



SUNDOWNERS 4X4 CLUB

* Newsletter *

January 12th 2023



Call to Order, A club meeting of Sundowners 4x4 Club was held on January 12, 2023 and via ZOOM. Meeting began at 7:00pm and was presided over by Tim Lamphere, with David Perigo as secretary.

Attendees

- Tim Lamphere – President
- Doug Wine – Vice President
- David Perigo – Secretary
- Linda Shouldice – Treasurer
- Paul Cochran – Trailmaster (via zoom)
- Kerry Robbins – IT/Webmaster
- + 20 members (5 on Zoom)

- *Club dues are \$60 (remember we all expired on New Year's Eve).*
- *These can be paid at any event or meeting, or visit our updated website and pay via PayPal of \$63 (Sundowners4x4.org).*
- *If you have recently moved, please keep us updated with your new address.*



Vice President's Corner

In recent months I have found myself contemplating my membership and thinking that perhaps my time with Sundowners has run its course. I've felt less inclined to attend Meet and Greets and even considered skipping meetings. After missing a couple Meet and Greets, I found those thoughts only increased. What, I wondered to myself, is driving these thoughts? Why am I less motivated to write an article for the newsletter? Am I really burned out on the club or is there something else going on? After much self-reflection I found the answer and it was right in front of me all the time. It's my absence that causes me to have these thoughts. Yes, I'm a busy guy especially in the summer when both of my "part time" jobs are in full swing. Add to that my responsibilities with the VFW DADS group and the pressures put on both me and Rhonda by our aging parents, and let not forget grandchildren. Of course, just like you, I have other interests outside of the club that also demand my time and attention so it's not surprising I (and many of you) have had these thoughts. So, what was my answer you ask? I attended a Meet and Greet. I reengaged. In doing so I felt the friendship of people I have grown fond of over the years and realized the bond that we all have. Maybe my schedule doesn't allow me to attend as many runs as I once did and maybe I'm not "feet first" into this thing like I once was BUT, I'm still here and not going anywhere. Just being present rekindled in me all the things that made me want to be a member in the first place and my hope, my wish, is that you too will try my approach. Give it a try. Come to a meeting. Come to a Meet and Greet. Come to all of them. Attend events. Get your Jeep dirty. It's fun!



With that in mind; I want to personally invite you to attend "Doug's Birthday Run" coming up on January 28th. Let's get 20 or more vehicles out in the woods and spend a day together. If any of you are interested, I'm also considering finding a place for dinner after the run so we can all spend time together outside of our vehicles. We will leave the Plainwell Meijer parking lot at 10:00 am and head out into the woods for a day away from all of life's demands. Even if we don't get a foot of snow between now and then, I'm sure we will still find some fun.



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Yearly Participation Award

- We give 1 ticket to each current member that shows up to a club function, this includes; meetings, runs, meet and greets, etc. At the end of the year, one ticket will be drawn and one lucky winner will receive a cool prize valued up to \$400. This drawing will be held at the end of the year Christmas party.
- The 2022 participation award was an awesome recovery kit valued about \$300.
 - Tom Fenwick was 2022'S winner, Congratulations Tom.
- For 2023, the club chose a \$300 visa gift card for this year's participation award.



Old Business

- Amazon will donate a portion of your purchases to our charity if you use Amazon through Amazon Smile, look for "**Sundowners 4X4 Incorporated**".
- 2022 Toy Drive was a huge success.
- Club Christmas party was January 7th, about 22 members came out for dinner and a white elephant gift exchange.
- [Forever Wave Flags](#) Has updated their website with our flag so we can now order them.



New Business

- Growlers would like a down payment for our Jeep outing night in the amount of \$321.56 with a remaining balance of \$964.69 (\$1286.25)
 - As much as the club enjoyed this last year, the Club voted not move ahead with this due the increased cost. And no set game date yet.
 - We will see if they have a smaller deal for around 20 people.
- Raffle license with Gas Pedal Customs is still in the works...
- Evert Hotel prices are on the rise, if you are wanting to attend the Evert run and get a hotel, we're staying at the Osceola Grand Hotel (940 West 7th St, Evert, MI 49631 (231)734-0470) and ask for "Alisha ok'd our group rate at \$109.00"
- **Dues are due now.** There is the real possibility that dues may need to be re-evaluated if GL4WDA and/or U4WDA raise their dues.
- Club was asking if members were interested in attending more Parade type events. These are usually short events, and maybe more members may come out for something like this?
 - Delton holds a lighted night Christmas parade in December
 - Vicksburg also holds a lighted night Christmas parade in December
 - Schoolcraft has a community parade followed by a car show in July
- Toy Drive was a huge success! We spent \$1,406.84 on buying toys and other things. This isn't including all the toys that people donated. Weather was good but pretty cold still. Thank you to all the volunteers who braved the cold.





