

Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association's

Badger Tracks

"Your off-highway vehicle recreation future begins here"

GREAT NORTHERN TRAIL RIDE 2013 BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!

GNTR 2013 is in the books. This year will go down as the best attended GNTR in its six year history. WOHVA brought in 31 OHV enthusiasts in 21 vehicles from all over the Midwest to enjoy two full days of guided trail rides in beautiful Northern Wisconsin. The weather could not have been better with sun, 70-75 degree days and star lit, warm evenings. Participants brought a Toyota Land Cruiser, a FJ Cruiser, a lone Suzuki Samurai and a variety of Jeeps from CJ's to TJ's and XJ's to brand new JK's. Friday morning three groups lined up with their trail guides and headed out for fun in the sun. Saturday the participants were set up in two groups. After the challenges of Friday, the top notch Trail Guides had driver confidence at a new level. Many Saturday riders got to attempt new challenges and trails they never thought their vehicle or their driving skills would allow. The expert trail guiding got everybody through without a scratch. Each night participants gathered at the rally area for some hospitality and to trade stories about the day's rides before dinner. The group was all smiles all the time.

GNTR isn't just trail rides. Trail Guides assist with guiding skills and techniques, provide photo opportunities, discuss safe wheeling, emphasize packing out all trash and also taught proper use of the required WOHVA Spill Kits. Both days WOHVA includes lunch at a trail side gathering spot. This gives participants a chance to discuss challenges on their trails with others as well as stretch and relax for an enjoyable and delicious lunch. After the afternoon trails session participants were treated to dinner at the Mole Lake Lodge. Friday's baked fish and broasted chicken dinner was excellent. Saturday's prime rib entrée or the chicken cordon bleu entrée choices tasted great and were top notch as well. A 50/50 raffle was held after dinner which raised over \$300 for the Association and no doubt will buy some Jeep Parts for the Lucky Winner. With the help of WOHVA "Badger Kids" members some door prizes were given away to lucky attendees. Painless Wiring, DTS and others chipped in to make the event more memorable. The Grand Finale closing for GNTR 2013 as well as nearly a year of hard work and sales came with the drawing of 10 winners in the Annual WOHVA Raffle.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association exists for the sole purpose of proactively assuring that public and private off-highway vehicular recreational opportunities are expanded in Wisconsin for safe use by this and future generations.



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GNTR grew this year with help from a committee as well as Corporate Sponsorship. Lenz Truck Center of Fond du Lac, WI stepped up as Title Sponsor this year. Additional sponsorship came from WOHVA Supporting Clubs Damage Inc 4x4 club from South Eastern Wisconsin and Extreme Offroaders from the Fox Valley Area. Royal St. Patrick's Golf Links and Frito Lay also offered great assistance for this annual event.

Great Trails and Great Trail Guides made this event a memorable experience for the Committee as well as our riders. Many thanks to the Sokaogon Chippewa Community Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. Each year WOHVA volunteers work hard to develop a network of sustainable trails on the nearly 5000 acre property for events like GNTR and the Northwoods - Mole Lake Jeep Jamboree USA.



www.wohva.com

Find pictures of GNTR 2013 on FACEBOOK! Find Great Northern Trail Ride and "LIKE" to stay up to date on plans for 2014.



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KIDS ARE OUR FUTURE IN OHV RECREATION

OHV RECREATION DEPENDS ON WHAT WE GIVE TO AND LEAVE BEHIND FOR OUR KIDS

By Del Albright

Allow them to run freely forever by giving our kids the tools, education, opportunities and good examples they need in their growth. Don't let unnecessary and silly bureaucratic baloney mess up their chances for fun in life.

Yes, some rules are always necessary, but this society of ours has gotten screwy in some areas when it comes to trying to regulate us and our children. I've seen freedom of choice battered down to near nothing in some cases. We should always be able to choose and allow (choose our way of life and allow what we want to happen to us, within reason).

America is founded in freedom. Freedom means having choices and reasonable decision-making chances. Our military is strong because individuals are able to act decisively, improvise, adapt and overcome. They got that way from a freedom-based upbringing. Let's keep it that way.

