

# The Rough Rider

The Monthly Newsletter of the Tucson RoughRiders, Inc.

NOVEMBER 2024  
VOLUME 49 ISSUE 11



## IN THIS ISSUE

Upcoming Activities	2-4
TDD: Final Report and Thank You	5-9
Editor's Note and Apology	10
Trail Dust Days (Oct. Run of the Month)	11
Past Activities	12-13
Sand Hollow, Utah	14-19
Meeting Minutes	20-21
Membership/Participation Report	22-24
Member Anniversaries	25
Publishing Schedule	25
Club Officers	26
Member's Comment	27
Editor's Corner	28-29

### 2024 Meeting Dates:

January 23	July 23
February 27	August 27
March 26	September 24
April 23	October 22
May 28	November 26
June 25	December 7

Summer Picnic	Not Scheduled
Trail Dust Days	October 17-20
Christmas Party	December 7

**tread lightly!**  
LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION



The Rough Rider is the official publication of the Tucson RoughRiders, Inc. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 78726, Tucson, Arizona, 85703-8726.

The Tucson RoughRiders, Inc., is a rough-terrain vehicle club with the following goals: to enjoy and protect the natural environment, to provide social and recreational activities for its members, and to promote family togetherness. The Club assists the state and national resource management agencies and local community charitable organizations.

The Club's general meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the New Town Buffet, 8500 N. Cracker Barrel Road, Tucson, AZ 85743 (near Cortaro Road and I-10). The meeting begins at 6:30 PM, with a social gathering beginning at 5:30. Members, guests, advertisers/activity sponsors, and the public are cordially invited to attend.

Membership in the Tucson RoughRiders is \$50.00 annually. One name tag is included for new members; additional name tags may be purchased. To qualify for membership, a four-wheel-drive vehicle owner must attend two runs and two meetings. Anyone wishing to join the Tucson RoughRiders is encouraged to contact any of the Board members, visit our website, or write to the Club at the above address.

[www.tucsonroughriders.com](http://www.tucsonroughriders.com)

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



**Plan to attend these activities for a great time. They are wonderful opportunities to meet new people or spend time with old friends. Don't have a ride? I'm sure someone will have a seat. Remember to take your camera!**

**NOTE: PLEASE CHECK THE ONLINE CLUB CALENDAR FOR THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION!**

### NOVEMBER 2024

#### COPPER CREEK

- Date, Time, Location: November 30, 9:00 AM. Meet in the Bashas' parking lot in Catalina (Oracle and Golder Ranch Road).
- Run / Event Leader: Jeff Merrell (520-907-0243 or azgoat7@gmail.com—text or leave a message; I'll get back to you ASAP. If you text, remember to include your name in the message.)
- Trail Rating: 2.5—3.0 (Stock vehicle capable).
- Trail Length: 28 miles (in and out). The trailhead is about 25 miles from the meeting point in Catalina.
- Vehicle Requirements: 4WD with low range; full-size spare. Bring plenty of food and water. **(No real shade on this run, but it should be cool enough this time of year not to be a problem.)**
- Radio Frequency / Channel: Not given.

The drivers meeting will be at 9:00 AM, with our departure immediately following. **We will air down at the trailhead in Mammoth.**

This is an easy trail that follows the Copper Creek Road back through the mining area and up over the southern hills and back out. It's a nice trail and definitely has some scenic moments. If there has been any recent water and you keep your fingers crossed, the area is prone to incredible blooms. All in all, just a pleasant ride.

Hope to see you there!

### DECEMBER 2024

#### CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Date, Time, Location: December 7, 11:00 AM—2:00 PM. Christopher Columbus / Silverbell Park (Ramada to be assigned).
- Run / Event Leader: n/a.
- Trail Rating: n/a.
- Trail Length: n/a.
- Vehicle Requirements: n/a.
- Radio Frequency / Channel: n/a.

Awning next to the restroom is the plan. Hamburgers and hot dogs. The club will provide food, sodas, and water. **Members will need to bring side dishes. Please RSVP to Eugene this week so we do not over-buy.**

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- The weather is expected to be in the 60s and 70s.
- There will be a White Elephant Exchange. Unisex items. White Elephant Limit of \$25 please.

### ELVIS AND ORVILLE'S LOOP

- Date, Time, Location: December 14, 9:00 AM. Meet in the Bashas' parking lot in Catalina (Oracle and Golder Ranch Road).
- Run / Event Leader: Jeff Merrell (520-907-0243 or azgoat7@gmail.com—text or leave a message; I'll get back to you ASAP. If you text, remember to include your name in the message.)
- Trail Ratings: Not given.
- Trail Lengths: Elvis—five miles. Orville's Loop—Not given.
- Vehicle Requirements: 4WD with low range; 33-inch tires minimum; full-size spare; front and rear tow points; appropriate lift for your tires; recovery gear. Appropriate armor for your type of vehicle—armored diff covers; fuel tank armor for JK, JL, JT and similar wheelbase vehicles; rock sliders. Winches highly recommended. Appropriate jacks and tools for your rig.
- Radio Frequency / Channel: GMRS Channel 6.

