



# 4XNEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDIANA FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION

[IFWDA.ORG](http://IFWDA.ORG)



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## Past to Present

See if you can match everyone up  
Old photos here, new photos on back page

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2.



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8.



9.



10.



11.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 01, 2010  
Hangover Run  
Redbird SRA  
Dugger, IN

January 30, 2010  
Ground Hog Day Run  
Haspin Acres  
Laurel, IN

February 28, 2010  
Quarterly Meeting  
Park Inn  
Linton, IN

May 29-31, 2010  
Memorial Day Night  
Ride & Camp-out  
Redbird SRA  
Dugger, IN

January 23, 2010  
Board Meeting  
Arby's  
Ellettsville, IN

February 26-28, 2010  
IFWDA Convention  
Park Inn  
Linton, IN

April 17-18, 2010  
Night Ride &  
Camp-out  
Redbird SRA  
Dugger, IN

August 13-15, 2010  
The Ranch Ride  
French Lick, IN



## Wheelin' for Children 4-A Toys for Tots Event

by Rich Reisz

Simply put, Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> arrived this year as one of the nicest days we saw this fall. The temperature was mild, the wind was fairly calm, and the sun was shining bright. A person just couldn't have asked for a more perfect day to enjoy the outdoors. This was the day that we held our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Wheelin for Children Toys for Tots drive. As always, this event was co-hosted by Lincoln Country Trail Riders; a local ATV club, and Boonie Riders 4x4 Club; a local 4x4 club made up of all makes of 4x4's. This year, we also welcomed Friends of Interlake (FOIL) and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to the list of organizers.

As this was our 4<sup>th</sup> year holding the event, one might expect that the numbers would only increase with each year. Numerous factors have contributed to keeping that expectation from becoming reality. For instance, the first two years the event was held, Toys for Tots was the ONLY opportunity to come out and enjoy Interlake. Just over two months prior to the 2008 event, Interlake was reopened unconditionally 365 days a year. That unlimited access has affected our event to some degree. This year, there were some minor technicalities that had to be settled before we could advertise for the event, which led to a very short time span between official announcement, and the day itself. Why am I telling you all of this? Despite all these issues pulling away from the potential success of Wheelin for Children 4, it was still a success. I don't want to drag a bunch of numbers into this, but I will give you some of my "seat of the pants" observations.

Although it seemed like there were fewer people on the property than years prior, it was still better than my personal expectations considering the circumstances. I saw a lot of familiar rigs that I remembered from the past three years, as well as a lot of new faces. I am also proud to say that I saw a lot of participation from IFWDA members. I don't have a list of who, or from what clubs, but if you were there, thanks for spending the day with us. We really appreciated the support, and hope to be able to give some back!

One thing that was a pretty big change this year was that the registration was much more streamlined. It required less workers, which in turn freed up more of us to participate in the event in other ways. One of these ways was to provide guided rides. This was something I had a great time taking my group of well-seasoned wheelers out for a short jaunt through the woods. It was a fairly large group, about 15 rigs, but we moved fairly well, thanks in part to Jerry (the middle man) and George (the tail gunner) for alerting me of any hold ups I couldn't see. We ran trail 8 first. This is a short trail on the north west part of the property that when dry, is suitable for most stock rigs, with not too much wheelbase, and a good driver. It consists of a short rocky hill climb, followed by a flat muddy (ugh!) path into the woods. From there, it gets a little tighter. The trail snakes its way over a few spoil banks, through some minor off camber climbs, and finally exits back on the flat via what I like to call the Interlake Escalator. Many in our group found themselves wishing for more wheel speed than the 4:1 gearing they had selected would provide. At least two had to pull cable after becoming wedged between two hills with no where to go to get another run. After finishing trail 8, we headed to trail 5. It is pretty similar to 8, but a little longer. The group had few problems with this trail. Everyone was getting hungry at this point. After finishing trail 5, we broke the group, as it was time for lunch, and also time for the obstacle course.

I am happy to say that the ATV group had a pretty good showing for their obstacle course. We could have done better with improved planning, a little more time to put some ideas together, and better advertising. We had set up a blind-folded driving challenge. While

we garnered few onlookers, and no outside participation, we certainly entertained ourselves for the two hours we had it set up. All who put on the blindfold agreed that it was a lot of fun.

