



# Two Rivers Tracker

A publication of the Two Rivers Jeep Club, Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 13 Issue 1

February 2010

## News 2 Use

### March/April/May Events

**March 13 and 27:** Trail Builders! Breakfast at the VFW will start at about 7 AM and the trails will leave at 9 AM. If you've never been on one of these, please show up. More fun than work typically occurs. This is also a great way for new members to become acquainted with the club. Check the web site for trails to be run and any last minute updates.



**April 10:** A trail *ride*, not a builder! It will be preceded by a Board meeting at 7:30 AM. At 9 AM we'll have several trails that will leave from the VFW. As usual, there will be breakfast available. There should be a range of trails from easy ones to more difficult so this will have something for everyone, new and old. At 6 PM we'll have our annual catered Member Appreciation dinner. Please RSVP to the club phone or Jeff Sorensen (email or phone) to ensure the correct amount of food is ordered. To save on costs, no postcard reminder notices will be sent out. Please check the web site for trails to be run and any last minute updates.

**April 24 and May 1:** Our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Trail Builders of the season. Spring will have sprung and it will be a perfect time to get out of the house and go wheeling. May 1 there will also be a Board meeting at 7:30 AM. As usual, all trails start from the VFW at 9 AM preceded with breakfast at 7 AM. May 1 will be the last Trail Builder before the Safari so there may be some last minute clean up that needs to be done. Check the website for the status of the trails.

**May 13-15:** This is our 9<sup>th</sup> annual Illini 4x4 Safari. To save costs, Safari applications (with member discounts applied) and membership directories will be sent out with this newsletter. If there are any questions about the Safari, please contact Lisa Catt, our event coordinator. This is going to be one of our best Safaris yet, so plan on attending. Members get a substantial discount which has already been applied to your enclosed registration form.

# 2010 Event Calendar

Date		TRJC Event	Location	Time
Feb	13	First Trail Builder of the Season (Weather permitting)	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM
	27	Board Meeting #1		7:30 AM
		Trail Builder		8:00 AM
		Kickoff Dinner (catered) & Directory Distribution		6:00 PM
Mar	1	Registration opens for the 9th Illini 4x4 Safari		
	13	Trail Builder	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM
	27	Trail Builder		8:00 AM
April	10	Board Meeting #2	VFW, Pittsfield	7:30 AM
		Member Trail Ride		8:00 AM
		Member Appreciation Dinner (catered)		6:00 PM
	24	Trail Builder		8:00 AM
May	1	Board Meeting #3	VFW, Pittsfield	7:30 AM
		Trail Builder		8:00 AM
	13	Registration opens for the 4x4 <i>BLAST</i>		
	13-15	9th Annual Illini 4x4 Safari (open to public)	American Legion, Pittsfield	4 PM Thu
Jun	5	Vehicle Recovery Course - <i>On the trail</i>	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM
	19	Board Meeting #4		7:30 AM
		Miller's TNT Farm Father's Day Run & Catered Dinner		8:00 AM
Jul	10	4th of July Run	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM
	24	Trail Builder		8:00 AM
Aug	5 - 7	12th Annual 4x4 Blast (open to public)	American Legion, Pittsfield	4 PM Thu
	21	Ladies Day on the Trail and a Night at the Movies	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Sep	11	Trail ride (new for 2010)	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM
	25	Annual General Meeting and Board Elections		8:00 AM
		Board Meeting #5		9:30 AM
		Ma Earth Run		10:00 AM
Oct	23	Road Run	VFW, Pittsfield	8:00 AM
		Board Meeting #6 (2011 Event Planning)		6:00 PM
May 2011	12 - 14	<b>2011 - 10th Annual Illini 4x4 Safari</b>		
Aug 2011	4 - 6	<b>2011 - 13th Annual 4x4 Blast</b>		

# Trail of Life

By Chief



The winter who some think just won't quit is really starting to get under my skin as well. Not because I am tired of the cold and snow, it is because in my part of the state we have missed nearly all of the snow. Lots of cold, just no snow. Crazy as it may sound, I love snow. Sure we have had our little four or five inch snowfalls, but I'm talking about those one and two feet snows like we had back in the 1900's, like the east coast and TEXAS have been getting. I thought Texas was where people go in the winter to get away from the snow.