Mis-guided politicians, influenced by well-funded exclusionary elitist groups are taking away chunks of our land, piece by piece (Wilderness, etc.), and chopping away at our freedoms (guns, helmets, choice of schools, riding gear, etc.). We have to talk to, teach, and guide our kids to grow up to be sensible, thinking adults. Don't expect your public schools to do that.

What can we do to help our kids maintain our OHV way of life? First off, make sure you are a member of those groups that are involved in your form of recreation. Read their literature and share it with your kids. Get involved in kids programs in your state or regional association. Be active in getting them involved early.

Secondly, always set a good example. That means to show the "right way" in driving, camping, attitude, trail ethics, gun use, drinking, campfires, you name it. Be the example that will help save the future.

And third, correct bad situations on the spot! Don't let things get worse by hoping they'll go away. Fix it!

OHV recreation should always be a "kids zone" where they have fun, learn to experience the great outdoors, and grow up doing something besides couch activities.





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18th Annual Northwoods-Mole Lake Jeep Jamboree USA

Jeep Jamboree 2013 was filled with changes, starting with a new Coordinator and new trail designations. As the new coordinator I was challenged to take on building - designing trails, and taken on by the best group of volunteers to date as fun we enjoyed made the work we accomplished seemed to be easy.

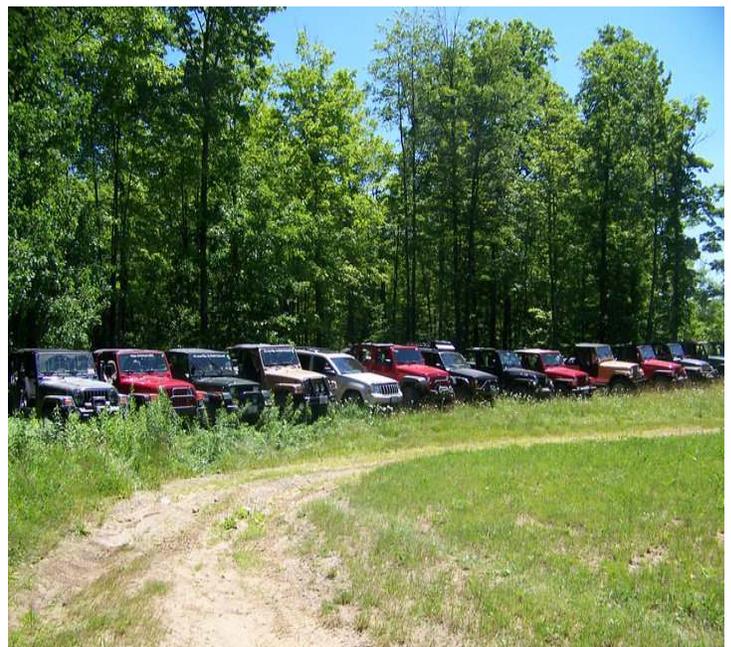
We had to clean up a stock jeeps trail. The next step was to give all trails a designation with ease so participants can find and remember. At my coordinator training seminar we came up with color designations as I remember from Camp Jeep back in 2007 and earlier, but since our participants are limited to a lower number I chose five colors starting with easiest green, blue, red, orange and finally black the hardest. I sectioned off the areas to fit the colors and had the Guides plan out their trails to fit the two days activities for Friday and Saturday of event.

The lunch area from the past was flooded from all the rain received in spring and early summer. So we set up a new area in the ATV parking lot with the help of my lovely wife Toni. We spent a few hours cutting weeds and clearing out brush for porta-potties and parking area, with the help of guides we laid out the parking arrangements to fit all in at same time if it came down to it. After all the work was done the event went on without a hitch and fun was had by all.

We had 56 paid participants, four Jeep corporate folks joined and one reporter from Chicago sun times. We all had extended conversations with the reporter to show him the fun everybody had and the beauty of the area.

I also escorted a reporter for the Forest County Republican through some of the trails and wrote an extended article which explained our goals and aspirations. We finished off the weekend with a Jeep wash done by the Forest County Fire Department. Saturday night was capped off with a 50/50 raffle and awards for participants that stood out, with a night ending party in the Rice Lake lounge.