Later in the afternoon, we mounted up again for some more riding. This time, we headed to trail 19, one of the most recently re-opened trails, and also one of the easier ones to be had. While performing a repair to one of the vehicles in our group, we met up with Brian Rowda, of 4WTF. One of his fellow club members was heading home, but Brian elected to stay a little longer. We headed back north, and ended up running trails 15 and 16. Trail 15 is basically an access route from the grasslands area of the property into the heavily wooded section of the north. It is from there that we decided to run trail 16. This is one of the harder trails. Not the hardest, but definitely challenging and enjoyable. Brian's YJ, my XJ, and Bill's SFA Sidekick all made it through with little or no trouble. Daniel drove his stocker YJ, Barbie put 15 onto the Black Road and waited for us at the end of our trail. I know it is cliché, but I must say, that a good time was had by all. Unfortunately, I did not get any pictures that day. I do, however, have some from recent trips on some of the same trails that tell the same story.

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## FatBoys Jeepers 4xOffroad Extravaganza

by Kelly Stewart

Fat Boys Jeepers held their Christmas party/ 4xOffroad Extravaganza drawing on November 21st. Despite the current economic conditions that we are all facing, we had a very successful raffle with all of the proceeds (nearly \$2,100) going to charities that will help children throughout the state.

The winners are as follows: **Warn XD9000:** Keith Moore, **Valley Deluxe Hitch Mounted Basket Cargo Carrier:** Andrew Hoople, **Hi-Lift Handle-All:** Bob Bennett, **Hi-Lift Off-Road Winch Kit:** Bill Sokol, **Daystar Offroad Lights:** Dale Clark, **Hi-Lift 1"- 2" Tube Mount:** John Sorensen, **Hi-Lift 2"- 3" Tube Mount:** Daniel Weisman, **Hi-Lift Neoprene Jack Cover:** John Blow, **Daystar Winch Isolator:** Roger Alexander, **Hi-Lift Neoprene Jack Cover:** Jeff Wheatcraft, **Daystar Winch Isolator:** Patrick Buckner.

The results of all those who gave a little will help to make the Christmas season a little brighter for some of those that might not have had as much to celebrate this year. We greatly appreciate everyone's support. A big "THANK YOU" to everyone that bought and sold tickets.



## Toys 4 Tots Report

by Scott Sperling, Fat Boys Jeepers

On November 14, 2009, three 4x4 clubs based out of eastern Indiana and western Ohio joined talents, forces, resources and a common goal to help host the 3rd Annual Offroad Benefit for Toys for Tots. Fat Boys Jeepers ([www.fatboysjeepers.com](http://www.fatboysjeepers.com)) out of Indiana along with Miami Valley 4 Wheelers ([www.mv4w.com](http://www.mv4w.com)) located in Middletown, Ohio and Muddy Buddys ([www.muddybuddys.net](http://www.muddybuddys.net)), based out of the Dayton-Ohio area descended on Haspin Acres located in Laurel, Indiana. Not enough can be said about the people at Haspin Acres for waiving a portion of the entrance fee for every donated toy received. To me, this is definitely a win-win situation for all involved.

Mother Nature treated the Interlake Toys 4 Tots with great weather the week before and we were blessed with that very same weather. Because of this, the turnout was awesome for our event. No one we spoke with ever remembers a line of trucks and trailers full of wheelers waiting to enter Haspin from mid-morning till noon. That line stretched from Haspin, down the hill, across the bridge to the middle of Laurel all waiting to get in. Even the local sheriff got involved when traffic was backed up out on SR 121. This just helps prove that generous people are willing to travel to have a great time enjoying our sport of wheeling while still donating toys for the less fortunate children to enjoy the happiness of Christmas.

We were very fortunate to have Scout Graphics on board this year designing, printing and shipping out this year's event shirt. Because of the great design and low price, all extra shirts were sold out by early afternoon. All profits from the shirts were earmarked to be donated back to this Toys for Tots event.

For those new to Haspin or to wheeling, each club provided a couple of trailguides with rear gunners for guided trailrides. We offered guided groups for the stock wheelers or for the extremely modified. As we all know, Haspin has it all! While people were checking in at the Toys 4 Tots headquarters, Santa Gus was greeting the kids while Charlie, in his full dress Marine blues was thanking everyone in attendance.

A lunch of hot dogs, brats, and hamburgers was provided along with a cold Coca-Cola product to wash it down. After lunch, everyone went back out on the trails for some additional wheeling until closing ceremonies.