We will take Oracle Road north to SR 79, then follow SR 79 to Prince Road near Florence. We will go north on Sandman to the Elvis trailhead. Once Elvis is completed we'll cross over to Box Canyon and go up to the Orville's Loop trailhead. (This turnoff is the same as if you were going to Jack Handle, though Orville's Loop is the first left turn where Jack Handle is the second left once you turn out of Box Canyon.) Orville's Loop shares the same trail end as Jack Handle.

Elvis is a five-mile trail with five waterfalls that will challenge any light to moderate experienced drivers and rigs. The beginning of Elvis is an easy three-mile sandy/rocky wash. The first waterfall is the gatekeeper. There are multiple ways up the waterfall, ranging from moderate to extreme. Going clockwise, the further you go to the right on the trailhead area, the harder it gets. So therefore, the far-left side is the easiest ascent. The gatekeeper tends to be where most carnage happens. Waterfall Four has an optional up-and-over climb that is the trail's standout obstacle. High-centering is a common occurrence for stock long-wheelbase vehicles.

A few of our members have run Orville's Loop on the side (not a TRR run), so due to the fact that I have never done this trail before, it is listed as an **Exploratory Run**. Orville's Loop is said to be a scenic roller-coaster ride through the Sonoran Desert. Dense desert vegetation hangs overhead off the tall canyon walls. During winter, water often trickles down the canyon's walls, pooling at the base of the rocky waterfall you will have to climb. The waterfall is the trail's standout obstacle, although articles have said this obstacle does have a bypass. The climb up the steep and super-narrow ledge road provides spectacular panoramas before the trail exits out the tail end of Jack Handle.

**PLEASE RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS RUN.**

### OCTOBER 2025

#### 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL TRAIL DUST DAYS

- Date, Time, Location: October 23—26. Base Camp will be at Catalina State Park.
- Run / Event Leader: Various.
- Trail Rating: Various.

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Trail Length: Various.
- Vehicle Requirements: Various. Will depend on which trail(s) you choose to run.
- Radio Frequency / Channel: Various.

Preliminary Calendar:

- Thursday afternoon 10/23/2025. Event Setup, Registration and Tech Inspections.
- Friday 10/24/2025. Registration, Tech Inspections, four to five runs on local trails ranging from easy to hard. Vehicle technical ramp contest.
- Saturday 10/25/2025. Registration, Tech Inspections, four to five runs on local trails ranging from easy to hard. Vehicle technical ramp contest, games, dinner, and social gathering followed by a nighttime poker run.
- Sunday morning 10/26/2025. Continental breakfast, event closure and raffle.

Registration opens June 2025.

+++++

**Have an idea for a run or event?**

Do you have an idea but don't want to lead a trip, or you don't know the route? Don't worry! Just contact a Board member with your ideas.

Please remember these trips usually are day trips, which means to bring plenty of water.

## TRAIL DUST DAYS 2024: FINAL REPORT AND THANK YOU

### Thursday 10/17/24

Thursday afternoon we started to set up camp and posted vendor banners. At 4:00 PM we opened for attendee registration and vehicle tech inspections. Tech inspections were re-implemented this year for the club to better grasp the condition of the vehicles attending this event.

### Friday 10/18/24

Friday. Registration and vehicle tech inspections, and we had a full day of runs scheduled. The ramp was available to test vehicle articulation. Friday runs:

- Smelter Wash / Holy Joe Upper. Easy.
- Gila River Beach. Easy.
- Peppersauce / Nugget Trail. Moderate.
- Charouleau Gap. Moderate.
- Highway to Hell. Hard.

### Saturday 10/19/24

Saturday. Registration and vehicle tech inspections, and we had a full day of runs scheduled. The ramp was available to test vehicle articulation. A barbecue dinner provided by LaTexAz Smokehouse of Tucson with club-provided sodas, water, and cookies followed by social time around the fire and finally a nighttime Poker Run at Rail X Ranch hosted by the Tucson Rough Riders. Saturday Runs:

- Pipeline road to Mt. Lemmon. Easy.
- Ripsey Mine. Easy.
- Tortolita Pass. Moderate.
- Liberty or Death Light. Hard.
- Nighttime Poker run at Rail X. Easy.

