take the Washington Street exit and make two left turns over the freeway. Graziano's is located on the left between McDonald's and Del Taco.

The IE4W Roundup is held the 2nd Tues. of each month from 6-9 PM, at:

Graziano's Pizza Restaurant

1080 E Washington St.

Colton, CA 92324

(909) 824-2770

Odd Numbered Months are the IE4W Social Event. Locations Change. Please see the club calendar for details.



IE4W WANTS YOU... TO BECOME A MEMBER!!

The Inland Empire Four Wheelers welcome all guests to participate in club functions such as runs, business meetings, Roundups, and social gatherings. However, we would also like to welcome in our guests as full time members. As an IE4W member, you will enjoy certain benefits, just to name a few; you will be allowed to purchase plaques to display on your vehicle, you will be allowed full voting rights for bylaw changes and board of directors elections and look toward some new fun members benefits in the coming months as our membership committee builds new ideas.

The followings are the requirements set forth by the IE4W bylaws for membership requirement: Each prospective member must be 18 years or older, hold a valid driver's license, be the registered owner of a 4x4 vehicle, have the minimum CA insurance coverage, have their vehicle safety inspected, and attend 6 business meeting and drive his or her vehicle in at least 6 official runs (1 being an overnight run and 1 Adopt-A-Trail work trip) within a 12 month period. An official club run consists of 2 or more club members (with the exception of monthly club Runs). Each new member must sign the club's Assumption of Risk Waiver and will pay an annual \$69.00 fee which is used for land use and club events. Each year new land disputes surface and every off-highway recreationalist is beckoned to help support the fight. So, not only will your IE4W membership be a fun, fellowship filled experience, you will also be supporting your right to enjoy off-highway recreational areas for years to come.

IE4W Club Website:

[Http://www.ie4w.com](http://www.ie4w.com) Webmaster



President's Corner



The well-oiled and time tested "Forest Fest" is now here. This year there will be over 400 rigs in attendance, more than 800 meals served and our raffle will be valued at more than \$50,000. I would like to thank all our participating club members for their help in what I am sure will be another successful Forest Fest.

Tonight we are here at the annual Forest Fest Potluck, Thank you Redlands Jeep for the use of this fine facility. IE4W does several things REAL good, 1st we wheel, 2nd we do Forest Fest and I would say Potluck would be 3rd on the list. Enjoy but don't forget to sign up on a committee or two. We need everyone to step forward for this event.

New to IE4W is the Trail Guide training and it is now complete and I would like to remind the experienced guides to pass on any experiences that will help the newer guides. Remember we were all new to guiding at one time.

IE4W we ROCK!

Bill Henry, President, IE4W



Run with No Sun
July 16, 2016



IE4W Business Meeting – May 5, 2016 Open Meeting

Called to order by President Bill Henry at CrossWalk. Dick Gervais led Pledge of Allegiance.

The guests in attendance were as follows: Mickey Ask of Colton, Bill Rhetts of Redlands, Bobby Holley of Riverside, Greg Silver of Eastvale, Bob Berg of Orange, Steve Santa of San Dimas, Craig Wilcutt of Hesperia, Keith LeFever of Corona, John Dunlop of Riverside, Carey Bell of Lake Matthews and Brian Eck of Apple Valley.

The secretary’s minutes were approved for the April 2016 meeting as published on-line, on the website and in the Low Range Ramblin’.

Reports

Secretary - Laura Hertel present – Reminder to turn in your trip reports and signed waiver forms. Sign in sheets were passed around.

Treasurer - Mike Moore present - The club started April with \$61,860.07. During the past month income was \$16,989.00 and expenditures were \$3,824.42. The club ended the month of April with \$75,024.65. Income included raffle at \$144.00. Expenditures included BBFF deposit and normal monthly expenses. New bills were presented.

Vice President - Sue Sloan present - Sue reported on the Nestle 5-year water permit issue. A meeting was held to allow the public to comment on the issue. A two-year study is to be done and it will be going to court before they will renew the permit. More to follow. Mark Ogaz reminded the club that you can download the Discover Johnson Valley app and it will tell you when you are out of the legal area for off road use.

Merchandise - Peggy Ogaz present – Peggy reported that she has new yellow and green club flags. The club voted and passed to allow up to \$1,000.00 of new merchandise to be ordered. present

Membership & Public Relations - Monica Ortega present – She had packets for guests who are interested in becoming members. Bobby Holley will be coming up for membership.

