



The Dirt Devils Digest

January 2016
 A monthly publication of the Dirt Devils
<http://www.dirtdevils.org/>

Editors Message:

Take note of the ham radio class coming up at the end of the month. Ham radios are far more effective out on the trail than CB's.

If you want to watch Josh conquer Claw Hammer you can. The hammer trails are not long trails; they just take time to get through the trail. Go to the last couple pages of this newsletter for the story.

Whoever is the proud owner of the perennial Dick Cepek tire poster, remember to bring it to the holiday party.

Ron Webber will not be at the February meeting Ray will be looking for a volunteer to introduce guest.

See you on the trail.



Jeep pickup confirmed

The Detroit News reports that the decision has been made, and it's a "Yes." A Wrangler-based truck is expected to arrive in 2017, sometime after the launch of the next Wrangler (the next?). It'll be built in Toledo next to its sibling.

The Jeep Gladiator concept (pictured) is now 11 years old.

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Run Report

Impromptu Calico Run 1/9/16

Run leaders: Jack & Zoe

Attendees:

Dave & Linda

Kevin & Leslie

Janet Johansen

Jack Sobelman

Met outside the campground at 8.30am, aired down. Jack & Zoe and Kevin had done this run in December with Ron Weber. All others were first timers. Janet had just got her rear locker, skid plates and sliders installed and was wanting to try them out. She crawled up the double waterfall effortlessly, with no slippage. She got the Most Improved Award, since she has only been wheeling 1 year and this was a difficult trail. We took Doran Canyon up and came down Odessa.

Mid way, we stopped for lunch at Wall Street Canyon overlook and went into the mines. The weather was mostly cloudy, but some sun came out in the afternoon. Went through the 'S' curve with no problem, but Kevin decided to take the harder line out and got hung up on his gas tank skid plate and frame rail. Jack Sobelman got his shiny new purple tow strap out, and at the sight of it, Kevin decided he didn't want a cowbell and rocked it and punched it till he got off! No damage was done and no cowbell earned. He won the Macho Dude award for taking a tougher line. Pucker Pass seemed to have got even narrower since last month. A new route may soon be needed to get around it. Towards the end of the run at 5pm, it just started sprinkling, and we made it out just in time before the rocks got slippery.

We then visited the Gatekeeper, but no one was willing to try it - this time! Everyone aired up and decided to go to dinner and we celebrated a members' birthday. 8 hours of wheeling, no damage, good weather, good friends and good food. It just doesn't get any better than that!

CA4 Wheel Drive Assoc

Convention February 19 – 21 2016

near Sacramento

11211 Point East Drive, Rancho Cordova

January, 23, 2016 south district meeting in Ontario

9:00am

Win a Jeep & keep trails open.

<http://www.cal4wheel.com/win-a-jeep>

Raffle date: 2/21/2016 in Sacramento



- ARB fridge
- 37" BFG tires
- Genright aluminium fenders, bumpers, skid plate
- JE Real drive shafts
- Atlas 2 transfer case
- Snevy's LED lights
- K&N air intake
- Curry front dif
- Yukon axle shafts w/ zip air lockers
- PSC hydro steering
- Fox shocks
- PRP seats
- Rock hard sport cage
- TBM brakes
- BBS short arm kit
- Warn winch
- Odyssey battery
- Kicker sound system
- Sider web bikini top
- Reid hi steer knuckles
- Rugged ridge hood latches, handles, mats, 1/2 doors
- LGE paint work

Run Calendar

Adopt a Trail meeting place

8:30am at Rocky's Roadhouse
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382
next to the 76 gas station

January 2016

23 Holiday Party

30th, 31st ham radio License (entry level)

Questions ask Mike Wallace

Instructor: Mark Chung 562 708 3893

mchung@prodigy.net

Make check out to: Wynns radio for \$75.

