

Red Rock Review



♦2018 TOM (Trail of the month)

(Also, posted on the HOME page at rr4w.com. check it monthly for changes and helpful details about out of town excursions.)

(Bob McKenzie & Austin Halloway, Co-Chairman – Trail of the Month Committee)

DATE	TRAIL/RATING	LEADER
Apr 21 st	Buttes & Towers (3)	John Marsh
May 26 th	Poison Spider (6)	Tom Edwards
Jun 16 th	La Sal Pass Trail (4)	John Martin
Jul 28 th	7 Mile Moon Light Ride (3)	Mike Kelso
Aug 18 th	RimRocker Trail (4)	Rick Antolovich
Sep 15 th	Jax Trax (5)	John Martin
Oct 20 th	Strike Ravine, BFE, BBQ (6)	Tom Edwards
Nov 17 th	Hells Revenge (6)	Austin Halloway
December	Happy Holidays – no trails	

Awesome – Grand County Sheriff Steve White, asked and received a cessation of the roadwork that started before Easter Safari at the bottom of Blue Hill on S Hwy 191 to accommodate the traffic during the event. Work started again after Easter Safari and will continue until at least September.



Devils on the Rocks — this didn't turn out as anticipated. The idea itself, was designed to introduce Grand County High School students to an organized trail run. Sporting event tournaments took over 123 students out of town the day the run was scheduled. Next year we'll plan a different day as only three students attended – but, they had a great time, said Doug McElhaney, organizer.



Bob Bandle, past president of the Red Rock 4-Wheelers passed away from Alzheimer's in January. His wife, Marion, is still living in Surprise, AZ and doing well. Please contact us via the website if you want to send your condolences. Bob was a good friend and a great 4-wheeler. They lived in Moab for several years before completely retiring to Arizona. Marion was hoping to win the JL Jeep and pass it on to us.

A Hey Joe workday was held on Saturday, 3/10 by Tread Lightly. The Club and the BLM asked Tread Lightly to again make Hey Joe the trail they choose as their Easter Safari project. Thank you to all those who attended and helped. Hey Joe is a historic trail because of the mining in the area. It is located NW of Moab along the Green River and is accessed by a spectacular descent down the canyon wall to the river. Because it is near the river the

Tamarisk Trees are abundant and need clearing/trimming annually, and there are rock slides every year that need to be cleared.

🌀Indicates previously reported news

🌀**The Club received \$5,000 for trail maintenance to Elephant Hill as the 2017 Outstanding Trail of the year from BF Goodrich.** Mike Kelso has been working with the Canyonlands Park Service since we received the news and they are excited. The Club will be matching the \$5,000 to exact more repairs. The money for repairs to roads and facilities just hasn't been there lately, said Park Rangers. Three RR4W vehicles explored the Elephant Hill area in March with the Park Rangers, looking at areas to repair in trying to maintain the status quo of a 5-rated trail through the park. Mike is awaiting two maps and GPS points to submit our intent and what we would like to have done in the way of repairs to the Park Service for approval. The Elephant Hill trail is also a historic trail in that it overlooks the confluence of the Colorado and Green Rivers.

🌀**If you see any spurs that you feel would be a good addition to a trail, let Mike Kelso know. You can contact him via the website, Contact Us tab.**

🌀**Other trail repairs:** Cliffhanger repairs are at a standstill now, awaiting action from the BLM. **Cameo Cliffs / Jax Trax**, share the same culvert which, was repaired by club members last year, has seen a San Juan County road grader blade, we'll see if it holds – it would appear the culvert is too small for water that hits it in the spring. **Flat Iron Mesa**, still needs rock work on the Intimidator to knock off a protrusion that "intimidates" drivers on the cliffside. (See EJS report on the Intimidator later in this newsletter.)

🌀**Hell's Revenge entrance/exit:** If you have ever traveled on the Hell's Revenge trail before, you will now notice there is a new exit from the trail. This was done to make it less dangerous for oncoming traffic to collide. Be sure to inquire at the Sand Flats booth if you have questions.

🌀**EJS lineups along Hwy 191** This will probably be our last year of lining up for trails along the Highway, mainly because of the widening of the N Hwy 191 corridor into town and the new motels being built. It's possible we may have to abandon some of our downtown locations soon.

🌀**Registration tiers?** Looking for solutions for the onslaught that happens every year on opening day of registration for Easter Jeep Safari, one solution has come to mind. Having three tiers of registration, the Officials will be able to register one week in advance, as they do now. Members will have registration open to them the day prior to the public registration opening. This is just an idea in the works.

