



Two Rivers Tracker

A publication of the Two Rivers Jeep Club, Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 19 Issue 5

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The Prez Sez

Lee Ator

New Board Members

Welcome new Board members Eric Williams and Jeremy Kirks. Eric is our Trail Maintenance Chairperson. Re-elected was Warren DeWolfe who has assumed Secretary duties from Jeff Sorensen. We owe a debt of gratitude to Jeff who has faithfully served as Secretary for 9 years. **Thank you Jeff!** We now look forward to a great year of wheeling. Our 2017 calendar is online and enclosed in this newsletter. Get your Jeeps ready, February will be here before you know it!

2017 Membership Renewals

It's time for the 2017 TRJC renewals. **Existing members should be getting a renewal form in the mail by the end of October.** If you have not received yours by the middle of November please use the form in this newsletter to send in your renewal. **Renewals should be sent in by December 1.** If there are any renewals after that, your name may not be included in the club directory. Please note for Trail Guides and other helpers - you **MUST** submit a renewal form for insurance purposes even if there is no renewal fee.

Safari and Blast Donations

Thanks to those who attended and donated, we raised over \$8000 between the Safari and Blast and that has already been donated back to the community that welcomes us and allows us to use their land for trails. At the last Board meeting, the proceeds were distributed as follows.

\$2000.00 - Access Illinois Deer Program for the Needy - Program for unwanted deer to be processed and the meat to go to families in need around the area.

\$2000.00 - Pike Country UnMet Needs - This program provides financial assistance for food, heating and other life's necessities for those folks who have been laid off or are in need of support, especially with a number of federal and state programs no longer providing funding.

\$1000.00 - Pikeland Snack Packs - Program to provide meals to needy school children and their families for one meal for the household for the weekend during the school year.

\$800.00 - All Wars Museum - Local war museum will use funds to add a security system to protect memorabilia.

\$500.00 - Pittsfield High School After Prom - Program for high school students to gather in a safe and controlled environment after the school prom.

\$500.00 - Running Regime - Supporting athletic organizations throughout Pike County.

\$500.00 - John Woods Community College

\$500.00 - Pike County High School Volleyball Team Uniforms- The students are required to purchase their own uniforms so we are offering our assistance to help offset the cost.

\$500.00 - Christian Academy

\$1200.00 - Ice Cream Sales and Food Baskets for the Elderly. Ice cream sales were down so some funds from the general account were moved to increase the amount donated to \$1200.

Many Thanks!

By Jay Ater

Hard to find a spot to begin so I'll just start throwing out words and hope they end up in the right places.

First off, Thanks to all of you for having me and making me part of the family. I love my Jeeples as much as I love my Jeep. I've learned a lot this year and though I still have much more to figure out, I don't think I need the training wheels anymore. That's a bonus as the last of the pair is laying somewhere out on Pokey's and I'm not going to replace them. One thing I learned this year is sometimes watching a Jeep climb an obstacle is like watching a toddler trying to get on the couch for the first time. Another thing I learned is that sometimes "2nd and Go" will bounce your credit card off the rev limiter. Hopefully further lessons are cheaper.

Somehow I managed to convince the Board to give me (shudder) responsibilities as the Orfishul Tech and Safety Inspector, a job I was glad to do until around 4 pm at the Safari. Had my head down doing an inspection and when I looked up I think every Jeep in the country showed up, 4 wide and lined up out to the road and backing up behind those. Panic set in for a second but I looked up and saw the cavalry already in place. I had that guy who married my Brat already helping and the Miller clan also jumped in. Without out those folks helping it would have been a long day. Thanks for making my job a lot easier. I couldn't have done it without you. WE couldn't have done it without you. This goes for the Blast, too.

Murphy, I am eternally grateful for allowing me to pollute your waters with Dad. I can think of no better place to have him resting. I had a lot more to say at the Memorial but I wasn't going to be able to speak for much longer. I'm sure Pops got a kick out of me wrinkling the quarter panel right there where he could watch during the Blast. Remember to smile and wave when you get to the Can Opener, Pops would enjoy it.

Thanks to ALL the trail guides that put up with us this year, its gotta be like herding turtles at times: Lilly for herding turtles, cats and parakeets at the same time. Eric, it's been awesome knowing what trails are going to be run a few days in advance. Warren, I'm sure you will be a great secretary and it will be a job you will enjoy. All the folks on the 4th of July run that allowed me to foist off my hitchhikers on them when the front axle blew up on Stairway to an Empty Wallet. Not sure who gets the blame for that one, Doug, Kerry or Karl. Certainly not my fault, nope. Probably Karl, always blame Karl.....