Mail to: Cerritos Amateur Radio League
PO Box 575

13337 South Street Cerritos CA 90703

Class location:

Sheriff's Station

18135 Bloomfield Ave Cerritos .

8am to 5pm both days

February

1 – 7th King of the Hammers, Johnson Valley

2 Monthly club meeting

13 Holcomb Valley aka Gold Fever 3N16 (snow run) this trail connects Crab Flats campground, Holcomb Creek, Lower Larga, Gold Mountain and Jacoby Canyon to the east. It exits at the dump. (Easy) - Dave

20 Holcomb Creek 3N93(snow run) (Dif) - Rick

26 –28 Primm Colosseum Gorge Trail (M) - Chris

March

1 Monthly club meeting

4 - 6 Tierra Del Sol Desert Safari - non club event

12 Motino Wash (D) / Rattlesnake canyon
(E)-D Josh/ E Ron

19 Adopt A Trail - Roger

19 - 27 Easter Jeep Safari Moab - non club event

25 –4/ 3 Moab (trail ratings Mod - Dif) – Dave

April

5 Monthly club meeting

9 Adopt A Trail - Danny

15 – 17 El Mirage Jime & Karen

22 –24 Anza Borrego (M) - Mike

29 –1 Corral Canyon (D) - Danny

May

3 Monthly club meeting

7 Adopt A Trail - Chris

12 –14 Jeep Jamboree Big Bear - non club event

20 –22 Overland Expo, Flagstaff AZ. - non club event

21 HDR Prerun Devils Loop (M) - Ray

27 –29 HDR Cal 4 Wheel Devils Loop (M) - Ray

June

7 Monthly club meeting

11 Adopt A Trail - Roger

17 –19 Big Bear Forest Fest – non club event

17 –25 Grand Canyon North Rim (E/M) – Ray

July

5 Monthly club meeting

16 John Bull (D) - Josh

23 Adopt A Trail - Ray

Old white mtn road near bishop No date

August

2 Monthly club meeting

6 Off road Clinic 1 - Mike

13 Off road Clinic 2 - Mike

13 Little John Bull night run (M) - Jack& Zoe

20 Adopt A Trail - Josh

11 –14 Jeep Jamboree Rubicon Trail - non club event

September

6 Monthly club meeting

9 –11 Sherman Pass (M) - Danny

17 Holcomb Creek (D) - Jack&Zoe

24 AAT BBQ

October

4 Monthly club meeting

7, 8 Miller jeep trail / lockwood creek

14 - 16 Death Valley (E) - Rick

El mirage date not set

November

1 Monthly club meeting / run planning 2017

4 - 6 Afton Canyon (M) - Chris

11 - 13 Panamint Valley PVD - Cal 4 Wheel event

December

6 Monthly club meeting

10 Calico (D) and Calico (E) - Ron/ Mike

Guests & new members

Guest

Ken Evans and Eva Evans lookin good in a JK
 Don Landry and Mary Karr putts around in a JK
 Chris Raymond lookin grand in a '98 Grand Cherokee
 Brian Powell and Rosemary Powell lookin good in a JK
 Christian Rothery lookin good in a '15 JK Sahara
 Thuy and Jim lookin good in a JK

New members

Josh and Raelene Schiller putt around in a '06
 Rubicon Unlimited

Classified

New Complete **Dana 30 axles shafts** a little rust.
 keep a spare with you at all times, just in case
 was in my 2000 TJ (until I upgraded to dana 60's)
 fits '97 – 2006 maybe others.