Girl Scouts: The Friday night raffle is a huge event, which fills the arena to capacity and can last from 6:30–10:00 or later. The Girl Scouts set up shop in the lobby of the arena with some of the best goodies, cookies, snacks, candy and water during the drawing for the first time this year. They sold out! Thank you, girls, – everyone really enjoyed it.

Everyone has complained for years there was no coffee for sale while they waited in line to get to the EJS Registration area. Tasha Wagoner sold coffee, hot chocolate, donuts, burritos, etc. during the early registration hours daily and said she did pretty good. She sold out of the delicious burritos daily.

🔴RED ROCK 4-WHEELERS of the YEAR 2017



John & Carol Martin

It was a very lucky day, indeed, when this couple moved to Moab and became members of the Club. They were voted 2017 4-Wheelers of the Year. John & Carol joined the Club in September, 2013, and like the Energizer Bunny – they just keep going and going. They are always on trails, leading, exploring, fixing, repairing or sticking signs in the ground. And best of all – they are great people to call friend. They grew up together in the same neighborhood and went to the

same elementary school. Then at age 17, John, enlisted in the Marines. After returning home he worked at Kennecott Copper Mine, eventually becoming the Mechanical Maintenance Shop Supervisor until his retirement. Carol rode horses and sported long knee length hair when young. She enjoys the Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City, UT and loves small animals, birds and animals being her favorites. When their two children were older she worked as Head Housekeeper of Embassy Suites until she retired. They are one of the couples who founded the Unofficial Thursday Jeeping Retirement Club. They are also members of the Rodeo Club and the Rock Club.

We had 6 jeeps joining us for EJS this year from Norway!

🌀**EJS Registration opening day** was much better than the past few years. We rented a server as big as the one Amazon has for the first 24 hours of registration this year to enhance our own server. It worked great until even it crashed mid-morning. Once it was back on line, everything smoothed out. Patience, or lack thereof, seems to have a great deal to do with some registration issues. Thanks to ThinAir for their constant evaluation of our needs.

A thank you goes out to those of you who fielded the negative Facebook comments for us – we really appreciate the support! We are constantly trying to make this experience better for everyone. That's why RR4W has become as organized as it is, we've learned from mistakes and comments and implemented new procedures accordingly. (Maybe the government should take a page from our book.)

Hi, I was just looking at my iPhone's 'Health' app for March 28. Here is what it said: I walked 5 miles and climbed 78 floors!! 😊

I guess our Jeeps were "crawling" slow enough to fool the 'Health' app into thinking I was WALKING that trail 😊😊

I'll bet the Red Rock 4 Wheel Club will be recorded on the 'cloud' as a very fit organization...according to these involuntary health apps on your phones anyway. Members should check it out. Perhaps have a competition to see how many miles & floors they score after a day of 'Jeep trailing.'

52ND EASTER JEEP SAFARI REVIEW 2018

Appreciation Day: Members of the Club provided rides, this year on Fins & Things trail, to Moab's Senior Citizens and Chamber of

Commerce members. The Senior Center made lunches for the group of 70 people attending. It was a good run, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Registration: Bob Kraft thanked everyone for the help in registration. Guy Conway & Tara Teeples were great on the Official's table again this year. Ron & Linda did a good job with the computers and gunners. The computer volunteers did a great job of helping registrants and seemed to have a good time.

Merchandise: Debe King, Bob Kraft. Volunteers did a great job of selling the merchandise usually sold on the website to participants, even with the I-pads not working. The I-pads were taken into the registration room, where they started working again, they were then used to sell tickets with credit cards while the people at the lobby continued to sell tickets for cash, with great success.

There were a lot of requests by the younger crowd for pull over hoodies, so they are being considered for next year.

Monitors: Patsy Kraft, Coordinator. The Monitors are a very important part of EJS – they help keep the more popular trails free for our permitted trails by blocking them at the entrance or the exit, whichever direction the BLM has permitted us for. This keeps the Public from using the trails and widening them by passing our slower movements during the day. The BLM handled one problem a Monitor had. Lack of communication from a 10am trail on Steel Bender to the Monitor blocking the exit from the trail kept the Monitor at the exit until 6:00pm. The Trail turned around midway and went back out the entrance rather than completing the run.

Jackets: Patsy Kraft said there were still two tubs of Three-year Official jackets not picked up at registration. They will be mailed to the recipients.

Big Saturday Parade: This is not the actual definition of a parade – there are no floats, only 4-wheel drives, lined up around every downtown block of Moab, 23 trails in all with 15-35 vehicles on each trail. At 9:00 am sharp the MPD shuts down Main Avenue, which is also Highway 191, one of the busiest N-S running highways in this part of the country. This year a record departure from town was reported by Tom Nixon, MPD, 17 minutes. Main was shut down at 8:55 and reopened at 9:10. He said at one time he looked down main and all he could see were 4-wheel drives. Last year it took 23 minutes.