Near the close of the day, we had Toy for Tots Chairman, Frank Gross, from the Richmond Marine Corp. League address the crowd. He told everyone that just in our area alone, over 1600 families were served last year with more families needing help this year. Our event is essential to help fulfill those needs and he greatly appreciates what our three clubs have donated over the years.

Anyone is invited to come help out and see first hand what they do on December 21 with our toys. Kelly Stewart and I went last year the night before the big toy give-a-way. There was one family camping out in the frigid weather that Friday night to be the first inside. This tells you how great the need is.

We would like to thank the generous donations from the following individuals, clubs and businesses that helped us make this day special.

Event Host- Pete and Flo at Haspin Acres, Laurel, Indiana

The Marine Corps League, Whitewater Valley Detachment  
Richmond, Indiana

Food- Kroger of Sugarcreek, Ohio and Kroger of Connersville,  
Indiana

Drinks- Coca Cola

Assorted desserts- Various club members

Collection boxes- Hoosier Container, Richmond, Indiana

Tables- Village of Farmersville, Ohio, Noah's Arc/ More Offroad,

Dayton, Ohio

Ticket Roller- Greg's Car Tech, Farmersville, Ohio

Food Preparation- Jeff and Pam Esterline, Red Wagon

Concessions, Springfield, Ohio

Door Prizes- Runck Bumpers, 4WD Hardware, Hi-Lift Jack,

Marine Corps League Auxiliary, The Military Lady, Mousie's/

Mousie's Pizza, Connersville, Indiana

We are very pleased to say that a total of 580 toys of all sizes, colors, and kinds along with over \$1400.00 was collected and turned over to the Marine Corp League of Richmond, Indiana. It was a great feeling knowing that we doubled our toy and cash donations from last year. This will in turn help brighten the Christmas for children in both eastern Indiana and western Ohio. We are very happy to be a large part of this event, and that our members and friends are willing to travel far and near to support it. What better way to help get everyone into the spirit of the season of giving.

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## Toys for Tots Recap at Attica

by Brian Rowda, 4WTF

What do you get when have great weather, generous people, bar-be-queue and offroading? You get Toys for Tots at the Badlands for the 8th year.

Without the ice and cold wind, just cold temps, the off-road community comes out to support a great cause and have a good time. The toy count was up this year:

851 toys

300 hot wheels cars

2 bicycles

The hot wheels are not included in the larger total. The Marines will typically put 4 cars in a package to make one gift.

Jim Ault, John Silcox and a few other club members braved the night air to cook two hogs for lunch on Saturday and Jeff Ritter has spent countless hours putting this whole thing together.

Sgt. Ward and seven other marines & navy men worked hard, side-by-side with us collecting the toys and thanking all who came. We served over 350 meals to the guests, who then headed back out on the trails.

The toys will be distributed in Terra Haute the third weekend in December. After lunch it was time for the club members to hit the trails with the Marines. We had a great time wandering around the green trail, castle rock and parts of the orange trail to avoid the mud. We also ran the dunes and Steve Turner who showed us it is all about 100 octane fuel and a lead foot. Some of us worked between 2nd and 3rd gear to chug up the dunes. We didn't have any major issues on the trails, which is good due to the cold weather. After the park closed a TREC race was run and a lot of the spectators were lining up by the office to watch the racers catch big air on the jump. The money raised at the TREC race (\$800.00+) was all donated to T4T. Kyle, Lori and the rest of the crew at the Badlands did a great job in hosting the event. Next time you are in there, please thank them for hosting our T4T event.

We all have to think back to our younger years and what it meant to receive a toy at Christmas and this helps us all understand how important this cause is. Hats off to all who came to donate or work the event. I attended the event at Interlake and went a day late to the event at Haspin and they all were great events. The enthusiasm and excitement generated makes you feel great about our community and how we pull together for a great cause put on by the United States Marine Corps.

My challenge is to everybody: attend all three T4T events next year and if this doesn't make you feel great, then call yourself SCROOGE.

Happy Holidays.

## Redbird Newsletter

Welcome to the November edition of the newsletter. Be sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend night ride and camp out. It starts at 9am Friday, the 27th and ends at 7pm Sunday, the 29th. This is the last night ride of the year, so be sure to come out and work off all that turkey you just had by riding the trails.