\$50. Each, driver and passenger side.
 contact Ron Webber 714 715 5692 or ronjp@outlook.com

Club info

Meeting Place

First Tuesday of each month,
 6:30pm for Dinner & 7:30pm for the meeting at
 just east of Imperial Hwy and north of the 91 Fwy.
 Marie Callenders. 5711 East La Palma Ave., Anaheim,
 CA 92807, 714-779-0600

Club officers

President: Ray Kleinhuisen
kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com

Immediate past president:
 Jesse May: jemay.xj@gmail.com

Vice President: Mike Wallace proudpop80@gmail.com

Secretary: Cheryl May: jemay.xj@gmail.com

Treasurer: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Web Master: Chris Slaughter:
webmaster@dirtdevils.org

Adopt a trail chairmans:

Roy Chance: rchance@aol.com
 Roger Mauer: rogermauer@gmail.com

Newsletter: Ron Webber: ronjp@outlook.com

Hospitality: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Safety Committee: Bill Smith:

Run Coordinator: Rick Walter rick03tj@gmail.com

Emergency response team coordinator: Rick Walter
rick03tj@gmail.com

the emergency response team makes themselves
 available to help with our adopt a trail Dish Pan.

CAL4 wheel reps: Jesse May and Keith Graham

Club membership

Membership dues:

Dirt Devil annual club dues	\$36.00
Spouse	\$12.00
CAL4WD annual dues	\$45.00
CAL4WD permanent member	\$675.00
CAL4WD permanent member 12 installments of...	\$56.25
CORVA	\$30.00

<http://cal4wheel.com/>

Adopt a Trail

The Dirt Devils Adopt A Trail is: Dishpan Springs Trail
 (3N34)

Dishpan Springs Trail can be found in the
 San Bernardino National Forest near Lake Arrowhead.
 The Dishpan Springs Trail is one of the toughest and most
 popular trails in the SBNF.

The West entrance:

2N26Y is N34° 16.198 W117° 08.258.

The T6 Bridge:

N34° 16.106 W117° 07.745.

The East entrance:

3N16 is N34° 15.663 W117° 05.116.

Meeting place

8:30am at Rock Road House
 32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382 next to
 the 76 gas station

Accessories

Available at the regular meetings, see Emi Webber.

Dirt Devil Stickers: \$15.00.

Short sleeve shirts: \$15.00

Long sleeve shirts: \$18.00

Sweatshirts: \$30.00

Hats: \$20.00

DD logo magnets available in various sizes for
 \$4.50 to \$13.50 each.

Awards



CAL 4 Wheel Drive, new member award

Newsletter advertising

\$25 for ¼ page ad, for 3 issues

\$50 for a ½ page ad, for 3 issues

\$100 for a full page ad, for 3 issues.

A full page ad also gets a Web Link.

Run report template:

Run name:

Run leader:

Date:

Number of rigs:

Participants:

Members:

Guest:

The story:

Weather:

Cow bells earned:

Run announcement template

Research and/or Pre-run the trail route.

Create and Post a Run Announcement

When emailing the run announcement: Please, use the words "Run Announcement" in the Subject line of the message, forward to the webmaster and newsletter editor.

Date/Time and Place for the Run

Description of Run

Difficulty Rating

Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run

Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees.

Access for motor homes?

Directions to Meeting Place.

EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place

Required Equipment. Open dif? Lockers?

Is RSVP Required?

CB Channel channel 4, if too much traffic then switch to 5 and so on.

HAMM channel 146.440

Contact Information (Run Leader

Phone Number & email address)

Day of the Run:

Hold brief driver's gathering before start of run. Include special instructions.

Assign vehicle order if there are vehicles with open diffs. Have vehicle with locked diff in front & behind. (If possible disperse vehicles with HAM radios near the front, middle and rear of the line.

Encourage drivers to learn the name of the person in front and behind his/her vehicle.

Assign Tail Gunner Vehicle

After returning home forward to the newsletter editor a Run Report and a few photos. subject line write "Run Report"

DD Trail Ratings

Trail ratings are subjective and weather conditions over the years can change a trail. An easy trail can become more difficult after or during rain. The trail leader needs to be the final judge of trail conditions the day of the run. If any part of a trail is difficult the trail is rated difficult. If difficult sections have bypasses the trail may be suitable for less capable rigs or less experienced drivers.