Trail reviews during Easter Jeep Safari

3D: Dieter Thoeny, Liechtenstein, Europe gave swiss chocolate to everyone. Had 2 breakdowns, and off the trail at 3:50pm.

The Pickle: Moab's, KL Young, led an awesome trail on Wednesday, lots of breakdowns. One guys ARB broke and come to find out, his dad is the President of ARB. Best trail ever in KL's career!

Backwards Bill: Larry Higginson, Murray, UT had a trailer blocking the entrance to the trail when they arrived. Both 7 Mile Rim and Backwards Bill met at Uranium Arch at the same time because of the blockage.

Behind the Rocks: Dave Christensen, Illinois, - had a fun trip with 29 rigs and 8 minor breaks. Out at 7:00pm – the trip was a pleasure this year.

Behind the Rocks-Tip Toe: BLM gave a permit to a vendor run on the same day we had a run, which caused confusion and a pretty long wait to enter the trail by the scheduled run.

Cameo Cliffs: Moab's, John & Carol Martin said the Big Saturday trail went very well with no breaks, perfect day.



Cliffhanger Photo: D McNenny



Cliff Hanger – Photo: J. Cobia

Cliff Hanger: Moab's, Susan Stevens-leader the 1st Saturday. One vehicle broke before the Creek crossing. On the Friday run, one vehicle took out a break-line and he was towed out around 8:30pm.

Deadman's Point: Moab's, Mark Nichols, a new leader, said the Friday trail went well, great group of people and pleasant. Thanks Mark, hope you're up for it again in 2019.

Deadman Springs: Bill & Christine Dean, Olathe, CO, stepped in at the last minute to lead this trail for the first time, then went out with local members the 1st weekend of EJS to learn the trail

Fins & Things: Moab's, Doug & Carma McElhaney, had some vendors ahead of them on the trail doing a photo shoot at Kenny's Climb, which slowed the trail down. A 1st timer from California told them that she was worried about coming alone to Moab but knew when she got here she would be fine because she was with the RR4W. There were 4 breakdowns, including the Tailgunner.

Flat Iron Mesa: Moab's, Bob Kraft, gunner on Big Saturday. There were 30 vehicles with 2 no shows, most with Colorado & Utah plates. They left Zions Bank at 9:00am sharp. A fourth of the way into the trail, one vehicle lost a transfer case, the occupants piled into another vehicle and continued. The Intimidator obstacle can't be used anymore, Don Cravens, trail leader, deemed it unsafe as it had crumbled off. The trail went back out towards the Tilt-a-whirl and amid all this they lost 3 vehicles (but luckily later found them). Note: the 1st Sunday the Intimidator was fine.

Gold Bar Rim: Moab's, Mark Nichols, gunner 1st Sunday trip. They had a great time; the waterfall was sticky! (a waterfall is a tall, rough slickrock obstacle, if your tires don't grab, you don't go up-but you could go

sideways & roll over.) There were 20-30 vehicles waiting until one group could photo their vehicle alone on the trail. It was a real challenge – there was anarchy! Half the vehicles didn't have CB radios-big problem.

Golden Spike: RR4W Vice President, Richard Mick reported on Big Saturday. The main breakdown required a welding job which was done in a circle, ultimately weakening the entire part and it sounded like a gun going off when it exploded.

Hellroaring Rim: Rich & Marilyn Weigand, Goodland, KS, had 29 vehicles and only 10 radios on Big Saturday. They started breaking down & it went on & on & on. "The trail was so slow if anyone sped up they were backing up." Out at 6:30pm.



Hell's Revenge - Tip Over Challenge - B Keniston

Hell's Revenge: Leader, Dieter Thoeny, Liechtenstein, Europe, reported on the Thursday trail, at the lunch stop a silver Lexus swung in and had lunch with them. Mark Gonske, Castle Rock, CO, Big Saturday leader, reported only 2 groups passed them all day. Doug McElhaney had no problems this year. (Historically Hell's Revenge can be a nightmare with ATV's, bikers, 4X4's everywhere when we run this trail.)

Hey Joe Canyon: Moab's, Marcus Heimgartner, trail gunner, said the tamarisk tree trimming the Tread Lightly crew did for their annual trail preservation project during Safari was good, but there was more trimming to be done.

Hotel Rock: Skip & Jan Herzog, W Jordan, UT- everything was great.