Now for the Official stuff. There are some changes being made to the Inspection sheets for the big events mostly being done to streamline the process. There will be an inspection sheet in your mailing/registration for the events. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL OUT THE TOP PORTION BEFORE YOU GET IN LINE TO BE INSPECTED! You will be sent to the back of the line if it's not filled out when you get to us. You've seen how long that line gets and I will giggle a bunch when I send you back. And I **will** send you back. Kinda looking forward to it. The thing is that it takes more time for us to chicken scratch all your pertinent info on that sheet than it does to actually do the inspection. So if you have your stuff in order and the paper filled out it will cut the inspection time in half or better.

Please do not sign up for trails until inspected. Those inspection sheets are color coded so you know what trails you are allowed to go on. Trail Guides should be looking at your sheets when you sign up to make sure you are good to go. Also please do not sign up anyone else other than yourself for a trail. It needs to be first come, first served to make it fair for everyone involved.

The first box on the inspection sheet is required for everyone. We won't hesitate to send you on a shopping spree so you can run with us. Trail Guides: get your radios working. I would also like to see your fire extinguisher in a handy location. If it takes 15 minutes of you digging it out it's not going to do anyone any good on the trail.

I hope that covers it as my brain quit working like 15 minutes ago.
Happy Trails and Shazbot/Nanu Nanu.

Trail of Life

Chief



Another season of Jeepin' in the books. I will say it wasn't a boring year on Murphy's Law and when it started to get a little boring, Murphy took one for the team and gave us some excitement.

Murphy and I have been discussing what kind of Trail Guide retirement package is available. We both seem to feel the time is drawing near when we will be able to just sit back and watch the Jeeps going up and down the hills from the safety of our Lazy Boy recliners strategically located along the various trails we would like to observe. We haven't got all the details worked out yet but we are pretty sure we could



get by with a dozen or so recliners. The other option came to me one night when I was watching the Extreme RV TV show. It has an episode featuring the EarthRoamer. It was exactly what Murph and I would need. It will go most anywhere we would want to go, it has more luxury than I have in my house and the bathroom is actually inside. The website describes some of the features like this:

- Enjoy a secure and weatherproof shelter with all of the comforts of home.
- Travel safely and reliably to remote places, even on very rough roads and trails.
- Travel comfortably at highway speeds with up to six adults seated in a spacious cab and up to ten more people in the camper depending on options and model chosen.
- Be totally self-contained and independent of external water, sewer and power hookups.
- Be environmentally responsible by running completely on renewable solar power and bio-diesel.

As you can see it is just what we would need to drive from place to place to watch all the wheeling on the various trails. If the trails are boring, it has its own satellite TV and I am sure we could get a WI-FI hotspot setup so we could keep up on face book and post live action adventure. This could be a major marketing tool for TRJC. This just keeps getting better and better!! If we had one of these we wouldn't need all those recliners. It would be much more cost effective. It would even give us room for some guests if they would like to stop in for a visit while trail riding. We could probably even be convinced to haul occupants of broken Jeeps back to town (for a nominal fee). It has room for a couple of recliners and still keep the beds if we decide to stay out in the wild for the night. The best part is we can get one for right around \$400,000. That is only a few hours of digging up cans of money on Murphy's farm.

Murph, get the shovels, I am coming over!!

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe off season. I will be looking forward to Seeing Ya on the Trail.

Chief

New Way to Contact Members

By Jeff Sorensen

We're working on a new way to contact our members electronically. I hope many of you have noticed that the club is using a service called Constant Contact as a way of improving communication to our members via email. We hope you'll find this will work well for you. We've sent out a few notices already where we have known accurate email addresses. Please share any positive or negative feedback regarding the use of Constant Contact emails with the Board members or myself.

With the club using this as another avenue of communication it is important that if you wish to receive these emails we need to ensure that the email addresses we have on file are valid and that you periodically read your emails. Please take the time to confirm your email addresses on your renewal forms. We may be sending an email to see how much interest there is in electronic delivery or you will receive an email asking you to sign up for the electronic delivery of the newsletter. If we have enough interest we will finish out the year testing the electronic system along with the snail mail. If you have not seen any emails from the club we may not have a current valid email on file. If so, and you wish to participate, make sure you have your email correct (and legible) on the renewal form or send an email to trcijeff@yahoo.com with your current email.

This email program and potential distribution of newsletters electronically is entirely voluntary so if we do not hear from you, you will still get the newsletters via snail mail. As always, any official notices will be posted on the web page.

If you have any questions on how this will all work, please let me know

It's that Time Again

By Karl Anderson

Well, it's that time of year again... Time for a review of the Jeep season that just ended...It was great! OK, now that we've got through that, how about we hit on the issues that I know are driving you all crazy right now.

