



# Two Rivers Tracker

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

Volume 19 Issue 2

April 2016

## Upcoming Events

*All activities take place or start at the WBBA radio station building otherwise noted.  
Trails leave at 9 AM. Always check the website for trails to be run or any last minute changes.*

**Trails to be run are to be determined. Check the web page for updates.**

**Apr. 30:** Board Meeting, and Trail Builder. The Board will meet at 7:30 AM. This is open to all members. Trails will leave at 9 AM. Bring work gloves and boots as there may be mud! This will be the second to the last Trail Builder before the Safari so we'll need all the help we can get.

**May 14:** Trail Builder. This will be our last Trail Builder before the Safari. Come help prepare the trails for the Safari.

**May 19-21:** 15th Annual 4x4 Safari. There are only a few slots open. There is still time to register. A registration form is in this newsletter. **Members get a \$50 discount for the driver and a \$10 discount for each passenger over 10. Sign up now if you wish to attend!**

**June 4:** Board Meeting, and Recovery Class/Trail Ride. The Board will meet at 7:30 AM. This is open to all members. Plans are to hold a vehicle recovery class and trail ride for members. If we cannot get instructors, then we'll have just the trail ride instead. More information will be on the website.

**June 18:** Father's Day Run and Catered Dinner. This is always one of our best member-only runs. As usual we leave from WBBA at 9 AM. More details of the dinner will be on the website.

**July 9:** Fourth of July Run. Come help us keep our trails "warm". This is also a popular run with multiple trails. There is often a cookout afterwards. Again details to follow on the website.

**July 23:** Trail Builder. This will be our last Trail Builder before the Blast. These are always more fun than work. Join the fun!

Speaking of the Blast, to be held August 11 - 13, member and non-member registrations will be sent out by the end of May. If you do not get yours by mid June, please email or call us.

# Safari and Blast News

The 15th Annual 4x4 Safari will be held May19-20. Registration fees will be the same as previous years but we are increasing the Late/Walk-in fees from \$15.00 to \$50.00 More and more people are either walking in the day of registration or waiting until the last minute to send in registrations. This is causing issues with ordering enough food and providing sufficient seating space. With the higher Late/Walk-in fee we hope to discourage that so we can plan for the right attendance.

There are some folks concerned with the late fee as they have commitments and don't know until the last minute if they can attend or not. While this puts them in a bind, we are not precluding them but we do have to anticipate walk ins and order extra food and pay for it. We also have to ensure there is enough room and that the trails do not get overloaded, which is no fun for anyone. For the last few events we've been overloaded and we have no choice but to try and limit the number of vehicles on the trail and at the meals so that everyone can have a good time. We'll re-evaluate this policy at the end of the year.

We still have a few openings! A copy of the non-member registration form is included in this newsletter. You can use this to register as a member. Take the above mentioned member discount, though. Safari information and a registration form is also on our website.

Since I'm late getting this newsletter out, don't worry if you are a little late. If your registration is postmarked by May 5, scratch the late fee. Be aware that we only have a few slots left.

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## Carl Seymour 1946-2016



Our sympathies go out to Barb and the Seymour family. Carl passed away April 8. He was a landowner and has been a member for over 20 years.

Carl was a veteran of the United States Navy. He had worked as a union carpenter, retiring from Carpenters Union #904 of Jacksonville. After his retirement he enjoyed working for Callender Construction Company in the rock quarries for several years. He attended the New Salem Methodist Church and served on the Gray Cemetery Board.

In earlier years, Carl was a Boy Scout and 4-H leader, served on the Pike County Counseling Center Board and worked as a tax assessor for the county. Carl loved to go Jeeping and was a long time member of the Two Rivers Jeep Club where he met many wonderful friends whom have continued to support him throughout his illness. He enjoyed writing poetry and was known for creating birthday cards and writing poems for family and friends. He was very interested and supportive of the Pike County Veterans Museum and had donated several items of his Navy memorabilia.

We're going to miss Carl, his laughter and his smiles.

# The Prez Sez

Lee Ator

The trails are shaping up nicely should be ready for the Safari. We had some good turn outs for the Trail Builders. On a sad note we have lost long time club member land owner and past board member Carl Seymour . His memorial was held Sat. the 16th so before heading out to the trails we drove up to New Salem pay our respects. I didn't count but I think we had more than 20 members attend. Carl's family really appreciated us showing up.

I have heard some feedback on the Safari and Blast late fee. The reason behind this is we need people to preregister. The increasing number of walk-ins on Thursday and Friday morning makes it hard for the Legion to know how much food to have. That's one of the reasons for the late fee. I hope everyone understands. See you on the trail and at the Safari!

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## Karl's Rambling

by Karl Anderson

We're going to d a little cleaning on Murphy's and we might run a little bit of Mystery Trail". Really, Mark? We "might"? You mean you "might" forget to tell us when you already have us following you down a part of your 4+ trail?