E – Easy (Black Canyon, Mohave Trail)

M – Moderate (Devils Loop, Miller Jeep Trail)

D – Difficult (John Bull, Calico)

Easy trails could include these conditions:

- Any dirt, sand or gravel road.
- Gentle to mildly steeper hill climbs, mild rocky sections and/or soft sandy sections.
- Four wheel drive may not be necessary all the time.
- Pot holes or ruts that require high ground clearance.
- Water crossings up to 12 inches deep.
- Suitable for full size vehicles.
- Low gears may be required on hill climbs.
- Recommend 4 wheel drive vehicle
- Suitable for most tire sizes

(M) Moderate trails could include these conditions::

- Steep rutted and rocky hill climbs that require careful tire placement.
- three foot ledges to climb and/or steep drop offs.
- Rocky sections that can cause body or rim damage.
- Water crossings might have rocks and could be deeper then 12 inches.
- Brush or cactus may scratchy vehicles.
- These trails will require low range gears, high ground clearance and 4WD.
- Skid plates and body protection are recommended.
- Minimum 33 inch or bigger tires.
- Recommend at least rear axle locker.

(D) Difficult trails could include these conditions:

- Rocks as big as your tire to as big as your vehicle.
- Hill climbs are steep and may require extended wheel travel.

- These trails can have long sections of large rocks that require careful tire placement. .
- Three foot + ledges to climb and steep drop offs.
- Body damage possible.
- These trails will require vehicle modifications such as suspension lifts, body protection and skid plates.
- Minimum 35 inch or bigger tires.
- Recommend front and rear axle lockers.

10 reasons to be a trail leader:

10 – You pick the trail (hopefully someone will want to run it with you)

9 – You pick the run start time and meet spot

8 – You write the run announcement

7 – You pick the CB channel (duh 4)

6 – You conduct the drivers meeting (best if done before you start the trail)

5 – You carry the Dirt Devils club first aid kit (hopefully you know how to use it)

4 – You pick the bathroom stops (more stops keep you out trouble)

3 – You are the spotter when someone needs help (you'll get a lot of exercise)

2 – You will get unwavering support from all drivers even when you are hopelessly lost and confused.

1 – You get to ride in front of everyone out of the dust (this the only good reason to be a trail lead)

Recommended trail tools:

1. Socket Set (some vehicles use both standard & metric), ratchet and extensions
2. Combination wrenches (some vehicles use both standard & metric)
3. Vise grips
4. Adjustable jaw pliers and channel locks
5. Crescent Wrench
6. Spark plug wrench
7. Screwdrivers (Standard & Philips)
8. Hammer 9. Bottle Jack
10. Utility Knife
11. Hacksaw
12. Latex Gloves
13. Tire plug kit
14. Hacksaw
15. Rags
16. Funnel
17. Flashlight / work light (extra batteries)
18. Ratchet straps
19. Cordless tools (impact driver, saw, etc.)

Spare parts and consumables:

The extreme situations: carry no spare parts, or carry so many your rig breaks due to the extra weight. What you need to do is get somewhere in the middle by carrying parts that are most likely to fix your broken rig. If you

have knowledge of your vehicle, any special items can be added. If your rig has a history of U joint issues carry a spare.

Sample Spare parts list: add or subtract as needed!

1. Fuses, electrical wire, electrical tape, duct tape, nylon wire ties, silicon sealer
2. Miscellaneous nuts, bolts and hardware
3. Fan belts, hose, clamps
4. Valve stems, tire plugs
5. Engine oil, brake fluid, transmission fluid, etc.
6. Coolant or water for the radiator

A breakdown will likely include crawling under the vehicle and messy parts. Bring a blanket, towel or plastic trash bag that you can lay on. They also help keep parts and tools away from the dirt.