### Sunday 10/20/24

**Tucson Rough Riders (TRR), Trail Dust Days (TDD) – Thank you to our vendors and Raffle.**

- At 8:00 AM we provided a continental breakfast consisting of: Bosa Donuts, Coffee, Orange Juice, and cookies from the Saturday dinner.
- At 9:30 we thanked our sponsors and started the TDD Raffle.

**Sponsor Thank you.** Without active sponsors supporting the club we could not have had a raffle or the event.



**Trail Boss Offroad Tucson.** Jeremy Ford. Shirt sponsor.

**TRAIL DUST DAYS 2024: FINAL REPORT AND THANK YOU**



Total Offroad. Ray Sommer. Raffle sponsor.



Kleinn Automotive Accessories. Raffle sponsor.



AmeriGas. Matt Gunn. Raffle sponsor.

Surface Improvements & Painting, LLC



Christopher Bock

520-300-0503

Surface Improvements and Painting. Chris Bock. Shirt sponsor



Hyde Group  
Investment  
Consulting

Hyde Group. Joshua Hyde. Shirt sponsor.



Watt Towing. Shirt sponsor.



MURRAY'S  
FIREARMS and AMMUNITION LLC  
SALES and TRAINING  
Arizona

Murray's Firearms and Ammunition. Shirt sponsor



AWP Safety. Eugene Veltre. Raffle sponsor, gift bags and President of the Tucson Rough Riders.



CUSTOM CABINETRY  
& WOODWORKING  
(520) 744-1905

Hamilton Designs, Inc. Shirt sponsor



JEGS High Performance. Event sponsor

## TRAIL DUST DAYS 2024: FINAL REPORT AND THANK YOU



JMAC Electric, LLC. Shirt sponsor



O'Reilly Auto Parts. Event sponsor

### TRR Club Members:

Wendy and Bill Hyde. Raffle Sponsor.  
Denise and Lon Drenten. Raffle Sponsor.  
Andy and Gayle Sacio. Raffle Sponsor.



M.O.R.E Mountain Off-Road Enterprises.  
Raffle Sponsor.



Arizona Stat Association. Event sponsor.



Tucson Rough Riders. Event sponsor.

### Brain Buster results. (Trivia quiz.)

- Eugene fears heights, not snakes, but he has a healthy respect for snakes.
- Zack Deetz won third place. \$10
- Judy Reya won second place in a tie with Monique Bozarth. \$15
- Lon and Denise Drenten won first place. \$20

### Poker Run (Best poker hand wins.)

- Steven Hyde won third place with a pair of 8s. \$15.
- Mike and Judy Raya won second place with a pair of 8s. \$25.
- Mel Hockwitt won first place with two pairs. Total Offroad \$50.

## TRAIL DUST DAYS 2024: FINAL REPORT AND THANK YOU

### The Ramp (Test of vehicle articulation.)

- No winners.

### Black Cloud award for vehicle damage.

- Steven Hyde in Third place for Brake Caliper failure.
- Bart Hogan in Second place for a Flat tire.
- Andrew Warren in First place for a Front Yoke failure. Andrew was a guest from Phoenix.

### Raffle

- The raffle consisted of a Ladies raffle, a general raffle, and a registered TDD attendees (Those who submitted TDD registrations). See photos of the prizes and winners.
- Two General raffle grand prizes.
  - i. Prize one was a Smittybilt recovery rope donated by the Tucson Rough Riders. Won by Mark Porter.
  - ii. Prize two was a Kleinn air system donated by Kleinn. Also won by Mark Porter.
- Registered TDD attendees raffle grand prizes.
  - i. Prize one was a 12V refrigerator donated by the Tucson Rough Riders. Won by Cameron Schutt.
  - ii. Prize two was a SCAR Winch donated by Total Offroad and More. Won by Bill Hyde.
- An additional item was donated by Andy Sacio.
  - i. A 12V air compressor. Won by Lon Drenten.
- Street Signs provided by AWP were immensely popular.

### 2024 Membership Thank You goes out to:

- TDD Board.
- TDD Trail Boss – Bart Hogan.
- TDD Trail Run Leaders.
  - i. Andy Sacio.
  - ii. Lon Drenten.
  - iii. Jeff Merrell.
  - iv. Paul Siskind.
  - v. Mike Williams.
  - vi. Eugene Veltre.
  - vii. Bart Hogan.
  - viii. Miles Weigold.
- Eugene, Cassie and Family Veltre. TRR President.
- Wendy, Bill and Family Hyde. TRR Vice President.
- Denise and Lon Drenten. TRR Secretary.
- Steve Williams. TRR Shirt Wrangler.
- **Many other members of the Tucson Rough Riders** for help during the event setup, operation and closure. Thank you for making this a great experience.