Hospitality – Char Hart present – Char reported that all is going well with hospitality.

Board of Directors

President	Bill Henry president@ie4w.com
Past President	Loren Campbell ppresident@ie4w.com
Vice President	Sue Sloan vpresident@ie4w.com
Secretary	Laura Hertel secretary@ie4w.com
Treasurer	Mike Moore treasurer@ie4w.com
Membership Chair	Monica Ortega membership_chair@ie4w.com
Hospitality	Char Hart hospitality@ie4w.com
Newsletter	Char Hart clubnewsletter@ie4w.com
Big Bear Forest Fest Chair	Mike Moore bbff@ie4w.com
Historian	Loren Campbell historian@ie4w.com
Round Up	Jamie Duncanson round-up@ie4w.com
Adopt A Trail	Jim Sloan, Jim Miller adopt-a-trail@ie4w.com
Environmental Affairs	Loren Campbell environmental_affairs@ie4w.com
Safety	Jerry Burgess safety@ie4w.com
Web Site	Kim Duncanson webmaster@ie4w.com
Public Relations	Barbara Bongiorno
Club Merchandise	Peggy Ogaz house_chair@ie4w.com
Sheriff	George Biddlecombe sheriff@ie4w.com
Trail Boss	Jim Sloan bobcatjim@yahoo.com

Forest Fest - Mike Moore present – Mike shared that 2015 BBFF is still not paid for (waiting for bill.) The 2016 deposit has been made. BBFF is very close to being “sold out”. There will be a BBFF meeting at Mike’s house on May 19 at 6 pm. June 2nd club meeting will be a potluck at 6:00 pm to work on planning and volunteer sign up for BBFF. Stuart Bourdon with JP Magazine, requests permission to ride along with club member to take photos of event. Member will be decided at BBFF.

Round Up - Jamie Duncanson present – May 10 will be the next Round Up.

AAT - Jim Sloan present – Wednesday, June 15 will be the AAT managers meeting at Sizzler in Corona. There needs to be an AAT run. Jim will set this up

Website - Kim Duncanson present -

Scholarship - Mallory Jordon absent – Two applicants were picked to receive the IE4W Scholarships. Zachary Phillips from Apple Valley and Jessica Mezzie of Beaumont. Jessica is the granddaughter of club member Dean Hillman. Jessica will be attending UC Santa Cruz. Both winners will be at BBFF to receive their scholarships.

Newsletter – Char Hart present – Char will be doing the newsletter from now on. She requests that all content be to her at the earliest possible time.

Safety - Jerry Burgess present – Jerry shared with us that with major events coming up for the IE4W, we all need to take a look at our rigs and make sure we are ready for anything that might come up on a run. Check things like your winch to be sure it is in good running order. Make sure you have tools, and safety gear, medical kits, and that your CB/Ham radio is working up to par.

Break

Wonderful (as usual) refreshments were provided by Sharla Taylor and Tim Glider. There will be no refreshments in June as we will be having a potluck. Nancy Kenny will do July refreshments.

Past Runs & Events

Berdoo Canyon/Joshua Tree – Bill Henry - April 16 – 21 members and 11 quests attended this run. A beautiful day starting with breakfast in Banning then on to an easy trip up through the canyon. Nancy Kenny even took her Jeep Trail Hawk up the trail, and only sustained one bumper issue. After lunch they winded up to 5000 feet to Keys View **Gold**

Mountain/John Bull – Mike Ortega - April 30 - 14 members and 19 guests. Run became known as the “slip and slide run.” The day had snow, sleet, fog, and a group of jeepers that would not let it get them down. The group helped each other along the way with strapping and guiding and all were able to move forward at a slow pace. All 20 rigs got to the top of Gold Mountain at 2:30 and had a late lunch. Five well equipped rigs continued on to John Bull. With more sleet, rain and snow they made their way up and came upon another group that needed assistance. After making it to the last obstacle they headed back down and the run ended around 6 pm.

Cougar Buttes – Bryan Harris – May 1 - 11 members and 7 guests – After meeting at Café 247 at 8:30, 8 rigs headed to Cougar Buttes with Steven Soliz leading the group. The 1st obstacle was a little tough but everyone but Jamie made it up (he broke a shock.) The next obstacle Bill Rhett's had a hard time keeping all four wheels on the ground. Ming, as usual, made it up everything with no problem. The whole run was very eventful and a lot of fun.

Upcoming Club Runs & Events

Jim Sloan - Present – See Yahoo Groups for more information on all upcoming runs.

