



January 13, 2007 Annual Meeting

Meeting called to order by Jason Kawaja at 10:40am

Introduction: Jason Kawaja, President
Jennifer Hawkins, Treasurer
Dawn Taylor, Secretary
Rick Thorpe, SW Regional Director

Presidents in Attendance:

Jim Smith—Gator 4x4
Neil McKenzie—Florida Toyota
Brian Crane—Treasure Coast
Paul Ames—Extreme Jeeps
Cheryl Duchane-Lakeland Jeep Club
Linda Labor—Peace River Jeep Club
Ron Sides—Jeepers Jeep Club
David (VP)----Orlando Jeep Club
Gary Londo -----Legendary Jeeps
Jerry Dixon—Florida Land Cruiser
John Warner—Ocala Jeep Club (cooking)

Clubs in Attendance:

Florida Jeepers
Land Cruisers
Florida Toyota
Extreme Jeeps Tampa/Lakeland
Matanzas
Ocala Jeep Club
The Orlando Jeep Club
Mid-Florida Jeep Club
Lake County 4x4
Gator 4x4
Legendary Jeep Club
Treasure Coast Jeep Club
Jeepers Jeep Club
Suncoast Flatlanders

Peace River Jeepers
Lakeland Jeep Club

Today's Schedule:

Brown Bottle Clean up at Rodman Pit

Dinner—6ish

Raffle following dinner

Business Notes:

Ocala National Forest

- Jason and Jennifer attended an OHV Workshop in Ocala in 2006. Jason reported that it was a good informational meeting as they were made aware of other issues happening throughout the country.
- Appeal for Phase 1 was denied. In August 2006, all Presidents were invited to attend a meeting in Orlando. At this meeting, it was decided to not pursue the appeal process due to the financial hardship and dim outcome. Instead, we are seeking for a 4x4 trail system. This would be a designation for what currently exists. It is in addition to the current trail system. Jason and Jennifer had a meeting in December 2006 with Rick Lint and Bret Bush. This trail system was explained to them and they were made aware of what type of use the 4x4 population is seeking. All minutes from this meeting are available on [www. FI4wda.com](http://www.FI4wda.com)
- Proposed travel way system to USFS on behalf of FL4WDA: During the Presidents Meeting, all clubs were given an assigned section of the ONF to scout trails. The clubs got back to Jason with their findings and suggestions of areas to place natural obstacles. The FL4WDA Board Members went out riding (on two separate days) using this information and combined the areas into loops. Currently, there is over 60 miles of trails for this system. This has been presented to the USFS and is being considered.
- The routes that we have mapped out in ONF don't currently contain obstacles. The intention is to appropriate them for the future. Instead of the obstacle to be directly on the road, we could have it off to the side to allow for USFS and others to travel through. We are tossing around ideas as to what types of obstacles...we would like to use natural substances. This trail system would be accessible to all Licensed Vehicles.
- Adopt a trail—the FS had concerns about maintenance of our trail system. Jason ensured them that if they provide the access...we will maintain it.

- OHV proposal: There are talks of having a fee based permit system (pay-to-play). Nothing seemed to indicate that there would be an access fee for the trail system we are proposing.
- Signs are still going up for Phase 1—closed unless posted open.
- Maps: It was mentioned that we don't have access to up-to-date map. At an area Rangers Station, the most updated map was behind glass but there were none for sale. It is a concern that there are no updated maps for sale. Jason will speak to the USFS about this issue and will report back as soon as information becomes available.
- Brandi and Brian of Treasure Coast crossed tracks with some FS personnel who were placing the "closed unless posted open signs." This person explained to them that for each sign they place, the GPS coordinates are jotted down and these coordinates are supposed to be loaded onto the USFS website. They will be available to download to your GPS.

Apalachicola National Forest

- FL4WDA sent in a letter to similar to the one for ONF.
- Jennifer: "Proposed actions for ANF—the plan is to do the same thing in ANF as we did with ONF. Take where trail density is and take it to less-used areas. ANF is extremely wet. Tallahassee folks are going out and mapping a route system. ANF has no major roads going through their forest. A lot of trails dead end. They are picking a primary route and looking for areas worthy of obstacles." Jennifer and Jason are expected to meet with the Tallahassee officials. We need emails/input sent to the forest service.

Miscellaneous Business

- Rachel and Amanda from University of Florida's School of Conservation and Resources were present. Jennifer and Dawn came across them at Eureka Pit back in October when Ocala Jeep Club was leading Peace River on a ride following Jeeptemberfest. They are conducting onsite surveys on recreation in the forest. They have questionnaires that address management, campgrounds, etc as it relates to the recreation experience. Please seek them out today to participate in their survey. They will submit all findings to the USFS. Jason will keep in touch with Rachel and will report back with any information.
- Babcock Ranch- state officially acquired Babcock Ranch. With a new governor in place, he is reappointing new positions. We are in a holding

pattern to see who he appoints as commissioner of agriculture. This is going to require a lot of pressure on your governmental officials.

- Avon Park—South Florida—military base was allowing recreation. They had some problems with trail abuse and they stopped accepting clubs in their park. They are undergoing a route designation of their own. When they start in that process, we would like to have clubs in the area help them this process.

Open Board Positions

We have some openings that need filled. We are seeking a Vice President, Membership Director, and a couple of Regional Directors. All of these duties require minimal time on a monthly basis. We do mostly all meeting online via a Chat Room. There is one or two occasions were we meet in person, but we try to keep it to a minimum. We need people to step up and take leadership in this club as it is hard to keep up-to-date on all things going on in all Forests throughout the state.

Brian from Treasure Coast and Natasha from Ocala Jeep Club stepped up. Thanks! We really appreciate your support!

Membership Dues

- This year United's membership goes to 15 bucks per family. United is at a crossroad. Jennifer has their budget available for review if anyone is interested. They are trying to revamp their membership structure to help benefit everyone.

United 4WDA Annual Conference

Orlando, FL is nominated to host United 4WDA conference for 2008.

Our duties would involve: signing in delegates on first two days, and hosting a trail ride in Ocala on last day.

The membership in attendance showed an interest in hosting so Jennifer will let Carla know. Stay tuned to FL4WDA forum for info.

ONF and ANF are the first throughout the nation to have this trail access system in place. They are watching how we deal with these changes.

Meeting called to a close at 12:00pm.