Our April 2nd run was my first shakedown run with the new Holley Projection system The ol Brown CJ was idling a little fast and tending to run a little warm, which is especially fun when you're stomping the living crap out of it trying to get out of a really muddy uphill notch that keeps throwing you to the right when you are trying to turn left. As they were pulling my cable out I noticed the temp gauge about to go into meltdown mode. Luckily it wasn't the end of our fun. We headed up to the pasture, got a little air flowing through the radiator, added a little coolant and were good to go for the rest of the day. Overall, I was very pleased with the EFI system and after some tuning I believe it's going to be the improvement I was looking for. No more sputtering and dying after a good jolt from a tree root at the top of a hill. That's always a good time, making it all the way to the top of a hill just to have the engine die and have to back all the way down hoping you can keep it straight and not turn sideways and end up barrel rolling to the bottom. I'm definitely glad those days are over.





We did have fun watching some of the others try some stuff they'd never been on before. Roger Myers showed us how to traverse Carburetor Alley on just two wheels. Mark Kinne's boy went through first and made it look pretty easy so Roger couldn't resist and well.... Let's just say Roger made it look a tad more difficult. I often use Roger as my test pilot for obstacles I've never been on, watching him and seeing how much trouble he has before I decide if I want

to try it. His Jeep is more "built" than mine but not as radical as a lot of them so if he putters right through something I'll usually try it too. Needless to say, after watching his performance on Carburetor Alley, I decided to pass. Besides, it was almost lunch time and I was actually just being considerate of my fellow Jeepers. Yeah, that's it.

JD Pearson, along with his wife Julie and his dad Dennis, put on a pretty good show most of the day in his little red YJ on 34 inch Swampers. Being a Medivac helicopter pilot, he had to find out the hard way that Jeeps don't fly through the air quite as well as his company vehicle. He had very little trouble most of the day but one very deep washout put his left tires about 4-5 feet off the ground and when he stopped it looked like he might end up with some serious explaining to do to the missus and Pops. With a little assistance they made it through and apparently his passengers are pretty hard to scare because they didn't bail on him after that stunt or even the one where he tried a very long, steep hill and killed it right at the top and started to come down backwards. He was able to stop long enough for Mark Twedell to roar up and get in front of them so he could hook a strap and pull them the rest of the way safely. I decided not to try that particular hill. Or Amy may have decided for me. Either way, I passed.

All in all it was a great day and I only broke a bolt on my skid plate. I did however blow the transmission on my pickup two days later, so I'm guessing additional Jeep mods are on the back burner for a while.

You can't when 'em all.

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## Trail of Life

by Chief

As of this writing, I believe I can say spring might have finally come to stay. I was taking a Wildland Fire training class a couple of weekends ago and it was cold. We were keeping some of the fire going just to stay warm. We even thought about letting the fire get away from us a little

bit so we could deploy those foil survival shelters to warm up. The instructors were not very supportive of that idea so we just had to deal with it.

I still don't have any Jeepin' stories to share as far as trail riding but returning to the Wildfire class, I did have to rescue two brush pumpers who managed to find the swamp land during our final burn. It was just like trail riding days, I am sure you can all relate. You have a really great day, enjoying the flora and fauna, hills and hollers, creeks and mud holes and then you get to the final hour when you begin to think about a good hot shower and the dinner at the Legion when Murphy shows up and everything turns to crap. Rigs stuck or broke or maybe even lost. So as we were mopping up on that final burn which was about 24 acres of three feet tall prairie grass, it was observed the fire had burnt into a finger of light timber. We deployed the Gators with pumps and water tanks to help extinguish the fire in the heavier areas and someone, not me, decided to call the full-size brush trucks into the battle. That is when Murphy (not Gary Williams Murphy, the Legendary Murphy) showed up. First one truck buried itself and then the second found the miry clay in an attempt to rescue the first. Luckily they were in the black area so there was no danger of them burning up but it was time for the class to end and we had two vehicles buried.

I took a look at the situation and called a Gator over to me and said, "Take me to my Jeep." The "Buggy" over the years has earned a reputation as being the "do all" vehicle the original designers designed it to be. From rescuing stranded motorists along the interstate to winching vehicles out of lakes, it has proved its worth time and time again. This was however going to be a challenge as the brush trucks are on one ton chassis loaded with equipment. Usually the issue I have is that I end up pulling myself towards the heavier stuck vehicle. I decided to attempt to extract the second stuck truck first as I could stay on pavement during the winching process and hopefully not be dragged to the ditch. I double lined the winch cable from my 9000# Superwinch and ran out the cable to the final wrap to get as much pull power as I could. After a couple of position adjustments the Ford F350 began to move out of the ditch toward the pavement. Job One complete.

