

TRAILS & TALES

October 2019

GEAR GRINDERS 4WD CLUB, INC.

Volume XXXIII, No. 10

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Spangler Hills Open Area *By: Ciegi Shaw*

Matt and I decided we wanted to go camping locally in lieu of a birthday party of Grason. My parents were on board for that. We chose the weekend prior to his birthday for a number of reasons and I'm glad we did the weather cooperated! We chose the Spangler OHV area because it was recently expanded and no one has really seen what the new area has to offer.

Saturday, 9/21, the Shaw's and my Parents were greeted by Scott Wood. We decided to spend the day exploring the new expanded boundary of Spangler OHV area. We took off on RM194 and when we knew were in the new boundary we made a hard right into the desert. We followed a few washes and wandered around testing Scott's new Gladiators limits. We found them. We found ourselves near the train tracks and their underpasses. We had lunch on the other side of the mining around in that area. We slowly wandered back to camp, found the X15 crash site along the way and then on back to camp.

On Sunday, the Grimsley's joined us and my parents for the day. We took off in the opposite direction and explored the new expanded area bordering the Golden Valley Wilderness. We came across many motorcycle tracks winding up and down hills and valleys. It was starting to seem like an impossible task to get out of that hill range. We finally made it back to RM7A and enjoyed the views of the corridor between the open area and Gold Valley wilderness. We made our way to Stephens Mine, explored a bit and had lunch. Just before loading back up we were greeted by a BLM ranger who appeared to be bored and just wanted to talk. We chatted about the earthquakes and the activities at the Ultra4 Race, the previous race, and then he was on his way. Once back at Trona Road, Jerry & Mary departed from us and we headed back to camp to finish loading up to head home.



Photos by: Ciegi Shaw.



L: Shaw's and R: Scott Wood coming out of an overpass tunnel.

Photo by: Jerry Grimsley.



L-R: Shaw's, Grimsley's & Ahren's vehicles wandering around the newly opened desert area.

TERESE PETROGLYPH SITE *By: Earl Wicker*

Taking advantage of the Columbus Day holiday, October 14, we planned a trip to the Terese Petroglyph Site just south of Ridgecrest. This allowed some of our "still working" members to join some of our retired members on a mid-week outing. We met at the newer Albertsons on China Lake Blvd. and had an amazing turnout. There were nine vehicles including, George Graham; Jerry & Mary Grimsley; Dan Kus; Tom Perkins; Randy, Karen & Chase Schortzmann; Byron & Patty Self; Scott & Lynn Wood; Barb & I; guests Bob & Tiana McGowan (friends of Dan Kus); and five of our dear four-legged canine friends.

The weather was beautiful and we all were expecting an exciting opportunity to see some amazing petroglyphs and to visit with our friends for the morning. We started out about 9:00 and it only took a short time to arrive at the site. After a few moments to stretch our legs, we started the short hike up the hill to the petroglyphs. Once there, we all spread out and a few more adventurous folks reached the second hill where the more spectacular examples were found.

After everyone had a chance to visit the sight and satisfied their curiosity, Tom Perkins and the Wicker's chose to return to Ridgecrest. On the way back, we chose to visit a village site Tom knew about that was just a few hundred yards north of the trail.

Everyone else decided to venture on to the Sheep Springs Site for lunch before returning to town.

By: Mary Grimsley: We parted company, heading west down the wash, winding our way from one wash to the next, up thru a body twister (for some), over the hills, finally ending at Sheep Springs. Lunch, exploring, & visiting ensued till we eventually headed for home.



The group getting ready to hike.



Scott scraping through the frame twister with his new truck!



Photos by: Jerry Grimsley

RED ROCK CANYON STATE PARK

A revised presentation by the California Department of Parks & Recreation will be held on **Wednesday, October 23, 2019**. The open-house style meeting will be presented by the planning team, presenting the Revised Plan Concept after reviewing all the public comments. After the overall presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to visit display stations and review materials that describe the new concept and to ask questions.

Open House #1 will be in Ridgecrest at the Historical Society – **USO Building, 230 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. from 5:30pm – 7:30pm**

Several members will be attending and may be late to our regularly scheduled monthly club meeting.

HISTORIC RUN – prerun for PVD

WHEN: Sunday, October 27, 2019

Meet: 7:45am **Leave:** 8:00am

WHERE: Meet at the Richmond Road Park 'n Ride

WHY: This will serve as a Pre-run for PVD

WHAT TO BRING: 4X4 vehicle with a full tank of gas; lunch, water, & Snacks for the day; camera.