We just received word from the DNR that Redbird will be open all year long now. With that comes new days of operation for the winter months. Starting Saturday, December 5th, Redbird will only be open on Saturdays and Sundays till spring. However they will open other days for groups of ten or more riders. Please contact the DNR park staff or a foundation member to set those days up. The DNR has also completed the viewing platform at the rock garden, and it looks very nice. They are also moving the advertising billboard from the parking lot, back near the rock garden, too. We still have space for more signs, so if anyone knows a group or business that would want to advertise with us, please let a Foundation member know.

A few clubs have been out working on their adopted trails, and we had two more groups join the adopt a trail program. Trail Riders of America and Discover Indiana Riding Trails have both taken over maintenance of a couple of trails, be sure to look for their signs. As for trail work, the Redbird Foundation is in the process of having more bulldozer work done on some problem areas. The DNR is supervising this process and the Redbird Foundation is paying the bill. This type of project is where your money goes when you buy shirts and stickers or purchase night ride packages or donate to the Foundation.

Four Wheels to Freedom is hosting the second annual New Years Day run and chili-cook off again this year. Please contact them on how your club or group can be a part of this fun event. So plan on getting out for some good food and good friends on the first. Watch for more info in upcoming newsletters, or on the website.

The Foundation still has shirts and stickers for sale and we are at the gatehouse on limited days. We are still willing to do guided trail rides if anyone is interested, please contact a Foundation member for more info, you can reach us through the contact section of the website at [www.redbirdsra.com](http://www.redbirdsra.com)

That's about all I have for now, I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving, and as I always say, I hope to see you on the trails!!!!!!!

## Redbird SRA Open Year Round

Good news! As of the first of December, Redbird will be open with limited days and hours of operation for the winter season.

**Saturdays and Sundays only, 9am to 5pm.**

Keep an eye on their website for schedule changes again in the spring. The DNR will also open the park for groups of 10 or more, or a \$100.00 minimum fee. For more information, contact a board member at [www.redbirdsra.com](http://www.redbirdsra.com).



## Vice President Report

by Scott Sperling

I would like to thank all the club delegates, club members, individual members and guests that attended the November IFWDA quarterly meeting at Haspin Acres. It was glad to see all of you attend the FBJ Toys 4 Tots event on Saturday and spend the night to make it to the quarterly meeting Sunday. With former UFWDA Treasurer Paul Hittie and GLFWDA Bob (Jarhead) DeVore in attendance, hopefully better representation, membership and communication between IFWDA and UFWDA can be achieved this next year.

In the beginning of this year, Leonard and I discussed the idea that it would be nice to recognize those IFWDA clubs, or an individual, that are active in our sport and their community while helping promote Indiana Four Wheel Drive Association. Therefore, we presented to the membership the criteria for the "2009 IFWDA Club Activity Award" throughout the year. Although we had no idea if this would be accepted from the IFWDA membership, we had two clubs step up to the challenge, 4WTF and SWAK. I am pleased to announce that 4WTF is this year's IFWDA Club Activity Award winner. A formal recognition and plaque presentation will be at the 2010 IFWDA convention. GREAT JOB!

In closing, I would like to challenge more clubs to step up and be heard. No matter how small or how large your club may be, please let the IFWDA membership know what you have been doing for your members, your community and your state association. Submit your event articles to the IFWDA newsletter editor or your local newspaper. If everyone chips in here and there, it just might help all of us, one by one, to be accepted by those trying to keep us locked out of our public lands that we deserve to be on.

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## T-Day Wheeling and Camping at Redbird

by Jerry Ellis

Cold temps didn't keep the intrepid few from having a good time at the Redbird Thanksgiving Weekend Night Ride and Camp Out. Not often does Redbird offer on-site camping or night rides and both can be a lot of fun. The sunny weather Saturday was a pleasant alternative to all the recent rain and made for great wheelin'. Recommended for the night rides are lots of lights on the vehicles and heavy sleeping bags to stave off the cold for camping. The finale to Saturday's wheelin' was a meal of ham & beans with a compliment of cornbread shared with friends around the camp fire. Certainly if you have the chance to attend this event in the future you should, as this writer is sure you'll have a great time.



# 7th ANNUAL

Fat Boys Jeepers

**GROUNDHOG**

**DAY RUN**

**JANUARY 30, 2010**



**HASPIN ACRES - LAUREL, INDIANA**

**The Groundhog Run starts at 9AM**

**LUNCH PROVIDED COURTESY OF FAT BOYS JEEPERS**

For more information on our organization or for further event details please visit:

**FATBOYSJEEPERS.COM**

Please RSVP: [max.jeep@comcast.net](mailto:max.jeep@comcast.net)

[cssjeep@comcast.net](mailto:cssjeep@comcast.net)

or call 765.960.5857



**ENTRANCE FEES INTO HASPIN ACRES ARE AT YOUR EXPENSE.**

Haspin Acres Rules and Hours apply. Fat Boys Jeepers are not responsible for any accidents, injuries or thefts.