The next one was going to be a little more difficult as it required me to move off-road to the burnt out area in a rather muddy position. I used the same rigging as before but I found myself being pulled toward the stuck vehicle. Once again I repositioned myself to enable a pull from the downside of a little ridge. That allowed me to hold my position and slowly but surely the big Ram began to raise up out of the mud and get traction on more solid terrain. Mission accomplished. Once again the Buggy proved its worth. Another pair of notches on its belt.

Jeeps are so much more than just fun vehicles to wheel with. They are useful and fun. I am sure most all of you have stories about an event where you used your Jeep to be the Knight in Shining Armor. How about writing about some of them!!

I was saddened to hear that we lost another long time Club member. Carl Seymour was one of a kind and he will be missed. Mrs. Chief and I were reminiscing about "Carl events". Our favorite Carl adventure happened one day while we were on Pokey's with Carl in our group. As we were riding in a low area with ridges on both sides of us, we happened to notice Carl in his little white Jeep sitting at the top a ridge about fifty feet up. Mrs. Chief said what is Carl doing? I said I am not sure, but I hope he is not going down that nearly vertical drop-off. Then I heard him shout, "WATCH THIS" and down he came, laughing all the way. Carl, Thanks for the memories.

See ya on the Trail, *Chief*

# 2016 SAFARI

May 19 - 21

## NON MEMBER Registration Form



### 1 Driver's Information

Applications will be accepted by date of postmark. Event details will be sent with registration confirmation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Vehicle Information and Trail Preference

Maximum wheelbase: 116". To protect the land, no full size trucks.  
Maximum tire size: 44". Trail restrictions apply to vehicles with tires over 35".

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Trail Preference: 1 - 2: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 - 3: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 - 4: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3 Fee Schedule

Vehicle and Driver Registration ..... \$ 130.00

Passengers 10 and older ..... (\$70.00 each X # \_\_\_\_\_) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Passengers under age 10 ..... (no charge # \_\_\_\_\_) \$ FREE

Late registration (T-shirts may not be available) (add \$50.00 after May 5) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 T-Shirts

T-shirts are \$15.00 each. Enter the quantity for each size.

\_\_\_\_ Small    \_\_\_\_ Medium    \_\_\_\_ Large

\_\_\_\_ X-Large    \_\_\_\_ XX-Large    \_\_\_\_ XXX-Large    (# \_\_\_\_\_) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$2.00 extra



### 5 You must complete and sign the second page of this form

**Total** \$  

Do not send cash.  
Make checks payable to **Two Rivers Jeep Club**.

Check in use only (do not write here)

# Extra Passengers \_\_\_\_\_ Balance Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

# 2016 SAFARI

May 19 - 21

Two Rivers Jeep Club, Pittsfield, Illinois

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION



Please read and sign at the bottom of this page.

By signing you agree to the terms and conditions that follow.

- All occupants of the vehicle must be registered. Signed waiver of liability will be required at event check-in.
- All drivers must have valid drivers license.
- All trail vehicles must carry liability insurance and be licensed.
- Valid proof of insurance is required at check-in. Without proof of insurance you will not be allowed on any trails.
- No open headers. All vehicles must have an exhaust muffler.
- Tires can be no more than 44", based on DOT tire lettering. Not all trails will be open to vehicles with tires over 35".
- No full-size trucks. For example: K5 Blazer and Bronco (78 or later) are considered full size. Bronco IIs are OK
- Vehicles will be inspected at registration and **must be off the trailer.**
- Absolutely no alcohol while on the trails.
- No pets allowed on the trails.
- Firearms or fireworks are prohibited.
- Each vehicle must have at least one person 18 years of age or older who will be responsible for occupants of the vehicle.
- **Vehicle must be equipped with properly mounted tow hooks or substantially mounted pull point (front and rear).**  
**Tow hooks must be either factory mounted or mounted with two grade 5 or grade 8 bolts each.**
- I understand that the Two Rivers Jeep Club cannot be held responsible for any damage that may occur to my person, occupants or vehicle while attending the Two Rivers Jeep Club Illini 4x4 Safari.
- I understand that any violation of these rules will result in the termination of both my own participation and my passengers' participation in the Two Rivers Jeep Club Illini 4x4 Safari and the forfeiture of all registration fees.
- I agree to abide by the rules, guidance, and instruction of the Two Rivers Jeep Club Illini 4x4 Safari.
- I agree to abide by the principles of Tread Lightly!, Inc.

## Driver's Signature and Trail Vehicle Insurance Information Required

Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Driver: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**You must bring proof of liability insurance with you to check-in.  
Without proof of insurance, you will not be allowed on any trails.**

Refunds may take 4 - 6 weeks to process. **No refunds after May 1.**

**Do not send cash! Make checks payable to "Two Rivers Jeep Club". Please return this form with payment to:**

**Two Rivers Jeep Club  
4x4 Safari  
P. O. Box 47  
Pittsfield IL 62363-0047**

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



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**