

Montana Back Roads 4x4 Club Minutes
April 19, 2012
Joker's Wild Restaurant, Missoula, MT

Members present: Willie Worthy, Dick Riebe, Bruce Erickson, Erik Englebert, Jay Schweitzer, Pete and Karen Elmer, Steve Gehring, Jim Yonkin, guests Lonnie Labbe, Jason and Jordan Summerfield.

Our guest speaker, Jessie from Ani-meals, was outstanding. You truly missed out if you weren't there. Not only was she humorous and expressive she got her point across. She spoke for about an hour and had us almost rolling on the floor from laughter.

Ani-meals has approximately 160 cats at their facility at one time and re-homes about 365 per year. This is a no-kill facility unless it is absolutely necessary due to the health of the cat. They have cats of all colors, sizes, breeds, and all ages from old timers to kittens. They even offer a "return policy" if you're not happy with your chosen pet. Each cat has been put "in neutral", has its vaccinations and has been wormed and vet checked for over-all health.

They were very involved in the rescue of the various animals up in the Noxon area, with over 400 different animals they found new homes for.

They have their own store, Ani-mania, where you can buy pet food and accessories.

After she left, the members of the club were so impressed that there was unanimous vote to donate \$100 to Ani-meals.

DUES: the general consensus on dues was to keep them at \$20 per family membership, and to continue to belong to M4x4 Association, which also makes us members of United 4Wheel Drive Association. Hope everyone has been reading the emails that "spidy cats" has been sending to all members. She goes to a lot of work to put this together and should be commended for her efforts.

Dues are due to Joe Lorenzo, 627 Lafray Lane, Missoula, MT 59801 by June 1. No excuses! No late payments!

Yes, \$45 is a big chunk of money, but in reality it's only one tank of gas.

MEETING PLACE: Thoughts on changing meeting place....new Elbow Room down on Stephens and Kensington has big room; consensus was to remain at Joker's Wild.

WATSON'S CHILDREN SHELTER: How much interest is there in doing Watson's Children Shelter trip again? While not yet having completed all of his membership requirements, Jason Summerfield stepped up and has volunteered to organize this.

POSTAL FOOD DRIVE: Saturday, May 12 Dick and Sue Riebe will again volunteer, as will Jim Yonkin, and the Worthys. Others are welcome, and more info will be sent via email.

KARL TYLER CAR SHOW June 9 9 am to 4 pm, registration 25\$. Some members thought it would be a good opportunity for club participation to promote new members and let the community know what we are about.

TRIPS: no reason for some one to say I don't know where to go! Some one should put together a snow trip. No one has volunteered as of yet????

Derek would like to know if any one would be interested in a club run (maybe overnight) to the Tobacco Root Mountains by Ennis? I was thinking of a trail to the Twin-Lakes/McKelvey Lake area (I know both the Helena and Bozeman clubs run it often).

Compressor Trail in Mullan, Idaho? Joe has been in contact with me about this trail and thinks it would be worthwhile for us to do. More info to follow. Can be done in one day.

Melrose/Dillon this summer. Writing a new book on that area. will send out notices, and will maybe make it down in the Challis, Idaho area.

Mud Bog in Hamilton on May 5....more info? Does any one know more about this? I sent facebook message to person who posted this on club website with no further communication.

NEW BUSINESS:

Most members felt we should take on some type of community project, especially one that would gain us some recognition as responsible off road users, rather than mud bogging yahoos. Suggestions were: participation in the Homecoming Parade in the fall, or Christmas Parade. However, at this point, no one volunteered to organize. Anyone want to step up to the plate?

Dick Riebe will be attending M4x4A annual meeting on April 21, and will report back at next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None was brought up

After the meeting, Willie put in another plug for his book and distributed samples of advertising brochures for opinions. Just in case you forgot, the books are now available at Blue Ribbon Auto, The Book Exchange, Fact and Fiction, Driveshafts of Missoula, Hastings, J & K Customs, Muralt's Truck Plaza, Mudoch's, Tingley's Motorcycle, the U of M Bookstore and the Missoula Library.