Presented by:

Monroe County 4X4 Club



2010 Annual IFWDA  
Convention Feb. 26-28

Hosted by: Monroe  
County 4x4 Club Inc.



Monroecountv4x4club.net

### Lodging

The Park Inn- State Road 54 East, Linton, In 47441 812-847-8631  
Must make your own lodging reservations- Rooms \$46 for 1, \$52.43 for 2

### Convention Dinner

\$20 per Adult \$10 per Child (6 to 13yrs, 5 & under is free) if registered by Feb. 1st  
Late registration until Feb. 8th, if late add \$5 more per person for dinner.

### Registration

Friday Feb. 26, 5PM-11PM Saturday Feb. 27 7AM--8AM  
Inquire at front desk for location.

### Events

Saturday Feb. 27th. 8:30 AM- Leave for Redbird SRA  
Saturday Feb. 27th. 9:30 AM- Meet at Tank across street from Inn for Road Rally.  
Saturday 7PM-Midnight, Convention Dinner - Place to be announced at registration.  
Sunday Feb 28th, 10AM- BOD meeting 12 Noon - General Meeting. Same place as Friday registration.

Make checks Payable to Monroe County 4x4 Club INC, By Feb. 1st.  
Mail to : Steve French R.R. 1 Box 2 Solsberry Indiana 47459  
Any questions Call: Steve French (812)825-1365



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

# of ADULTS@ \$20.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_ # of CHILDREN @ \$10.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_

# Recipe Section

## Stuffed Tomatoes

by Carter Button

I know, the tomato is a fruit...but hey, who cares.

### Ingredients:

- 4 oz seasoned croutons
- 4 oz White Cheddar Cheese
- 1 lb mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 lb smoked gouda
- 1/4 lb havarti
- 1/4 lb baby swiss
- 1/4 lb pepper jack
- 1 tub herb flavored cream cheese
- 12 big roma tomatoes
- 1 cup parm/romano grated cheese
- 1 minced onion
- 2 minced bell peppers (anything but green)
- 2 minced garlic cloves
- 1 pint half & half or heavy cream
- 1 stick butter
- 1 t cayenne pepper

### Cooking Instructions:

Saute minced onions, minced garlic, minced peppers until soft, set aside. Smash croutons and white cheddar crackers until they are very small pieces (I do this in a hand towel to keep down the mess) and set aside. Dice, shred, or cut up all the cheeses to very small pieces. Put them into a microwave bowl (except for parm/romano) and melt but do not boil them. Stir every 2 min until liquid. Once liquid, add cream, veggies, crumb mixture, spices and set aside (add enough liquid cream to reach a loose putty consistency). Next, slice off just enough bottom to make the tomato stand up, next top it like a pumpkin and scoop out the inside. Fill them with the hot liquid cheese, dust the top with parm/romano and broil them until brown and bubbling. Be careful not to burn as it won't take long.

### Serving Suggestions:

I serve these with any kind of fish or baked chicken.

### Additional Comments:

If you boil the cheeses it will make the mixture grainy in consistency. Just heat the cheeses to their melting point and they will be perfect. Any kind of cheeses can be made to work with this dish. I added a meat to this mixture and it works well but you have to be careful not to overpower the taste of the cheeses. Also when cooking try using a muffin pan to hold them, it is a lot easier than trying to do it on a baking sheet. Prep time is faster if you use pre-shredded cheeses. I like block cheeses better.

\*\*\* You can leave out the tomatoes, add more cream and make an awesome soup with this recipe. Mmmmm!



Not really photos of food.

## Harlan, Kentucky-October 09

by Dominick Forsdick, Monroe County 4x4

Members of Southern Indiana 4x4 Club and Monroe County 4x4 Club went into the depths of Harlan Kentucky for a first hand look at all the offroad hype in that area. It was awesome, and well worth the trip. As in most trips we take, we had our share of damage, issues, and weather. With two days of rain the trails and our wheeling possibilities were kicked up a notch. We were lucky enough to find some locals who showed us around. For two days, they showed us some great scenery and awesome trails, many we may have never found on our own. Our trail guide "Chris" who looked and talked just like Larry the cable guy was great. So you can just imagine our stomachs after two days of craziness. It was the fall crawl. So the amount and type of rigs were cool to check out. This place has it all. It's set up for all types of rigs and experience. Somehow, Southern Indiana 4x4 found a hotel that had rooms that were all tile. Yes, tile floors, walls, and ceilings. Not real sure why. We were really nice to all the locals. In closing I just wanted to thank Southern Indiana 4x4 club for another great ride and memories that will last forever. Thanks guys !!