I remember in 1977, I bought my first 4X4. A brand new red and white Plymouth Trailduster. It was like my supernatural Spidy Sense told me I would need a 4X4. It was like I knew what was coming because that winter and for most of the winters through 1984 we had some awesome winters with mountains of snow. What could be more fun for a 4X4 enthusiast? You can go "wheelin" anyplace you go. "Wheelin" on the way to work, wheeling when going to the store, "wheelin" just cause you want to go around the block. Then you have opportunities to use your new strap you got for Christmas as you assist the snow challenged vehicles you find along the way. The best part of "wheelin" in the snow is you don't have that nasty Pike County mud to clean up afterwards. The snow just melts away and leaves little to no residue. Perfect!! At the firehouse, we ran rescues of people stranded on the interstate, getting people out of homes that were trapped with no power or food; it was a good time, at least from my perspective. I have been in snow envy most of the winter as storms have passed to the south of us and then to the east. I have been called into the EMA office for winter storm meetings just to have them fizzle out into a rain event. It has been one disappointment after another. I am still holding out hope for one of those late winter / early spring snow storms. At least then, if by chance, I would get tired of the snow, it will not last too long and will soon melt away to produce the spring flowers we all enjoy.

As I write this column, the Winter Olympics are winding down and in closing; I must ask this one question. Has anyone else found themselves sitting in front of the television with a strange attraction to watch the contest of curling? I know nothing about the "sport". I don't know how it is scored, if it has periods, quarters or innings. I have tried to catch on to what the object of the game is, but to no avail. Nothing about it makes sense to me, but I am intrigued and constantly drawn to the point where I find myself searching the channels trying to find it. Wikipedia, here I come again. Maybe I have been out in the cold too long after all.

Two Rivers Jeep Club extends its condolences to Brian and Rachel Baker on the death of Brian's Grandfather.

Words of Wisdom: As you travel through life take a minute every now and then to give thought for the other fellow. He could be plotting something and if you find something you really like, you had better buy a lifetime supply, because you know they will stop making it.

See Ya on the Trail, *Chief*

# The Prez Says

From Lee



This will be a great year. We got off to a good start at the Kick Off dinner in February. We had over 45 people attend and ran a number of trails. There was some fun on Atlas as well as a slippery day on New Salem. The weather was great. These work weekends early in the year always have unexpected surprises.



We've got the Safari coming up and I'd ask your help. If you know of friends or people in other clubs or on internet forums, please let them know about the Safari. We'd like to have a good turn out again this year and if you help promote the event, I'm sure we will.

There is another topic: tow hooks. These are required for running any trail. We've had a couple cases already this year with people that did not have tow hooks on their vehicle. They are required for the safety of all. It's the responsibility of the Trail Guide to ensure all vehicles are properly equipped. Please remember that if your vehicle does not have tow hooks, you will not be allowed on any trails until they are installed.



We had a mystery person attend and have been unable to identify him from this photo. If anyone recognizes him, next time he's seen you might want to warn him to beware of people carrying cameras.

## ***2010 Board Members and Responsibilities***

### **Board Members**

President	Lee Ator		217-437-5221
Vice President	Gary Williams	gwilliam@adams.net	217-285-4750
Secretary	Jeff Sorensen	trjceff@yahoo.com	815-790-5433
Treasurer	Hamer Tate		217-833-2861
Board Members	Charlie Ater	c8r3@irtc.net	217-742-3275
	Jim Catt	riddle01@comcast.net	815-823-6663
	Rick Culberson	rick1@consolidated.net	217-562-4145
	Mark Schumacher	m32shoe427v8@frontiernet.net	309-523-3918
	Alan Grady	cgrady5600@sbcglobal.net	815-838-8611

### **Coordinators**

Illini 4x4 Safari & <i>BLAST</i>	Lisa Catt	riddle01@comcast.net	815-823-6653
Trail Leadership & Maintenance	Doug Watret	watret4@royell.org	217-435-7931
Newsletter, Web	Dave Christensen	davec@millenicom.com	630-393-3314

**TRJC Web Page:** <http://www.trjc.com/>  
**Club e-mail:** [trjc1@trjc.com](mailto:trjc1@trjc.com)  
**Club phone:** 630-717-5337 (JEEP) or 866-483-3982 (toll free)

**Membership:** Dues are \$60.00 per year for a family membership. Yearly membership runs from January 1 through December 31. Dues are to be paid by December 1<sup>st</sup> each year with a 30 day grace period. Landowners, Board Members, Trail Guides, and major Committee Chairs receive complimentary membership.

**Newsletter Deadlines:** This newsletter is published 6 times a year (**February, April, June, August, October, and December.**) All articles and photos are due by the 15th of the month before the newsletter will be published.

### **Newsletter Article Submission**

**All articles and photos should be submitted to the newsletter coordinator.** The preferred method to send articles and photos is email but hard copies of photos and typed or handwritten articles will also be accepted. If you need assistance in writing an article, we can help proof it and correct spelling errors. Photos can be black and white or color with a description of what, where and when. Scanned photos may be in any reasonable graphics format (medium to high-resolution.) Low resolution photos do not print well. Hard copy photos will be returned to the owner upon request.

**Next Newsletter Deadline: April 15**

Two Rivers Jeep Club  
PO Box 47  
Pittsfield IL 62363-0047



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**