### 2024 Tech Inspection review.

- Tech Inspection results.
  - i. 40 vehicles inspected
  - ii. 3 vehicles missing registration number.



## TRAIL DUST DAYS 2024: FINAL REPORT AND THANK YOU

- Tires
  - i. Tire range was from 29" to 40".
  - ii. Average tire size was 35".
- Trail qualification stickers.
  - i. Easy - Green 1.
  - ii. Moderate - Blue 19.
  - iii. Hard - Red 20.
- Vehicle component items documented.
  - i. Battery Hold Down: 1 vehicle needed this repaired.
  - ii. Lift Kit: 1 vehicle did not have a lift kit.
  - iii. Front Locker: 4 vehicles did not have one.
  - iv. Rear Locker: 4 vehicles did not have one.
  - v. Winch: 2 vehicles did not have one.
  - vi. Spare parts available: 8 vehicles did not carry any.

**We had an awesome Trail Dust Days!**

**Thank you to our vendors! Thank you to all who attended and supported this event!**

**\*\*\*\*\* See you Next Year. Trail Dust Days 2025. 10/23/25 - 10/26/25. Mark your calendars! \*\*\*\*\***

## EDITOR'S NOTE AND APOLOGY

(Commentary by Dave Peterson.)



As I began putting this issue together, I realized that I am at a distinct disadvantage here in La Paz, as compared to home. We have not yet accessed our host's Wi-Fi network, and as a result we are still using our cellular data for all our internet access. Our plan includes 2 GB of high-speed data every day, but when looking at a lot of photos for the Rough Rider, that doesn't go very far. And low-speed data is PAINFULLY slow.

So I am temporarily changing how I will include photos for the runs. Instead of six or eight to fill the page, I'll pick only one or two of what I think are the best ones from each photo album. When we get home at the end of January, I'll revert back to multiple photos per run. (Run reports, of course, are ALWAYS welcome and will ALWAYS be included in full. Text doesn't consume data as fast as photos do.)

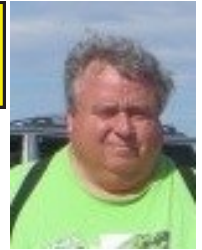
In the meantime, I strongly encourage each of you to visit the photo albums themselves—they always include a plethora of wonderful photos that I can't include in the Rough Rider.

Gonzo

## TRAIL DUST DAYS (OCTOBER RUN OF THE MONTH)

### Gila River (Lon Drenten)

(Story by Lon Drenten. No photo album available.)



Gila River. Easy. Lon Drenten. North beach and the trestle. 90% Sand, 10% rock. Nice easy trail. Very scenic and green. Rain clouds added a new texture to the mountains. Three vehicles. Great lunch at the beach listening to the river flow by. We observed a helicopter fly in and out plus we had a train go by. The river is still flowing fast but about 3' lower than the pre run.

# PAST ACTIVITIES

## Jack Handle & Box Canyon (10/26 Jeff Merrell)

(Photos by Jeff Merrell and Tim Naylor. Collection 21, Album 670.)



## PAST ACTIVITIES

### Total Wreck, Narrows, Empire Mine (11/16 Jeff Merrell)

(Photos by Jeff Merrell. Collection 21, Album 678.)



# SAND HOLLOW, UTAH

## The Fallen (11/11)

(Photos by Steve Archer. Collection 21, Album 674.)



# SAND HOLLOW, UTAH

## Papa Smurf (11/12)

(Photos by Steve Archer. Collection 21, Album 675.)



## SAND HOLLOW, UTAH

### The Maze (11/13 Mike Williams)

(Screen captures from videos by Steve Archer. Collection 21, Album 689.)





## SAND HOLLOW, UTAH

### Sliprock Gulch (11/14)

(Photos by Steve Archer. Collection 21, Album 676.)



# SAND HOLLOW, UTAH

## Mitt's Mile (11/15)

(Photos by Steve Archer. Collection 21, Album 677.)



# SAND HOLLOW, UTAH

## Triple 7 (11/16)

(Photos by Steve Archer. Collection 21, Album 679.)



## MEETING MINUTES

Minutes prepared and submitted by Lon Drenten.

### LOCATION

- **New Town Buffet.** 8500 N. Cracker Barrel Road. 520-572-7888. Next to Texas Roadhouse. Cortaro Road and I-10.

### CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A motion was called for, made, seconded, voted on, and passed to accept the October meeting's minutes as printed in the Rough Rider.