Jax Trax: Bill & Christine Dean, Big Saturday leaders reported there was only one vehicle without a CB – amazing! A child was injured at the Hook & Ladder area where kids were running wild, playing, and one little boy was playing on the big rocks and fell. One of the gunners, Dr. Joel Percival, said he needed stitches. The mother said they knew hospitals very well and took the boy to town. One jeep had electrical issues and other than that it was a wonderful run.

Kane Creek Canyon: Moab's, Eric Swafford, leading for his dad, Dave Swafford, who is recovering from cancer, reported on Big Saturday. He said it went well after he told one guy he was staying at the trail head because of his lack of equipment. The guy crawled in with friends. (Last year the trail didn't get out until after 10:00pm because of someone without the proper equipment. The easy line on the last waterfall is now the hard line.

Metal Masher: Moab's, Marlene Parson, Big Saturday trail leader with



Mirror Gulch-Metal Masher Photo: Dee McNenny

husband DeVon, said there were no real problems.

Moab Rim: Dave Christensen, Illinois, reported on Tuesdays run. The first jeep layover was the tail gunner's son, the gunner left to get him off the trail then came back to finish the day. The 2nd layover was on the Z turn, it was then that the driver admitted he didn't have a front locker and he didn't wait for a spotter. The 3rd layover was at the Wedgie and again, he didn't wait for a spotter.

Poison Spider-Where Eagles Dare: Bill & Christine Dean reported the new gunner, Chris Patrick, was excellent. A clutch master cylinder failed at the waterfall.

Poison Spider Mesa: Moab's, Jeramey & Mary McElhaney led 28 vehicles on Big Saturday, which helped him get on the trail and out early.

Porcupine Rim: Moab's, Tom & Ella Rae Edwards, led Big Saturday, saying it was a nicer trail this year, everyone was happy.



Pritchett-Photo: D McNenny



Pritchett Canyon:

Moab's, KL & Erin Young led 17 out of 19 registered on Big Saturday. One had 35" tires and they only had to strap him twice. There were two buggies. Called the Sheriff at 5:00pm when they got off the trail. World's greatest gunners. Had 2 vehicles under a 100" wheel base.

Pritchett-Photo: D McNenny

Rose Garden Hill: Moab's Rick Wolcott, reported for Rose Garden on Big Saturday. One of the gunner's starter went out in the middle of the hill (a very long, rough hill), and one vehicle bounced up the hill, losing a brake, motor mount & oil filter.

Secret Spire: Larry Higginson, Murray, UT, reported it was great entering the Spire backwards instead of from the front. There were a lot of chatty people on the CB, so the trail leader took command and talked all day-it worked out great and the participants learned a lot.

Sevenmile Rim: Moab's, Rick Wolcott, they had two problems that slowed them down, but, they were out between 5:30-6:00pm.

Top of the World: Moab's, Gene Day, led 19 out of 25 registered on Big Saturday. Two gunners showed up, but three were missing. The



Big Sat Parade- D McNenny

trail made it to the overlook easily. One Dana broke, an XJ lost steering – got everyone out due to two very experienced gunners!

Wipe-Out Hill: Moab's, Carole Hahn, was a participant on Big Saturday. There were Pirates! (the Gunner crew does a different theme every year) And at the lunch stop, games for everyone. The trail also got a treat, as they watched a parasailer take off from Determination Towers. Very good spotters. And everyone got candy at the end.

Benefit Run Fins & Things: Susan Stevens, leader. The Benefit Run raised \$960 this year, which will be matched by the Club for the Susan G Komen Foundation for the Cure. Volunteers wrangled up hot dogs for lunch for everyone.

Sophomore Package: Moab's, Rick Wolcott, leader – went well on all three trails of the package.

Behind the Rocks Tip Toe – Skills Day: A Skills day to teach vehicle recovery, and other points needed to be a prepared, aware 4-wheeler. People loved it and want to see it done twice in 2019. Thank you, Nena Barlow and helpers.



The Red Rock 4-Wheelers recently donated \$6,000 to the Grand County High School girls' softball team. The team, coaches and parents were enlisted to perform parking lot duties at last week's Easter Jeep Safari Vendor Expo. Coach Brook Shumway said he was pleased to receive the donation, which will be used to add new equipment and uniforms.



Winners of the JL Jeep Rubicon for 2018, Doug & Christine Erickson from Nebraska receive the keys from Club President, Mike Kelso. The Erickson's donated \$235 to the MUD Fund, receiving 47 tickets, one of which was the lucky number. The Erickson's have been attending Easter Jeep Safari since 2014 and joined the Club in 2015. Thanks to everyone who donated to the MUD Fund – it will help keep our trails open for our grandchildren and beyond.