I again want to thank all the guides and helpers in making this Jamboree the best organized event we could have ever put together in the time and volunteer help constraints. You have no idea how much fun this was for myself and Toni and made it a pleasure to work with you all.





State News

WORVPI to Hold Meeting with OHV Clubs

The Wisconsin Off-Road Vehicle Park, Inc. (WORVPI) will be inviting leaders of OHV clubs to attend their Park Introduction to Motorized Trail Recreation Clubs Meeting later this fall. This meeting is just one of a series of stakeholder meetings currently being hosted by WORVPI. The meeting is intended to share information regarding their 10,000 acre Off-Road Park with leaders of off-road clubs from the Badger State and Upper Michigan. As leaders within the motorized trail recreation community, insight and support on Facebook & Twitter.

from all clubs is vitally important to the success of their Park.

Watch for the announcement including date, time & location to be made public soon. Please encourage your club president or another leader to attend.

Visit WORVPI at their web site (www.WORVPI.org) for all the breaking news about the Park. WORVPI update can also be found

Outdoors with Lauren: Off-Roading

Posted: Jul 30, 2013 11:11 PM CDT

By Lauren Magiera, Sports Director

CRANDON (WAOV) - Heading out into the woods off-roading is always an adventure but it can turn into a disaster very quickly if you're not prepared for every scenario.

Jerry Stephens is the chief communications officer for the Wisconsin Off-highway Vehicle Association. He teaches a "Jeep 101" class for beginners. He says he loves to see that initial spark of enjoyment for the sport.

"I get them out in the woods and I show them obstacles and how to properly cross them without damaging their vehicle," Stephens said. "They get very excited over that and really enjoy getting out in the woods.

But that excitement ends when you inevitably get stuck.

"Safety is the number one priority, absolutely," Stephens said. "When we get into a situation when we will winch the first thing we do is look at the safe and proper way to do it."

Stephens says that the self-recovery is actually really simple if you have the right gear.

"Right now I have the WARN winch on the front of my vehicle because I feel that it's a dependable winch," Stephens said.

Once the self-recovery process is complete, The fun can continue.

"I do it because I love the woods. I really enjoy being out here."





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The National Front

Del, Fightin' for Access

Olaf Kilthau, Owner/Managing Member of Area BFE in Moab, UT, is asking for pics from us - of CLOSED trails/areas from all over the country! Yes, trails and riding areas that have been closed to us (no matter how far back), with signs showing the closure or a gate or other barrier showing the trail/road/riding area CLOSED.

Pics should be internet sized (less than 1 meg; preferably jpeg). Pics can be emailed directly to Olaf, using olaf@areabfe.com

Please add a short description of the pics you send. Your note to Olaf might look like this:
"This pic is of the closure sign at the mouth of Surprise Canyon in Panamint Valley, near Death Valley, CA, closed in May 2001. Before that we used to winch up 5 waterfalls to get to Panamint City, about 10 miles away. Now we have to walk to see this part of our desert history."

There is no immediate deadline for submitting pics, but we'd like to get this database/project underway as soon as possible. However, if you come across a closed sign in the future, send it along as well. Olaf will keep a list of the closures and pics that go with them, for our future use.

Thanks for any help,
Del (and Olaf)

Questions may be addressed to Olaf using email: olaf@areabfe.com

Del Albright
Ambassador, BlueRibbon Coalition
www.sharetrails.org
Founding Trail Boss, Friends of the Rubicon www.rubiconfriends.com
Environmental Affairs, CA4WDC
www.cal4wheel.com
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**TIRED OF HAVING YOUR
FAVORITE TRAILS LOCKED UP?**



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Upcoming Events

October

- 5 WOHVA Fall Trails Information Meeting
WOHVA Board of Directors Meeting
Fredonia, Wisconsin

- 20 Field & Forest Dual Sport Ride (WOHVA Volunteer Event)
West Bend, Wisconsin

November

- 13 WOHVA Board of Directors Meeting
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

For additional information about WOHVA or these events email WOHVA:
info@wohva.com



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