### TREASURER (TEMPORARY: RHEAL TETREAULT)

- Club members can review TRR financial information discussed in the general meeting on our Google Drive. It should be available within 5 days of the meeting.
- Attendance.
  - i. On site: 14. Happy Thanksgiving.
  - ii. Zoom: Not held.

### LAND USE (BECKY ANTLE)

- Charouleau Gap grant is going to the board of directors at State Parks. Progress is being made. May be able to start work in December. Will repair damage and address other issues as needed. There is a concern about a bypass trail which has been created.
- Please join the BlueRibbon Coalition if possible.

### STATE REPORT, ADOPT-A-TRAIL/ADOPT-A-RANCH (RHEAL TETREAULT)

- Charouleau Gap grant progresses.

### GUESTS (EUGENE VELTRE)

\*\*\* Welcome\*\*\* 😊 Lon's apologies up front for any misspelling.

- David and Tami Knittle. 2015 Rubicon. They found us online. This is their first meeting, and they have been on one run. Members pitched in on answering most of his questions.

### MEMBERSHIP (MILES WEIGOLD)

- Questions: please send an email to Miles Weigold.

- Membership:

- i. Miles did not attend tonight's meeting or provide an update.

### PARTICIPATION (MILES WEIGOLD)

- **Full report is available on the Google drive and in the newsletter.**
- Miles did not attend tonight's meeting or provide an update .

### SAFETY AND EDUCATION (TEMPORARY: LON DRENTEN)

- No report this month. Busy with Trail Dust Days actions.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT (EUGENE VELTRE)

- 2025 TDD Vendor letters to go out before the end of the year.
- **Important.** Need nominations via email sent to Eugene for the 2024 annual awards: Black Cloud, Run of the Year, Male 4-Wheeler, Female 4-Wheeler. Voting will be held in January. Likely at the January meeting.
- **Important.** December 7<sup>th</sup>. Christmas party. 11 AM to 2 PM. At Christopher Columbus Park (Silverbell Park), Ramada # is to be assigned. Awning next to the restroom is the plan. Hamburgers and hot dogs. The club will provide food, sodas, and water. **Members will need to bring side dishes. Please RSVP to Eugene this week so we do not over-buy.**
  - i. The weather is expected to be in the 60s and 70s.
  - ii. There will be a White Elephant Exchange. Unisex items. White Elephant Limit of \$25 please.
- Looking for help with TDD and a member to plan and schedule the summer picnic and the Christmas party for 2025.
- **Important.** The Ronald McDonald House event is scheduled for 12/15/24. 8<sup>th</sup> annual event. This is Bart Hogan's 6<sup>th</sup> year.
  - i. Bart has two pallets of bottled water for them. However, they can only manage one

## MEETING MINUTES

pallet currently. He needs a place to store one pallet of water until March. Eugene will store it at work.

- ii. Needs to get this event added to the TRR Calendar.
- iii. A list of items needed is on the Ronald McDonald House webpage. <https://rmhctucson.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/1101-Holiday-Wish-List.pdf>  
For example: Cleaning stuff, gift cards for food, groceries, gas cards, etc. Newborn items, toys, diapers. Kids' books in English and Spanish. Gift sets. Use the link above.
- iv. Move to donate \$500 in club funds to this event - seconded, adopted. Motion approved.

### EDITOR'S REPORT (DAVE PETERSON)

- Please get all the inputs to Dave by Saturday.

### WEBSITE (TIM NAYLOR)

- No update.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Elections.
  - i. No nominations provided for the board. Members will continue in their existing positions. Thank you.
- Trail Dust Days.
  - i. Received 3 of 11 run reports for Trail Dust Days. If we get additional reports, we will add them. What we have is being provided to the editor for the newsletter. Thank you.

### NEW BUSINESS

- No new business.

### PAST ACTIVITY REPORTS / ROTM (BILL HYDE)

[For details and photos, please check out the "Trail Dust Days," "Past Activities," and "Sand Hollow, Utah" sections beginning on Page 11.]

- Jack Handle and Box Canyon. Great run. Did the waterfall. Very scenic. 3.5 rating.
- Sand Hollow. 10 days. Busy 10 days. No substantial carnage. Excellent event.
- Total Wreck, Narrows, Empire Ranch. **(ROTM)**

3.0 rating. 12 vehicles. 2 had issues and turned back.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

[For details, please check out the "Upcoming Activities" section beginning on Page 2. Official runs must be posted on the club's online calendar a minimum of 4 days in advance.]

- Copper Creek.
- December 7<sup>th</sup>. Christmas party. 11 AM to 2 PM. At Christopher Columbus Park (Silverbell Park), Ramada # is to be assigned. Awning next to the restroom is the plan. Hamburgers and hot dogs. The club will provide food, sodas, and water. **Members will need to bring side dishes. Please RSVP to Eugene this week so we do not over-buy.**
  - i. The weather is expected to be in the 60s and 70s.
  - ii. There will be a White Elephant Exchange. Unisex items. White Elephant Limit of \$25 please.
- Elvis & Orville's loop. Exploratory run..