May 7 – Dishpan – Curtis Freeman – see Yahoo Groups for update

May 27 - 30 – Mark Ogaz – Memorial Day weekend. Taboose run. See Yahoo Groups for details. **June 2 – BBFF** Meeting, Potluck and training. See Yahoo Groups for details. 5:00 pm training, 6:00 pm potluck.

June 4,5 & 11,12 – Pre-run BBFF – Randy –see Yahoo Groups for more information

June 17 – 19 – Forest Fest – More to come. See Yahoo Groups and IE4W website for updates.

June 10, July 15 and August 19 - Yucaipa Chamber Off Road Nights and market night. August IE4W would like all to come to represent the club.

July 16 – Run with No Sun – Jim & Sue Sloan – more to follow.

July 23 – Big Bear Off Road Racing Show. Mike Ortega would like there to be an IE4W presence again this year. More to follow.

August 12 – 14 – Pismo – Bob Peterson will put this event together. More to follow.

September 23-25 – Installation Picnic – More to follow.

Old Business

Loren will be providing 12 or 13 charities with proposals by May 31. The club will be voting on them at the June 2 club meeting.

New Business

Coffee will be provided at the June meeting. If it is received well, the club will continue to offer it.

August 20 - Bill Henry and Karen Cramer will be having a party at their place (as last year). More to follow.

Sheriff's Report - George Biddlecombe present – Colors: Marvin, Bobby Holly, Larry Peterson Dick Gervase. President Bill Henry started meeting 5 min late.

Nancy Kinney dinged bumper on Cherokee Trail Hawk, John Harding Samurai issues, Jaime lost a shock, Bill scaring the trail leader and dinging Jeep. Morgan's paint swapping with Bill Rhett, Morgan's steering.

Raffle – Cindy Coffin provided the raffle prizes. No raffle in June.

Merchandise - \$50.00, Sheriff - \$11.00, Raffle - \$168.00

Submitted by Laura Hertel, IE4W Secretary

Present at May 5, 2016 Meeting: 45 memberships represented and 11 guests.

JUNE 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2 Club Meeting Don McDonald	3	4 Preruns for FF	5
6	7 Round-up	8 Ron & Amber Lynn	9	10 Yucaipa Off Road Event Morgan Hertel	11	12 Craig Hart Bill Bem Russ & Karen Deer
13 John & Cindy Maldonado	14	15 Adopt A Trail Meeting	16 Ming Letzkus	17 IE4W Dick & Laura Gervais	18 Big Bear	19 Forest Fest Fathers' Day Alex & Misty Rodriguez
20	21	22	23 Tony & Cindy Nunnally	24 Shyann Traven Craig & Char Hart	25 Kevin & Chailyn Strong	26
27	28 Peggy Ogaz Tyler LaBusch	29	30 Bob & Karen Peterson			

Upcoming Events

June 7-19 Forest Fest
 July 16 Run with No Sun
 August 12-14 Pismo Trip
 Sept 16-18 Randy's Overnighter
 Sept 23-25th Installation Picnic

****NOTE FROM EDITOR:** Please send any information, trail reports and pictures to the editor @ clubnewsletter@ie4w.com or your can send directly to @ cchart624@yahoo.com . This is the only way to make your Newsletters thrive.

Gold Mountain & JohnBull

aka... The Slip & Slide Run!

We met at the Big Bear Discovery Center at 9, left for Gold Mountain Staging Area and arrived there at 9:30. We had a total of 20 rigs, 9 of them were members – weather was very wet (*snow & sleet*), plus foggy. We were thinking it was going to be a very wet muddy and slippery run.

Gold Mountain... Before we took off we let a group of 4 rigs through as we didn't want them to wait for us on the obstacles. As we approached the 1st obstacle we had to wait for the group of 4 we let through as they were having a very difficult time. Now it's our turn – 1/2 went up the right as the other went up to the left. One of our Guests had some funny metal to metal grind coming from his rear axle that had us a little concerned. When we got to the 2nd obstacle we had to wait again for the 4 rigs, this took some time as it was a very snotty obstacle due to the wet conditions; we let the new guests know that momentum would be your friend on this obstacle. We proceeded up this part and pulled ahead so everyone can gather on top. As I started to guide, I notice quite a few couldn't make it past the second ledge due to the very wet rocks... so I decided to let them try 3 times then strap it since we had a big group. This took a very long time. It started to snow around this time with the fog coming in thicker, looked like something out of a Steven King Movie ;-)! After about what seemed to be a couple of hours everyone was up and headed to the Talus Field. The Guest that had issues with his rear axle gear, Morgan led him and 4 others on the bypass around the Talus Field. All 20 rigs got to the top of Gold Mountain (*for a LATE Lunch*) at 2:30... I had a quick meeting regarding the new requirement to run JohnBull, since the weather increased the difficulty rating of the trail. I told them we require 35" tires Minimum and 2 Lockers a must in order to continue. This thinned out the group, but most were ready to head down the hill anyways due to such a late time already.