First aid kit tracking

FA #1 (red, blue backpack)

Josh

Danny Ward

Ray Kleinhuizen

Mike Wallace

Josh Bleijenberg

FA #2 (Orange canvas bag)

Dave

Ray K

Gilbert

Mike Wallace

Josh Bleijenberg

Pete Johnson

FA #3 (Orange canvas bag)

Bill

Ron Webber Calico

Jack & Zoe

Roger Mauer

Danny Ward

Ron Webber March 2015 Calico

Cowbells



The cow bell rules are: If you get stuck and are unable to move under your own power and need the help of a winch or you get strapped from one of your fellow jeepers then you have earned the privilege of hanging a cow bell from your front bumper. You must leave the cow bell on the front of your rig until another Dirt Devil gets stuck then, you can proudly hand it over. This starts at the beginning and the end of the trail, not on the highway.



Old logo green bell

Frank Gilliland Holcomb Creek 9/26/15
Josh Bleijenberg Corral Canyon 4/10/15
Josh Bleijenberg Dusy Ersham Sept 2014



Brown bell

Frank Gilliland Claw Hammer
Bill Smith HDR May25 2015
Tim Debolt Rattlesnake Feb 2015
Rick Walter adopt a trail 6/27/2014
Josh Bleijenberg Corral Canyon 5/4/2014



Little Blue bell

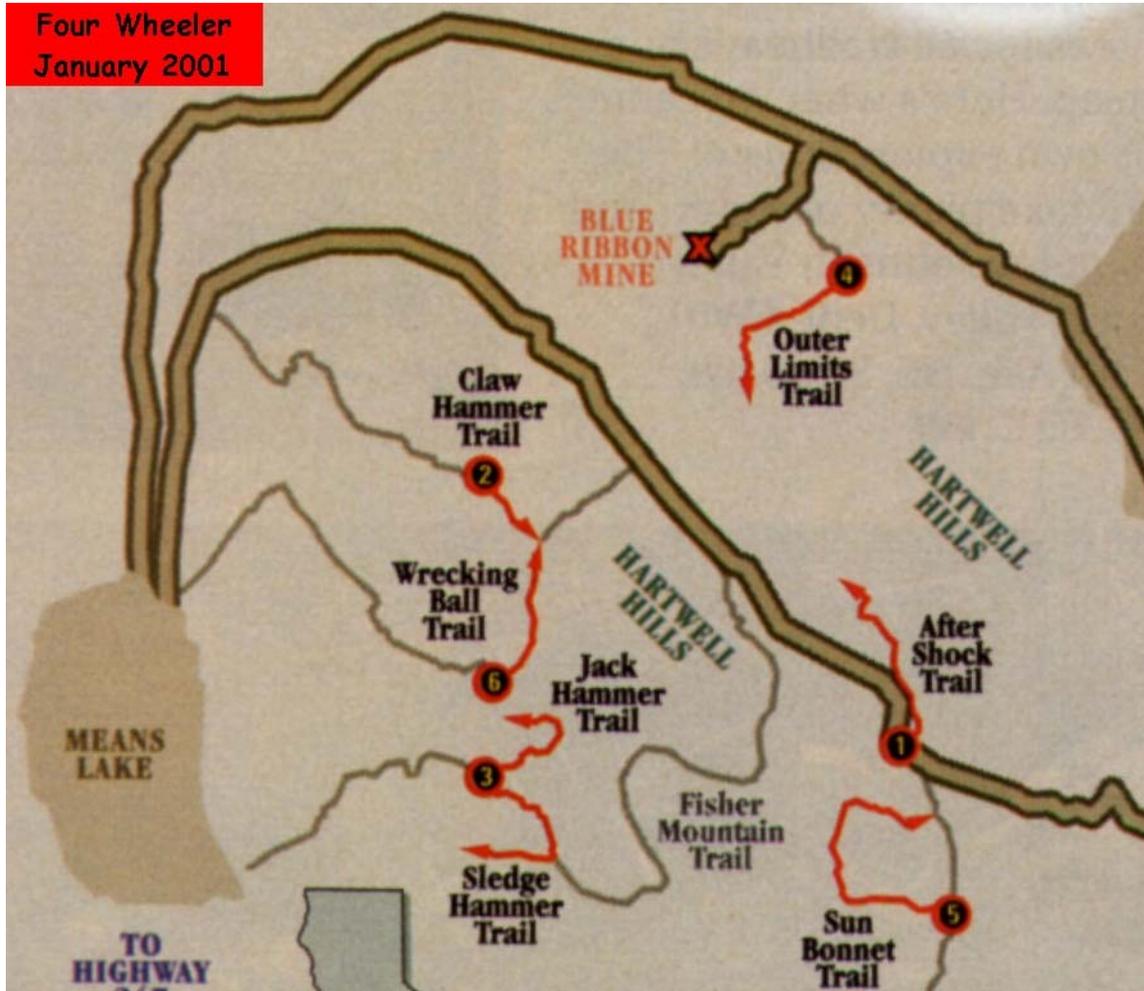
Frank Gilliland Holcomb Creek 9/26/15
Bill Smith HDR May25 2015 winched Bronco on to trailer
Gilbert at Corral Canyon 4/10/15
Chris Slaughter Grizzly
Rick Walter
Mike Wallace