### LAND USE DONATION

- \$51.00

### MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

# MEMBERSHIP/PARTICIPATION REPORT

Charts and articles by Miles Weigold.

## Participation Report

Hi all,

Below are listed total participation points YTD through Jeff's Copper Creek run on 11/30. Also listed are those members who have earned points YTD. As always, if you believe I've erred here, please send me a note at [milesweigold@mac.com](mailto:milesweigold@mac.com).

<b>YTD Summary thru</b>	<b>11/30/2024</b>
<b>Meeting attendees - all</b>	<b>214</b>
<b># Runs</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Run participants-members</b>	<b>455</b>
<b>Run participants-guests</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>Run participants-all</b>	<b>662</b>
<b>Run vehicles-total</b>	<b>563</b>
<b># Rescues</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Rescue participants</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Rescue vehicles-total</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Participants-all events</b>	<b>881</b>

revised: 11/30/2024

### 2024 Tucson Rough Riders Participation Points Summary

<u>Lname</u>	<u>Fname</u>	<u>Mtgs</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Run Lead</u>	<u>Rescue</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Merrell	Loretta & Jeff	0	19	36	0	55	1
Cauthen	Harold	7	29	2	3	41	2
Williams	Mike	0	18	22	0	40	3
Siskind	Paul	5	28	4	2	39	4
Williams	Carmen & Steve	6	16	10	0	32	5
Porter	Rena & Mark	0	18	14	0	32	5
O'Campo	Jodi & Leo	0	24	2	2	28	6
Hogan	Sandra & Bart	10	15	2	0	27	7
Weirick	Lizzie & Richard	8	19	0	0	27	7
Drenten	Denise & Lon	9	9	8	0	26	8
Veltre	Cassie & Eugene	11	12	2	0	25	9
Ratzlaff	Bill	8	17	0	0	25	9
Franklin	Shelly & Ken	8	17	0	0	25	9
Naylor	Barbara & Tim	10	13	0	0	23	10

## MEMBERSHIP/PARTICIPATION REPORT

<u>Lname</u>	<u>Fname</u>	<u>Mtgs</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Run Lead</u>	<u>Rescue</u>	<u>Total</u>
Weigold	Pat & Miles	5	11	2	2	20
Bates	Pam	0	20	0	0	20
Antle/Tetrault	Becky & Rheal	7	6	6	0	19
Sciuto	Al	5	10	0	0	15
Feldman	Ken	0	15	0	0	15
Hyde	Wendy & Bill	7	7	0	0	14
Archer	Gwen & Steve	1	13	0	0	14
Pearce	Jack	6	6	0	0	12
Hetrick	Lidia & Steve	1	11	0	0	12
Hockwitt	Mel & Carolyn	0	7	4	0	11
Pyles	Mike	5	6	0	0	11
Cristia	Robert	7	3	0	0	10
Murray	Brenda & Darrell	4	6	0	0	10
Prozaki	Mark	6	4	0	0	10
Roberson	Robert	0	10	0	0	10
Caulkins	Pearl & Brian	0	10	0	0	10
Greven	Jeannie & Erwin	6	3	0	0	9
Fabiano	Geri & Gary	3	6	0	0	9
Nichols	Kristi & Adam	4	4	0	0	8
Sacio	Gayle & Andy	0	4	4	0	8
Natzke	Cindi & Ken	6	2	0	0	8
Campion	Kim & Mark	3	4	0	0	7
Nezelek	Vaughn	5	2	0	0	7
Richardson	Margaret & Chris	5	2	0	0	7
Carruthers	Lee & Chuck	2	4	0	0	6
Fenderson	Jim	3	3	0	0	6
Bockwaldt	Becky & Walter	2	3	0	0	5
Davis	Mary & Lou	1	4	0	0	5
Raya	Judy & Mike	0	5	0	0	5
Virgil	Judy & Doug	1	4	0	0	5
Acuna	Hilda & Ruben	2	2	0	0	4
Finstad	Beverly & Paul	2	2	0	0	4
Johnson	Karen & Mike	2	2	0	0	4
Jurish	Austin	2	2	0	0	4
Zigelstein	Stephen	4	0	0	0	4