WHO: Tom Perkins will be your trail boss & guide. To **RSVP**, please contact him @: email – pertos@gmail.com or phone: 805-501-0508

PANAMINT VALLEY DAYS

WHEN: November 7 – 10, some are going over on the 6th to help set up.

CALENDAR: Wednesday, November 6th: establish camp.
Thursday, Nov. 7th: help at registration or possible pre-runs.
Friday, Nov. 8th: First day of runs.
Saturday, Nov. 9th: Second day of runs.

POT LUCK Saturday night: bring a dish to share – main dish/casserole, salad, vegies, dessert, etc.

WHERE: Panamint Valley, off the Nadeau Road paved road.

WHAT: Bring your 4X4 vehicle; RV or tent for camping; food, water for the length of time you'll be there; camera; firewood.

WHY: This is C4WDA, Southern District run/fund raiser. You can Preregister at: <https://cal4wheel.com/> or register in camp (could be extra). Registration is \$55.00 if you are a Cal4wheel member.

If you are a Gear Grinder Member you are also a Cal4wheel member. If you are not yet a member, it says registration is \$80. If I were you, I would wait and register in camp. If you are close to qualifying as a Gear Grinder member, you could apply that extra \$25 towards paying for a C4WDA membership of \$55.00. We'll talk about it at the meeting. I'll have more info by then.

WHO: The Gear Grinders lead quite a few of the runs. See the chart that will be passed around at the meeting as a reminder of what runs you have signed up for & the times the runs leave. Or contact Mary at maranjer@gmail.com.

MOJAVE ROAD in DECEMBER

Mark Kuttor & Helen Jones and David Lowe are planning a Mojave Road run for December. This is a trip that we have been planning since Helen and I are coming back for the month of December and thought it would be fun to add a side trip on the way home. Would anyone be interested in joining us? For those who have not been on the Mojave road. It is an amazing area with tons of sights, small hikes, and a bunch of stuff to see. The only downside to running this trip in December is it can get cold. the temperature can drop below freezing at night. So anyone who comes would want to be prepared. If people are interested I will put a post up on Face Book with dates and more information. We would be meeting in Needles, Ca and leaving from there. There is a poll on our FB page for you to leave your interest.



Show & Shine and Pizza Night

Meet at the Pizza Factory,
on 2nd non-flex Friday this month,
November 22, at 5:30pm

Order your favorite dinner or pizza!

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no S&S in December unless we have it on Dec. 20th because the 1st non-flex is the night before the Christmas Party.



BRIAN REED is just a phone-call away for YOUR 4-WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES PART NEEDS at 760-559-2124.



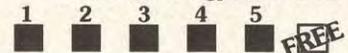
**Don't forget to visit our members who are in business!
Scott & Lynn Wood have all of your pet needs right here in Ridgecrest!**



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For your 4WD part needs. Mention Gear Grinders for a club discount. At the end of the year 4WD Hardware will send the club a check for a % of the sales from members for the year.

AMAZON SMILE: For your Amazon purchases, please use Amazon Smile by going to smile.amazon and choosing your favorite charity that is on the list and they will get a percentage donation from AMAZON for all your purchases.

CLUB CALENDAR at a GLANCE

- Oct 22 Club meeting, 6:00 PM dinner, 7:00 PM meeting at Casey's Steaks & BBQ, 1337 N. China Lake Blvd., Ridgecrest.
- Oct 23 Public Lands Round Table meeting. 6:00pm at the BLM office, 300 S. Richmond Road
- Oct 27 PVD pre-run of the Historic Run, Tom Perkins
- Nov 7-11 PVD – Register at C4WDA web page
- Nov 20 Club meeting, 6:00 PM dinner, 7:00 PM meeting at Casey's Steaks & BBQ, 1337 N. China Lake Blvd., Ridgecrest. This is a week early due to Thanksgiving.
- Nov 22 Pizza night - This is the 2nd non-flex Friday this month, as the 1st non-flex falls on PVD weekend.
- Nov 28 Happy Thanksgiving

2019 TRAIL BOSSES NEEDED

- Oct 27 PVD prerun – Perkins
- Nov 8-11 PVD
- Dec 7 Christmas Party

DON'T FORGET TO CONTACT

Vice-President, Earl Wicker,
to volunteer to lead a run at:
ebwicker@gmail.com OR: 760-608-7240 – cell
OR 760-446-2121 - home

ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL FRONT

National Public Lands News

Get updates & info at: <http://nplnews.com/>

Office located at: 941 E. Ridgecrest Blvd or call @ 760-371-1073

CLUB WEBSITE

Please check the club Face Book page or our website for the latest information regarding meetings & runs at:

www.geargrinders4wdclub.org/

PROMOTING PUBLIC LANDS FOR RESPONSIBLE MULTIPLE USE