## Quarterly Meeting - Sunday, November 15, 2009

Dee Bubel, IFWDA Secretary

President Leonard Hunter called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken. Club delegates in attendance were: 4WTF-2, Boonie Riders-1, FBJ-2, Monroe County 4x4-2, On the Trail-1, Ruffriders-2, Southern Indiana 4x4-2, and SWAK-2. A quorum was established.

Board members in attendance were: Leonard Hunter, Scott Sperling, Sandy Dryden, Dee Bubel, Rich Reisz, Patti Guptill, Gus and Millie Kisse, and Emma Dryden.

Minutes were approved as submitted in the previous issue of 4xNews.

### President's Report

Leonard thanked everyone for attending the meeting and Haspin Acres for hosting our meeting site. Leonard introduced our guests; Bob Devore, President-Great Lakes Four Wheel Drive Assn, and Paul Hittie, Past Treasurer-UFWDA.

### Vice President's Report

Voting for the Club Activity Award during New Business.

### Secretary's Report

If you or any of your paid club members are not receiving their newsletter or have a change of address, please let me know.

### Treasurer's Report

Sandy distributed the current financial statements. Concerning the remaining funds in our Donation Fund, it was voted on to split three ways and let the hosting clubs for the Toys for Tots events donate to areas food banks or wherever there is a need in those communities. Each host club will receive a check for \$252.29. Motion was made and carried to approve financials as submitted.

### Membership Director's Report

2010 membership dues are payable and due at the 2010 Annual Convention. Sandy is still trying to collect dues from The Ranch Ride attendees who hadn't paid 2009 dues. A new club was present and asked to be considered for membership into IFWDA. Damaged Off-road'rz officers Chris Smith and Jon Dawes presented their bylaws and membership roster. Voting to include them in IFWDA will take place at the Quarterly Meeting in February.

### Special Events Director

Leonard is waiting to hear from new management at the Ranch about our contract for the August ride. He would like to get a committee together to discuss better trail guide organization.

### Environmental Affairs Director's Report

Rich reported on the closing of Tellico and Moab being under pressure from the environmentalists. Brian Rowda announced that IDNR is willing to expand the rock garden at Redbird.

### Raffle Coordinator's Report

On sale until the convention. This year's prizes are:

1st Prize: Four Pro Comp Tires up to 35" or A Warn 9.5 TI Winch. Provided by 4WPPC

2nd Prize: Any Single Smittybuilt Product up to \$500. Provided by 4WPPC

3rd Prize: Hi-Lift Handle All or Xtreme Jack. Provided by Hi-Lift Jack Company

### Public Relations Coordinator's Report

Gus and Millie reported that the Midnight Madness sale at 4WPPC raised over \$2700 for cancer research. They thanked MoJo members for their help at the grill. We will have a round table discussion at the convention about Indy Jamboree. The Hoosier Outdoor Experience drew a huge crowd and in 2010 it will be held the same weekend as the jamboree. For what we get

out of the jamboree, we may just provide bag stuffers and provide help for the Hoosier Experience event. Leonard would like to see a committee come together to work on the details.

### United Delegates Report

Patti introduced our guests to speak to us about UFWDA.

Bob Devore reminded us that UFWDA is the only organization fighting for our (ORV) access to public lands. The BLM is still trying to restrict accessibility to these lands. He also made a plea to bring our full membership roster back to UFWDA.

Paul Hittie mentioned that at GLFWDA, membership with UFWDA is a requirement. UFWDA Dues are now only \$15 if joining thru IFWDA. He also stated that with JPFreek's sponsorship, The Voice is now offered digitally thru a link in their email newsletter. UFWDA's Annual General Meeting will be June 15-16 in Traverse City, MI.

### Safety Awareness Coordinator's Report

No report given.

### Newsletter Editor's Report

If you have anything of interest, a tech article, a favorite trail recipe, or something your club is doing, please send to Emma. She is also having a Past to Present photo contest with voting to take place at the convention. If you know of someone who might be interested in advertising in our newsletter, please let a board member know. We need to sell ad space to pay for our publication!