Mike Maneth memorial bell

James Ettinger Holcomb Creek
Frank Gilliland John Bull 6/27/2015
Mike Wallace Corral Canyon 4/10/15
James Ettinger Claw Hammer 1/10/15.
Castulo Olivias

Hammer town camping and KOH preview.



15-17 - Camp Friday and Saturday night with scheduled runs Saturday and Sunday

Contact info and RSVP: Joshua Bleijenberg
562 400 1305 / Jbleij@gmail.com

Where: Johnson Valley OHV



aerial view of the camp ground.

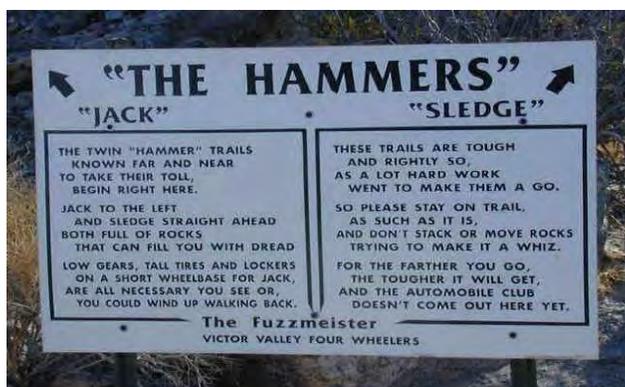
Campsite/ Run meeting location: Campsite @ Valley Vista Airport (Landers). Daily runs will stage here at 9AM and depart @ 9:30 AM. (DO NOT DRIVE ON ANY AIRPORT PROPERTY AT ANY TIME) more info below.

Coordinates: 34.337231, -116.579934

Trip description: There are a couple of options if you choose to join us for this trip. I will be leading two trails in hammer town. Claw hammer trail on Saturday, and Sledge hammer on Sunday. More on both of these below. There is also staging and testing for King of the Hammers off-road race at Means dry lake. KOH is run annually and is one of the biggest off-road races on the west coast. I have attached a link with KOH info below if you are not familiar. Last year when we came out around the same time there were race teams out testing their vehicles and making adjustments. We saw a competitor out on the trail and got a firsthand up close look at their tube buggy in action. It was really cool! Technically this is not the event itself so it would be

informal and I don't have any contacts or connections there so I won't promise anything as far as tours or meet and greets, etc. Instead I will be out on the trails mentioned above. There is also some easier trail options in the area if you would like to go out and explore or put together another option for people. The area has a lot to offer if you just want to come out and camp with some good people and check it out. I have included details about the camp site and lodging options below. Also you can do either of these runs as day runs if you prefer.