JohnBull... We ended up with 5 well equipped rigs that wanted to conquer "The Bull" in these wet slimy conditions... With the weather getting worst, with more Snow, Sleet, Rain and Fog! We got to the Gate Keeper in no time to find out we would have to wait for another group of 4.. One of the 4 rigs (*JKU*) was open and had an impossible time going up the slippery gate keeper; he ended up getting strapped up it. We had very little issues doing the Gate Keeper due to Mike Sullivan's expert skills at giving us a guide. Guess we must of impressed the crowd that gathered at the gate keeper as most thought we made it look easy. Once we got to the top of JohnBull we noticed the group in front was walking towards us, they asked if we had a "Spare" Pitman Arm for a JK... Found out that the JKU smashed against a rock and broke his steering box... We all drove up to the last obstacle to assist them in a trail repair, but had no luck since he wasn't able to turn right... After making sure this group was going to be OK we moved forward past the last upper obstacle. After that it seemed like we had JohnBull to ourselves, no sign of anything except the sound of the sleet hitting our windshields... Ended up at Hwy 18 to Air Up at 6pm

What an EPIC Day of Wheelin'...

Thank you to EVERYONE that showed up!!

Mike & Monica Ortega

20 Rigs

MEMBERS:

Mike & Monica Ortega
John & Ming

Loren Campbell & Joe Martinez

Morgan Hertel

Neil & Meghann Stratton

(Mid Gunner) Kevin Strong / Passenger: Sam Bartell
Joe Muns

(Tail Gunner) Todd Eves
George & Kay Stauber

GUEST:

Bob Berg Steve Santa John & Angie Maneth + Kids
Wayne Mize / Passenger: LR Lidbom Greg & Phallin Silver
Kyle O'Dell Mike Sullivan / Passenger: Will Garner
Scott Durkin Randy Eves

John Dunlap / Passenger: Susan Bounds
Larry & Ellayna Hoatson + Son



Cougar Buttes May 1st

“Organizer”-Bryan Harris

Trail Leader- Steven Soliz

Mid Gunner- Morgan Hertel

Tail Gunner- Ming as the driver with John on the radio

We all met at Café 247 at 8:30am. We had 8 rigs, 6 members and 2 guests. We aired down about 9am and then waited for Todd Eves who was on the John Bull run the day before so we gave him slack on being a little late. Todd is a real trooper in that he ran both the Saturday and Sunday runs.

My wife got all the needed waivers signed and the club roster filled out and then I ran my first safety meeting which included to be on the lookout for snakes! The weather was perfect, so nice most of us wished we had shorts on.

I asked Steven to lead the run because I have been on several Cougar Buttes trails but don't really know the area like he does and I have little experience in guiding jeeps through obstacles. So Steven started over our first obstacle which may not have a name but I would call it "Camp Rock Hill" and it was pretty tough as Steven had trouble with the harder line and then after he got to the top he found out he had 16 lbs. of air in his tires! I was second up the hill with no problems and I am not sure what line everybody took but everyone got up except Jamie Duncanson because he broke his shock at some point (I think on the drive to the hill).

The backside of the "Camp Rock Hill" was sketchy so Steven asked Jamie to guide him down. Once down Steven guided everyone else with no issues. Because Jamie's XJ was broken Steven decided to follow him back to their trailers and drop off his rig. Steven told me to take the group over to Chicken Rock and he would meet us there. I got to the obstacle and drove up the right side with no problem. Then Mike Demers went up then Morgan and then Todd. I was "kind of helping guide" but this hill is deceiving as it is very easy in a JKU but can be pretty challenging in a short wheelbase rig. So now it came to Bill Rhetts turn and he started going up the easier left side but as he came within my "guiding range" I guided him into the part of the rock that has the most tire marks on it which is where I go but when he started going up the face his driver's side wheel came off the ground like 4 feet and it looked like he was going to go right over backwards so I told him to stop. About this time Steven was on his way back with Jamie in his rig and saw what was happening and he told Bill to wait until he gets there. Steven got Bill through it just fine and I now know the line for the short wheelbase rigs is another 4 feet to the left of the black tire marks.

