



SUNDOWNERS 4X4 CLUB

Newsletter

February 9th 2023



Call to Order, A club meeting of Sundowners 4x4 Club was held on February 9, 2022 and via ZOOM. Meeting began at 7:00pm and was presided over by Doug Wine, with David Perigo as secretary.

Attendees

- Tim Lamphere – President (via zoom)
- Doug Wine – Vice President
- David Perigo – Secretary
-
- Paul Cochran – Trailmaster (via zoom)
- Kerry Robbins – IT/Webmaster
- + 18 members (8 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 for \$63 (Sundowners4x4.org).*
- *If you have recently moved, please keep us updated with your new address.*



Vice President's Corner

After our spring run to Bundy our next two club events are what I consider to be a couple of the most important events on our schedule. Let's talk about each of them in the order they appear on our calendar.



April 15th is the date of our annual clean-up in the Allegan State Game Area. Although there's not much that could be considered challenging when it comes to trail rides, this is one of the only places in southern Michigan where we can spend a day trail riding. Sundowners have been helping keep this area clean for more than 10 years now and together we have removed over 45 tons of rubbish from the trails along with a mountain of tires and a lot of recyclable metal. Starting with last year's cleanup, I have started promoting our effort publicly, which has gained us over 1,000 admirers. Let's keep the momentum going with a good turnout again this year. We will again meet at the cross-country ski trail parking lot just north of the DNR Field Office at 118th and 48th. I hope to see you there!

Another worthwhile event is our Adopt-A-Highway effort which takes place 3 times a year with the first cleanup scheduled for April 22nd and 23rd. We will meet at the rideshare lot on the SW corner of Stadium Drive and US-131 both mornings and head out from there. This event, like the trail cleanup, shines a positive light on the club and goes a long way towards maintaining a positive public image.

In keeping with our self-promotion and public outreach efforts, we will again be participating in the "Go Topless Day" promotion with our local event being held at Hayes Jeep on Stadium Drive. This year's event will include a poker run which will start and end at Hayes. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the Burn Camp held each year at Pretty Lake Campground. Keep your eye on our private and public Facebook pages for more information on these and other events throughout the year.



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Yearly Participation Award

- We give 1 ticket to each current member that shows up to a club function, (multiple day functions = multiple tickets) 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 \$300 Visa Gift Card. This drawing will be held at the end of the year Christmas party.



Old Business

- **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.
- [Forever Wave Flags](#) has updated their website with our flag so we can now order them.
- As much as the club enjoyed this last year's Growlers, the Club voted not move ahead with this due the increased cost. Growlers wanted a down payment for our Jeep outing night in the amount of \$321.56 with a remaining balance of \$964.69 (\$1286.25)
 - We will see if they have a smaller deal for around 20 people.



New Business

- Raffle license with Gas Pedal Customs is still in the works...
- Amazon.Smile is going away, Amazon decided it wasn't very beneficial.
- Evert Event is happening now (this weekend Feb 11-12th).
- 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 which our members already attend.
 - Vicksburg also holds a lighted night Christmas parade in December.
 - Schoolcraft has a community parade followed by a car show in July.
- **Go Topless Day** is May 20th and we are hosting a Poker Run. We have two confirmed stops (Sportsman's Warehouse and Kalamazoo Rod & Gun Club) Working on one more. This will be 5-Card Stud style, we will start and finish at Hayes.
 - Budget: Expenses = \$1,470, Income = \$2,500 (printout of budget available upon request). Flags are the big cost item, participants will be given a window flag or T-Shirt, one raffle ticket and one 50/50 ticket.
 - Eventbrite Tickets: Early bird \$30, April-May 6th \$35, day of \$40 and Sundowner Members \$30. Our break even on this run is 45 vehicles. Tickets are ready on Eventbrite and will go live on March 1st.
 - I'm hoping the cash winnings will bring them in! 1st \$200, 2nd \$100 and third \$50. We need volunteers and T-Shirts.
 - Tipton Plumbing and LA Transport have both sponsored \$100 towards the GTD T-Shirts.
 - Sponsors will also get their logo placed on the T-Shirts.





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BARRICADE
GO TOPLESS DAY

EXTREME TERRAIN
OFF-ROAD OUTFITTERS

SUNDOWNERS 4x4
KALAMAZOO MI 1976

www.sundowners4x4.org

May 20th is National Go-Topless Day Sponsored by Extreme Terrain Off-Road. Please join us at Hayes Jeep for our annual Great Lakes Burn Camp fund raiser from 9a to 3p. Stop in and purchase a raffle ticket for a chance to win cool stuff. Vendors and Food Trucks will be on site.

HAYES JEEP
3718 Stadium Dr, Kalamazoo, MI 49008
www.hayesjeep.net

MAY 20, 2023
#JEEPGOTOPLESSDAY
www.extremeterrain.com/go-topless-day

CREDIT LINES
BURN CAMP
For Burn Injured Children

- Advertising: I can run some ads for Allegan Cleanup, Poker Run and Go Topless Day. Our usual amount has been \$100 for each event so we approved \$300 in advertising.
- Highway clean up: Dates: April 22-23, July 15-16, and Sept 30. 10 am start at the 11th / Stadium Dr park and ride. Dates are also on the website.
- Membership invoices were sent out via PayPal first week of January and cancelled the unpaid invoices at the end of January. Pulled the names of those who asked to be pulled from the mailings. Will be updating the Facebook Members Group soon.
- Michigan Volunteer Registry: Sign up at <https://mivolunteerregistry.org/>
 - We have 4 members who are already signed up.
 - We are working with Mike Corfman, Director of the Kalamazoo Office of Emergency Management, to meet with him prior to the March Sundowners meeting, March 2nd.
 - Volunteers may choose to register for one or more of twelve main organizations within the MVR. These organizations include: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); Fire Corps; County Affiliated Volunteers; Medical Reserve Corps (MRC); Michigan Mortuary Response Team (MI-MORT); Michigan Transportable Emergency Surge Assistance (MI-TESA); Neighborhood Watch; Tribal Response Teams; or Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS).



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Treasurer Report

- Financial numbers were approved this month. More details available upon request
- Minimum monetary threshold on the Sundowners bank account set at \$5,000.



Affiliation Director

- 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

- About 12 vehicles attended Doug's Birthday Run at Allegan State Area this year.



New Members

- Let's welcome new member Rielly Meade

Coming Up!

- **Mar 25th Spring Warmup Run @ Bundy Hill** opens at 9am (public ☺ welcome)
- **Apr 1st Fools Gold Run @** from Cadillac to Traverse City (members ☹ only)
- **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)

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

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



Next Club Meeting (2nd Thursday)

- **Mar 8th -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 forgetting the vest.



★Cable Puller
Remains split **Kelsey Robbins** and **Joel Tipton** for both their efforts with the toy drive this year.



★50/50 Drawing
\$30 / \$30 won by **Rocky Adams**.





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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 1st Fools Gold Run @ from Cadillac to Traverse City (members ☹ only)

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

Apr 22-23rd Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup on US-131 (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)

Jul 15-16th Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup on US-131 (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 1-4th Labor Day Run @ Bundy (public ☺ welcome)

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

Sept 20-23rd Elk Sighting Trail Ride @ Wolverine, MI (members ☹ only)

Sept 30th Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup on US-131 (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 ??

Sundowners Summer Picnic ??

Aug 12th Delton Founders Day with Parade ??

Aug Lake City Trail Ride ??

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.