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Treasurer Report

- Financial numbers were approved this month
- More details available upon request



Affiliation Director

- Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive **WINTER BLAST**
 - Will be held Jan 19, 2023 5 PM – Jan 21, 2023 8 PM
 - 2980 Cook Road West Branch, Michigan, United States 48661
 - Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Association is sponsoring a two-day event exploring the wonderful and hopefully snowy, trails through the St. Helen area! (Similar to Sno-blind and Snofari)
 - ORV permits required
 - Sign up here, Space is limited, so sign up today!
https://www.memberplanet.com/.../winterblastinsthelen_1
 - Drivers - \$90/person and includes banquet dinner on Saturday and FREE T-SHIRT
 - Passengers - \$35/person and includes banquet dinner
 - There will be raffle prizes too! Be sure to order your hoodies and hats when you sign up. 😊
- Please feel free to contact Adam with any suggestions he can bring up to the higher-level associations.
- [Great Lakes Four-Wheel Drive Association](#)
- [United Four-Wheel Drive Association](#)



Trailmaster

- Slim Stull Memorial Run, 20 people showed up at Bundy for this run, great turnout.
- About 22 people attended this year's Christmas and White Elephant party at Cowboy Up in Mendon. Congratulations to our winners of the 50/50 drawing and participation award.
 - \$45 / \$45 won by Rhonda Wine.
 - Tom Fenwick won this year's participation award.



New Members

- Couple new members, we met them at Bundy on the Slim Stull Memorial Run.
 - Welcome Rocky Adams and family, and welcome Adam Jackson



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Coming Up!

- Jan 19-21st GLFWDA Winter Blast @ St Helens (public ☺ welcome)
- Jan 28th Doug's Birthday Run @ Allegan State Area (members ☺ only)
 - Meet in Plainwell at Meijer at 10am
- Feb 11-12th Evert Winter Run @ Evert Michigan (members ☺ only)
 - Hotel prices are getting high, but ask for "Alisha ok'd our group rate"



Next Get-together, Meet & Greet (3rd Wednesday)

- Jan 18th -6pm at **Vickers Lakeside Tavern** in Vicksburg
 - 130 W Prairie St, Vicksburg, MI 49097
 - Feb 15th -6pm at Fricano's in Alamo



Next Club Meeting (2nd Thursday)

- Feb 9th -7pm at **The Club Car Grill** and via Zoom.
 - 6225 D Ave West, Kalamazoo, MI 49009
 - For those who wish to attend via Zoom, a link will be posted on our [Sundowner Members FB](#) prior to the meeting.



Awards

★Turkey Award



Goes to Wally (Larry Walters) for getting stuck.

★Cable Puller



Club voted to split recognition between Kelsey Robbins and Joel Tipton for both their efforts with the toy drive this year.

★50/50 Drawing



\$30 / \$30 won by Todd Black.



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2023 Club Events / Runs

BOLD DATES – are confirmed dates

PLEASE NOTE: Our events are private (CURRENT MEMBERS ☹ ONLY) or by invite, unless listed as (PUBLIC ☺ WELCOME).

Jan 7th Slim's Ride @ Rouch World from 10a-4p preceding the Party (members ☹ only)

Jan 7th Sundowners Christmas Party @ Cowboy Up in Mendon (members ☹ only)

Jan 19-21st GLFWDA Winter Blast @ St Helens (public ☺ welcome)

Jan 28th Doug's Birthday Run @ Allegan State Area (members ☹ only)

Feb 11-12th Evert Winter Run @ Evert Michigan (members ☹ only)

Mar 25th Spring Warmup Run @ Bundy Hill opens at 9am (public ☺ welcome)

Apr 15th Allegan State Game Area Trail Cleanup (public ☺ welcome)

May 6-7th Annual Jeep Blessing @ Mesick Michigan (public ☺ welcome)

May 12-14th Jeep the Mac @ Mackinac Bridge (public ☺ welcome)

May 20th Go Topless Day Jeep/Car Show @ Hayes Jeep (public ☺ welcome)

May 25-29th Memorial Day Run @ Bundy (members ☹ only, limited space, 13 camp spots reserved)

Jun 2-5th Silver Lake Sand Dunes Jeep Invasion (public ☺ welcome)

Jun 4-10th Mild to Wild Ride @ Windrock Park, Oliver Springs, TN 37840 (members ☹ only)

July 15th Hero's on the Dunes @ Silver Lake (public ☺ welcome)

Aug 6th Great Lakes Burn Camp Parade @ Wings Stadium (public ☺ welcome)

Aug 4-6th Toledo Jeep Fest @ Toledo Ohio (public ☺ welcome)

Aug 31st - Sept 1-5th Labor Day Run @ Bundy (public ☺ welcome)

Oct 11-15th Drummond Island Adventure (members ☹ only, limited space)

Oct 21st Fall Color Tour / Spooky Night Run @ Allegan State Area (public ☺ welcome)

Dec 2nd Slim Stull 3rd Annual Christmas Toy Drive @ Menards (public ☺ welcome)



Other Rides not yet finalized;

Kalamazoo Growlers Game

July 23-24th Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup on US-131 (2 days)

Sundowners Summer Picnic (public welcome)

Aug 12th Delton Founders Day with Parade

Aug Lake City Trail Ride (members only, limited space)

Sept Truck/Jeep Show @ Gilmore Car Museum 9a-4p (public welcome)

Sept 24-25th Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup on US-131 (2 days)

Sept Gaylord / Vanderbilt Trail Ride Pigeon River State Forest Elk sighting (members only)

Dec Delton Lighted Christmas parade

Dec Vicksburg Lighted Christmas parade

Any other parades?



Keep an eye on the Facebook pages (both public and private) for "spur of the moment" runs.



SUNDOWNER'S