- 1: Did Kim Kardashian really get robbed or was it just a big insurance scam?
- 2: If they were going to take something from her for it to never be seen again, why couldn't it have been Kanye?
- 3: Who the hell ever said it was OK to mix hip hop and country?
- 4: Why do rich people eat caviar? Your average redneck is smart enough to know that if you leave those eggs alone they'll grow into something you can fry.
- 5: Who was the first guy to see an egg fall out of a chicken's butt and think "Yeah, I'd eat that"?
- 6: For you fans of the classic sitcom "Cheers", is there really such a thing as "Milk Bone Underwear"?
- 7: How much nicer would this world be if Billy Ray Cyrus had been neutered about 30 years ago?
- 8: Did People Magazine actually name Gary Murphy Williams "Sexiest Man Alive" or was that another jalapeno and bean dip induced nightmare?
- 9: Is it just me or is anyone else terrified of riding the same trail as the DeWolfes?
- 10: Why am I sitting here at my computer on such a beautiful day when I can hear my fishing poles calling my name?

If any of you come up with an answer to any of these greatest mysteries ever known to man be sure and fill me in next February.

Time for me to go drown some worms. No, they haven't been calling my name but they do tend to laugh at me on occasion.

OR Presents Murphy with the Driver of the Year Award

Not much more needs to be said. For those who missed the episode, check the August newsletter!



TRJC 2017 Calendar

Feb 2017	4	First Trail Builder of the Season (Weather Permitting)	9:00 AM
	18	Board Meeting #1	7:30 AM
		Trail Builder	9:00 AM
		Kickoff Dinner - WBBA	5:00 PM
Mar 2017	4	Registration opens for the Safari (Open to the Public)	
		Trail Builder	9:00 AM
	18	Trail Builder	9:00 AM
Apr 2017	1	Board Meeting #2	7:30 AM
		Member & Legion Veteran's Trail Ride	9:00 AM
		Member & Legion Veteran's Appreciation Dinner (Catered)	5:00 PM
	29	Board Meeting #3	7:30 AM
		Trail Builder	9:00 AM
May 2017	13	Trail Builder	9:00 AM
	18	Registration opens for the 4X4 Blat (Open to the Public)	
	18-20	16th Annual Illini 4X4 Safari (Open to the Public)	4:00 PM Thu
Jun 2017	3	Board Meeting #4	7:30 AM
		Vehicle Recovery Course / Trail Ride	9:00 AM
	17	Father's Day Run & Catered Dinner	9:00 AM
Jul 2017	8	4th of July Run	9:00 AM
	22	Trail Builder	9:00 AM
Aug 2017	10-12	19th Annual 4X4 Blast (Open to the public)	4:00 PM Thu
	26	Member Trail Ride	9:00 AM
Sep 2017	9	Annual General Meeting and Board Elections	8:00 AM
		Board Meeting #5	9:00 AM
		Trail Run - Last trail run of the year	10:00 AM
Oct 2017	14	Road Run	9:00 AM
		Board Meeting #6 (2018) Event Planning	6:00 PM
May 2018	17-19	2018 - 17th Annual Illini 4X4 Safari (Open to the public)	
Aug 2018	9-11	2018 - 20th Annual Illini 4X4 Blast (Open to the public)	



Two Rivers Jeep Club

PO Box 47

Pittsfield IL 62363-0047

(630) 717-5337 or (866) 483-3982 email: trjc1@trjc.com web: www.trjc.com

2017 Membership Enrollment Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Home _____

Phone Work _____

Phone Cell _____

e-mail(s) _____

Nickname(s) _____

Jeep(s) _____

Membership Type

PAID MEMBER (Choose one only) <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal (\$60.00) <input type="checkbox"/> New (\$60.00)

OR

COMPLIMENTARY (Choose all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Land Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Guide <input type="checkbox"/> Special Volunteer <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Only

Do not publish my address in the club directory

I wish to receive the newsletter and other club notices via email once implemented

I hereby release Two Rivers Jeep Club, landowners, and any other party or parties involved in any Two Rivers Jeep Club activity of any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage to property or personal injuries sustained or occurring on any Two River Jeep Club event. I certify that I am at least 18 years of age and have liability insurance for vehicles I will use on the trails. Membership renewals are to be received by **January 1** if you want your name in the club directory. Make checks out to "Two Rivers Jeep Club" or "TRJC".

Applicant's Signature _____ Date Signed _____

Office Use Only: Amount Received _____ Cash or Check # _____ Date Received: ____/____/____

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PO Box 47
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FIRST CLASS MAIL