### Website Coordinator's Report

No report given.

### Delegate's Report

- 4WTF is hosting a Toys for Tots ride at The Badlands on December 5th.
- 4WTF is also hosting a New Years trail ride and chili cook-off at Redbird on January 1st.
- FBJ is hosting a Groundhog's Day Ride at Haspin Acres on January 30th.

### Old Business

- See articles in this issue for all Toys for Tots events

### New Business

- The following members were nominated and voted into office for the 2010-2012 term.  
Vice President-Patti Steman, Treasurer-Sandy Dryden, Special Events-Annette Wheatcraft and Max Soliday, Raffle Coordinator-Jon Dawes, Membership Director-Jeff Hughes, Website Coordinator-Chris Smith, UFWDA Delegates-Patti Steman and Gus Kisse. Please make a point to thank them for donating their time and effort to IFWDA. Welcome all!
- At the same time, it was voted on to eliminate the office of Safety Awareness Coordinator within IFWDA. With the lack of interest, we will contact the UFWDA Safety Awareness person if we need anything.
- Megan Hunter announced that Monroe County 4x4 is hosting the 2010 IFWDA Convention. Tentative plans are being made with the Park Inn Motel in Linton with trail riding at Redbird and a local area road rally.
- Two clubs were nominated for the 2009 Club Activity Award. Brian Rowda nominated his club, 4WTF and read his submission. Emma Dryden nominated her club, SWAK and read her submission. After the votes were tallied, 4WTF was announced as the winner! Scott will present them with a plaque at the convention Quarterly Meeting.

### Next Meeting

**Date:** February 28, 2010

**Time:** 10:00am (BOD mtg @ 8:30am)

**Place:** TBA at convention registration

## Support Your Sport!!!

by George & Nancy Thomas

As 2009 comes to an end and 2010 is about to begin I would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy Holiday Season. I would like to thank you for all your contributions this year; supporting local OHV Parks in the area, and even some in other states. I want to ask you for your continued support and please try to get some of your friends involved in safe, responsible wheeling. If they are not a member of a club or IFWDA please encourage them to join. Our sport needs members now more than ever.

This past year I have seen a lot of money raised for several great causes. Lots of them for children. This is great because children are the future of our sport if it is to have a future. Great things were done for 4xKids Day. At Midnight Madness at Four Wheel Parts Performance Center money was raised to fight cancer, Several Toys for Tots events were held to help less fortunate children have a happy Christmas. One they may not have had otherwise. I want to thank all of you who helped make this happen.

Now I want you to take a good look at your sport. In a way we are pretty lucky to be in a state like Indiana. Our federal luck is not very good. We haven't had much success with Hoosier National Forest since the late 60's and early 70's when they started shutting us out. Matters such as this are what led to IFWDA and UFWDA being formed in the first place. It also led to fighting to keep OHV trails open for 3-4 decades. Lots of things have happened during that time. Luckily for Indiana, the DNR stepped up and partnered with us to help promote our sport and other motorized users. They have provided us with a couple of really neat places to wheel. Redbird and Interlake. Both of these are still growing and making changes all the time. But the bottom line is they are there for us and need our support to survive. They need us to come out and enjoy the facilities. They encourage us to communicate with them about our wants and needs. They also encourage us to write them letters that get things done at both state and federal levels. Without our support, nothing happens. As with most government involvement, the process is slow and moves at a snails pace, so at times you don't know if you are winning or losing. That is why it is so important to get involved and stay involved.

We also have some OHV parks that are privately owned, like The Badlands and Haspin Acres. Without our support these places and others like them can't stay open. There are several smaller places too numerous to name that also need our support. Remember when you go to these places to *Tread Lightly* and wheel responsibly. If you see things that look discouraging ask if there is anything we can do to help. Try to organize a clean up, or help with some trail maintenance before it is too late. Nothing is worse than a discouraged owner, because this may cause them to sell out perhaps to someone who will not support our sport and we might lose a nice spot to enjoy our sport. Therefore we must be responsible wheelers.

As most of you know I was IFWDA President in 2007-2008. A position I was both grateful and honored to hold. It was a privilege I won't forget. It brought IFWDA some good and not so good things. One of the good things was that membership dues were raised to \$10 through a club, or \$15 for an individual member. This led to several new members. However, it also caused us to lose some members which was unfortunate, but not exclusively because of the dues increase. Sometimes people sell their vehicles or decide to get involved in other things.