## MEMBERSHIP/PARTICIPATION REPORT

<u>Lname</u>	<u>Fname</u>	<u>Mtgs</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Run Lead</u>	<u>Rescue</u>	<u>Total</u>
David	Gail & Phil	0	3	0	0	3
Fetherman	Janet & Stan	3	0	0	0	3
Kennedy	Jan & Kevin	0	3	0	0	3
Beyer	Hiroki & Steve	0	2	0	0	2
Hill	John	0	0	2	0	2
Peterson	Wynne Brown & Dave	0	2	0	0	2
Baldwin	Vonnie & Andy	0	1	0	0	1
Champagne	Deana & Gordon	1	0	0	0	1
Foreman	Laurel	0	1	0	0	1
Hammers	Cheryl & Greg	0	1	0	0	1
McMahon	Nancy & Eddie	0	1	0	0	1
Palser	Jennifer	0	1	0	0	1
Di Maria	Charlotte & Mike	0	1	0	0	1
Mandoske	John & Lil	0	1	0	0	1
Mathwig	Pam & John	0	1	0	0	1
Larson	Beth & Barry	0	1	0	0	1

### Membership Report

The TRR has 84 active members as of 11/30/24, five of whom are lifetime members. We have 13 potential new members who are working to complete their participation in the required 2 meetings and 2 runs/events prior to being voted in as members.

We are working to grow the TRR membership on several different fronts. If you have ideas about what we should be doing to accomplish this please let me know at [milesweigold@mac.com](mailto:milesweigold@mac.com).

Happy Holidays to all!

Miles



## MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

### NOVEMBER 2024

Ruben & Hilda Acuna	2015
William & Wendy Hyde	2018
Darrell & Brenda Murray	2021
Vaughn Nezelek	1996

(L): Lifetime Membership  
(D): Deceased

### DECEMBER 2024

Dennis & Sheryl Cole	2018
----------------------	------

NOTE: These dates were taken from the (currently undated) club roster online. If your anniversary date is incorrect in any way (it's here and shouldn't be; it's not here and should be; the month is correct but the year isn't; etc.), please let Miles Weigold know so he can correct our records.

## PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

### 2024 Rough Rider Publishing Dates:

January: 1/28	July: 8/2
February: 3/3	August: 9/1
March: 3/31	September: 9/29
April: 4/28	October: 10/27
May: 6/2	November: 12/3
June: 6/30	December: 12/29

NOTE: Dates may vary due to travel or holiday. Date changes will be published as soon as they are known. (\* indicates a changed date.)

## CLUB OFFICERS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President

Eugene Veltre  
eugenevelt97tj@gmail.com

#### Immediate Past President

Andy Sacio  
nieveria@aol.com

#### Vice President

Bill Hyde  
williamehyde@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Cassie Veltre  
mommaveltre0323@gmail.com

#### Secretary

Lon Drenten  
drentenfam@aol.com

#### A4WDA Delegate

Becky Antle  
rantle@comcast.net

#### A4WDA Delegate

Rheal Tetreault  
rhealt@comcast.net

### NON-BoD

#### Newsletter Editor

Dave Peterson  
gonzodave@yahoo.com

#### Membership

Miles Weigold  
milesweigold@mac.com

#### Safety

Lon Drenten (temporary)  
drentenfam@aol.com

#### Webmaster

Tim Naylor  
tim.naylor@comcast.net

#### Historian

Tim Naylor  
tim.naylor@comcast.net

#### Trail Dust Days 2025

Bill Hyde  
williamehyde@gmail.com

#### Adopt-A-Road / Adopt-A-Ranch

Rheal Tetreault  
rhealt@comcast.net

#### Political / Land Use

Becky Antle  
rantle@comcast.net

#### Rescue Patrol

(vacant)

#### Participation

Miles Weigold  
milesweigold@mac.com

#### Social Media

Bill Ratzlaff  
pvbill@aol.com

#### Membership Support

Steve Williams  
williamshs@cox.net

## MEMBER'S COMMENT

[Editor's note: The contributor requested to remain anonymous.]

As I struggle to pick the best run of the year, it comes to mind what it takes to put these events together. The personal sacrifice in time and effort is incredible; this is what makes this group so special. Are we always perfect in what we do as a group? No, but I must say there are a lot of good intentions and special effort that shine through. It's been hard for me to pick best driver, best run, and/or worst screwup, because overall, what comes through to me is the wonderful collaboration of people that has made this group so enjoyable and special. I hope we all remember this as we struggle to work our way through our differences. I see these struggles as no different than the struggle we are having to keep our nation strong and united. May we find strength in our struggles to do the right thing!

## EDITOR'S CORNER

Opinion by Dave (Gonzo) Peterson.



### Club Ennui

Warning: This is a long opinion piece!