From there we started running various obstacles with no problems until we got to a wash that was a little spooky because you climbed up out of the wash on the left and you hugged the wall on the driver's side and only had about 4-6 inches of room on the right then a shear 3-1/2 foot drop off.

Steven went first then guided the rest of us and after we used our rock sliders and skid plates to their fullest we got almost everyone through. Bill and Lori Rhetts got a little off line and slid into the side of the driver's side rear quarter panel so Steven made the call for Morgan to get the winch out to save the beautiful black paint on the JK. After Bill was over the obstacle Ming like always got through with no problems. By the way I have to comment on how great a driver Ming is. She is an aggressive and very knowledgeable driver. And yes John you are great on your tail gunner communications!

We ate lunch about 11:30 and got back on the trail to the last obstacle by 11:45. This one was an uphill loose climb (not steep) with a 3-foot waterfall on the right and big loose boulders on the left. I followed Jamie up the hill with Steven guiding him. Jamie took the left and I chose the waterfall. It took some of the jeeps 2-3 stabs at this spot but we all got up with Stevens guiding skills.

At the top we spotted another group of rigs going up a pretty crazy obstacle that was a short 20-foot V notch that got your front end up to almost vertical. We watched a couple of rigs go through then Ming took 2 or 3 stabs at it but needed more tires and maybe more wheelbase. After that we headed back to air-up and head home.

I think everyone had a good time and I want to thank everyone who attended and especially Steven for leading us on a great run!!

Bryan Harris

Safety by Jerry Burgess

Forest Fest 2016 Safety

Forest Fest is right around the corner. We will be using our communication devices for coordinating and planning. If you use an older hand held radio, you still have a few shipping days to order your replacement batteries and get them charged. I just ordered 4 for my family radios. Ham radio batteries need to be checked and charged. Have the Ham Radio channels pre-programmed for our area in the event we need to use a relay for making an emergency call for help. If you didn't verify your CB radio has been tuned for optimal SWR and your antenna is adjustable, get with someone who has a Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) meter. I have one, it only takes 5 minutes. Check for loose coax connections, verify good power connections and proper grounding. Your CB will be critical to communicate with the guests on the trails for instructions and directional information. Grab an extra USB charger for your rig so your phone gets charged on the trail, just in case you need to make an emergency call.

Your vehicle has the IE4W decals or plaques. That speaks for you when you're at Forest Fest, whether parked, on the road, or on the trail. Be a good example and show our guests, especially new off-roaders, that we are ready and prepared by having all your safety equipment in place and accessible. Have your winch wound neatly with all recovery equipment in your recovery bag. First Aid Kit should be packed with fresh supplies, and your Fire Extinguisher should be in the Green and readily accessible. Please make sure your vehicle has all the required street legal equipment installed as we don't want to compromise our example. As for OHV equipment, have your OFF HIGHWAY lighting covered while on the highway. The CHP has focused on this violation as they are having problems with their improper use on the highway.

Pre-Run your trails, know the alternative trails connected to your main trail in the event of an evacuation, emergency exit or if assistance is required to provide the quickest route to or from your location. Carry a forestry map or GPS in the event you are confronted with planning decisions on the trail, whether it is your group or one you cross that needs help. You can only drive a trail at the speed of the SLOWEST driver! Remember that experience and familiarity of trails to new off-roaders may not exist and they are going to be overly cautious. Practice our Driver Meeting Rules by watching your mirrors for gaps. Have mid and tail report gaps that are beyond your mirror. Wait at intersections for the person behind. Keep the group together while moving along at a safe distance. Provide spotting over obstacles as necessary. And, absolutely = NO Alcoholic beverage containers are to be open on the trail (CVC 23220, 23221, 23222...).

Big Bear Forest Fest Platinum Sponsors

We Thank You for Your Support!



The Inland Empire Four Wheelers meet the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Crosswalk Church at 10421 Corporate Dr. #B, Redlands, CA. Located off the 10 freeway in Redlands. Exit Mountain View Ave and go South to the 1st street and turn left on Business Center Dr, go 2 blocks and turn right on Corporate Dr. It is the 2nd building on the left. Entrance at the back of the building with plenty of parking.