Area and trail descriptions: Hammer town and the trails in this area are HARD! Very HARD! These trails I have chosen are both short and considered to be some of the easier trails for this area, but make no mistake, this is a whole different level. Body damage and breakage is very possible. We had 3 of 5 vehicles use their winch last time we ran Claw hammer but no body damage. The time before some vehicles did take some dings but no breakage. As a result I am going to limit the number of vehicles on these trails to 15 and ask that you RSVP if you would like to join us. I will ask you questions about experience and vehicle build as I want to be sure you are prepared for the level of trail we are going to run. Please don't take it personal, I just want to get to know who I'm guiding through. There are a ton of videos on you tube for both of these trails and I would encourage you to watch some to acclimate yourself. I have attached a couple of links below that include a detailed write up on the area as well as some videos that seemed fairly accurate in their representation. Try to picture yourself on those obstacles in your Jeep and ask yourself if this is something that you want to try. That being said, I want to scare you, but they are REALLY Fun! We have done Claw Hammer as a club run with about 12 vehicles and it went very well. A couple of people turned back but most made it thru unscathed and we finished before night time. Lucerne Valley is an off-road playground and if you have never been there you should really check it out. There are continuous talks about closures and limited use of this area and who knows how long it will be open. It is an amazing resource.



Four wheeler guide to the hammers article with detailed descriptions for each trail:



<http://www.fourwheeler.com/events/131-9903-guide-to-the-hammers/>

Saturday (1/16/2016): CLAW HAMMER: Meeting @ 9, Departing @ 9:30 AM. This is the easier of the two trails. (sorry for the music)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vMFHt3VpXk>

Sunday (1/17/2016) : SLEDGE HAMMER: Meeting @ 9, Departing @ 9:30 AM. One of the original trails in the area. It has trail signage and mail box to send for help if you get stuck. HAHA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rvN11yZZQ>

Difficulty: D+

Minimal equipment: Short wheelbase 33" with front and rear lockers. Long wheel base 35" with lockers. Full skid plates highly recommended. Expect me to ask you questions about this when you RSVP...

Weather: TBD. I know if we have any moisture I do not want to run anything in Johnson Valley. They are hard enough when its dry.

Hotels in the Area: Best western yucca valley (30 min from camp) [\(760\) 365 3555](tel:7603653555)

There are also options closer but they were questionable so I did not include them in my write up.

Camping details:

This is a private campsite owned by one of our members who is gracious enough to let us use it. It is a about an acre of graded, packed dirt with a couple of vehicles and a shipping container on it. It is located next to Valley Vista Airport. The access road to the camp is fine for 4x4 and trucks with trailers, but heavy RVs will want to access by crossing the runway (requires escort spotter, it is an active runway). You can put "Valley Vista Airport" into most GPS and it will either come up with a Yucca address or Landers. But it leads you to the right place. About a mile West of Boone Road off 247 is Valley Vista Road. Head south on Valley Vista for 2 miles until you T-bone Quailbush Road at the airport. I will be there and will help direct folks into camp. Camp has the red fire truck, white 5th wheel and brown shipping

container. It's a fun spot, and just a couple miles from the Boone Rd entrance to JV.

Again I need to mention this:

THIS IS AN ACTIVE AIRPORT AND WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DRIVE ON IT!!!! IF YOU ARE GOING TO BRING A RV THEN WE WILL NEED SET UP A SPOTTER. OTHERWISE STAY OFF THE RUNWAY!!!! This is for your own safety.

We are going to rent a port-a potty for the weekend and there are no service hook ups or showers here. We will have plenty of space to spread out and will be very close to the trails though. I could also use some help with firewood if anyone has a resource here. It would be greatly appreciated!

I'd like to get an idea of who will be able to make it and we can talk about food for the weekend. Maybe we can do a pot luck? If you are going to join us for day use please be sure to bring your lunch and plan to eat out on the trail.

Camp ground host (Brad Lark) putts around with his vintage Fire Truck.

King of the Hammers Race info: (not scheduled for this weekend)

<https://ultra4racing.com/the-inside-line/official-date-2016-nitto-king-hammers/>

Hammers trail map (Dirtopia)

http://www.dirtopia.com/wiki/File:Johnson_Valley_Trails.JPG