Unfortunately, at the same time, UFWDA decided to increase their dues as well. From, I believe, \$10 per IFWDA member to \$25 per member. So at the time, IFWDA, along with several other state associations, decided to call it quits on 100% participation and

it was up to individual members to decide if they wanted to stay with UFWDA or, as some did, step back and see what happens because the way it was going, many thought UFWDA would cease to exist.

I want to thank all who stayed with UFWDA the last few years for their efforts either through clubs or IFWDA. The past few years have been rough for OHV users. Telico has been permanently closed and several areas out west are under attack. They are coming up with new ways all the time to try to close them. One of the latest tactics is that they want tax dollars, that were voluntary and voted into law to go for trails to be maintained, to be changed to be used for enforcement. Not that enforcement is a bad thing, unless you look at the big picture; use the money for enforcement, then you don't have money to keep the trails maintained so you close them down and use enforcement to insure nobody is using them. I don't believe this is what we want or need, do you?

At the last quarterly meeting we had at Haspin Acres we had a few guys from Great Lakes Association who were past members of UFWDA's BOD. It seems UFWDA has recognized it's mistakes and is willing to offer 100% association memberships at \$15.00 per member. I would like for you to please reconsider doing this and take IFWDA back to 100% membership in UFWDA. When you really stop and think about it, other groups like Blue Ribbon Coalition, Tread Lightly and others are good to be members of, but UFWDA is the organization that has years of experience fighting for us; the full-size motorized user group. Now ask yourself if you really want to head into the future of our sport without UFWDA? I sure don't. So I am asking you to please join a club, join IFWDA, join United. Please do it now before it's too late. I don't want to step on any toes here, I'm just voicing my opinion and asking a group that can raise big bucks for several charities to stand up and be counted to support our sport, and protect it for future generations. Ask your friends with 4X4's to do the same.

Have a safe and happy holiday season and we hope to see you on the trails real soon.



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## Letter From the Editor

by Emma Dryden

Well this has been an interesting year. We are coming to the end of a decade, so I thought it would be fun to see how some people and their trail rigs have changed. Thanks to all that sent in photos and to those who posted their photos on different websites. Yes, I borrowed a few. So if you think you can match old to new and figure out who the people are, send me an email. I'll let you know how you did. Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a great New Year. There are a couple of events coming up so remember to take pictures and send me an article. Did Santa bring you what you wanted for your trail rig? Tech articles are also great, write one while you put your new gear on. Basically, anything you want to write about (well almost anything), send it in and we will get it in the newsletter. Let everyone know what you or your club has been up to and what trails you have been on.

**Past to Present**  
See if you can match everyone up

A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



G.



H.



I.



J.



K.



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## IFWDA MEMBER CLUBS

### **4 Wheels To Freedom**

PO Box 342  
Shelbyville, IN 46176

### **4XFools Offroad Club**

1402 Adams Street  
Urbana, IL 61802

### **Boonie Riders 4WD Club**

7374 E CR 700 N  
Grandview, IN 47615

### **Fat Boys Jeepers**

6142 Franklin Road  
Hagerstown, IN 47346

### **Iron Horse 4x4s**

PO Box 1685  
Calumet City, IL 60409

### **J. P. Frog Off-Roaders**

6840 Norena Court  
Brownsburg, IN 46112

### **MOJO Offroad Club**

3074 Old SR 37  
Greenwood, IN 46143

### **Monroe County 4x4 Club**

8712 N Mt Pleasant Road  
Gosport, IN 47433

### **On the Trail 4WD**

PO Box 632  
Oakland, IL 61943

### **Odd Squad**

1760 N 5th Street  
Charleston, IL 61920

### **Ruffriders**

PO Box 83  
Goshen, IN 46526

### **SWAK- Safe Wheelers of All Kinds**

44 McKinley Boulevard  
Terre Haute, IN 47803

### **Southern Indiana 4x4 Club**

936 N Elm Street  
Seymour, IN 47274

### **Trail Junkies 4 Wheel Drive Club**

1204 S 14th Street  
Mattoon, IL 61938

## Did you know?

The elections were in November we have new board members for 2010:

Vice President - Patti Steman

Website Coordinator - Christopher Smith

Raffel Chairman - Jon Dawes

Special Events - Annette Wheatcraft and Max Soliday

Membership - Jeff Hughes

**IFWDA.ORG**



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