During his TDD run, Miles Weigold asked his run participants to think of ways to reinvigorate the club. He asked again in this month's Participation / Membership reports. I share Miles' concern about the growing apathy in the membership—it was amply demonstrated when NOBODY ran for either Secretary or Vice President this year. (Side note: THANK YOU to the incumbents for agreeing to stay on for another term!)

I think there are two avenues to pursue to reinvigorate the club. The first is to encourage more involvement by the current members; the second is to recruit new members.

I'll start with increasing current member involvement:

- End Zoom. I think it was necessary 4 years ago (at the height of the pandemic), but I think it was only mildly successful then because it was run on Andy's cell phone. Even with the additional gear the club bought (?) last year (?) [I remember Todd Hoffmaster running the system when he was there, and I guess Cassie is running it now? Or maybe Becky?], I don't think it's very useful. Zoom meetings (and especially Zoom hybrids) tend to work when there's a structured format, only one person speaks at a time, and the Zoom attendees are invited to participate. The one or two times I attended by Zoom I felt as though I was being ignored – nobody ever thought to ask what we Zoomies wanted, or whether we had comments, or anything. I don't know whether our votes were ever counted. It was hard to break into the in-person conversations. IMO, with only 2 or 3 people attending by Zoom (when anyone does), it's not worth having. End Zoom and make people attend in person if they want to participate in the Club.
- Bring back the raffle. I don't know when it went away, but it's been a while. I think in-person attendance would be better if people knew there'd be a worthwhile raffle prize each month. And I think the prize should be something universally welcomed, like a \$25 Amazon gift card or something similar. I think one reason the raffles ended was that people all had enough tow straps, or D-rings, or whatever the prize of the month was.
- Reintroduce the occasional presentation. Maybe someone has a project they'd be willing to talk about. Maybe someone from the agencies we work with could come talk to us about how we work together and what the club does for them. Maybe someone has a big 4WD adventure they'd be willing to talk about. And announce the presentation ahead of time so there's an incentive for members to be there to hear it.
- Bring back an incentive for "Participant of the Year" - say, a \$50 or \$100 gift card for the winner. The club has thousands of dollars in its coffers; why can't we spend some of it to bribe—er, \*encourage\*—people to lead runs.
- Relocate the meetings. This might entail giving up the "dinner" part of the occasion, but if we can find a conference room more central to the community, maybe more people might actually attend. Libraries, churches, and school buildings all have large meeting rooms that outside organizations can use for either a nominal fee or for free. Why not try it for a few months to see what might happen?

Moving now to recruiting new members:

- Publicize all our activities on Facebook. The club's group page there has more than 1,100 members; maybe if we posted our activities to the group some of them would actually join us.

## EDITOR'S CORNER

- Publicize our activities to other social media. Why can't the club have a YouTube channel where we post some of the videos that are in our run albums? Why can't we have an Instagram account where we post photos of runs? What about TikTok?
- Publicize our activities (and our very existence!) to legacy media: Find sympathetic ears/eyes at TV and radio stations in town, and maybe also the paper. Also, I'm sure there must be some local podcasts that are interested in our activities.
- Individual outreach: We all see interesting 4WDs in town all the time. If one catches your eye, why not start a conversation with its driver? Invite them to a meeting (which brings us back to more involvement in the meetings).
- Host (and publicize) regular meet-and-greets at parking lots around town, so non-members can come see us without having to go on a run or come to a meeting.
- Attend car shows as a club, and not simply as individuals (if anyone does that). Two big ones every fall are the Cops and Rodders show and the Tucson Classics event at The Gregory School.
- Have a presence at the Pima County Fair. In 1993 I discovered TRR at the Forest Service booth. The last time I went to the fair, there was no USFS booth, but I don't see any reason why TRR couldn't pay for its own space.
- Cultivate relationships with the local 4WD dealerships. Give them TRR brochures to put in the buyers' 4WDs, invite representatives to our meetings, ask them to present at our meetings, and so on.
- Look for opportunities to present ourselves to other groups. Maybe somebody's Kiwanis or Lions club (do they still exist?) needs a speaker. I think TRR could field someone to talk about what we do for the trails in the area.
- Approach Pima Community College and the local high schools about collaborating with their automotive programs.

So those are some ideas to think about. Before you start calling me a hypocrite, I already know I am one. I don't come to meetings and I don't go on runs. But I'm the kind of member the club should be trying to motivate to come to the meetings and go on / lead runs. Some of the above ideas would interest me, so why wouldn't they interest others? And I bet there are other people who would be interested in us if they only knew about us—but they don't like searching for people like us, or they don't think about it, or any of a zillion other reasons. We need to look for them and not just wait for them to come find us. I probably wouldn't be in TRR today if I hadn't bumped into them at the Pima County Fair in 1993.