



Trail Tales



January 1, 2025

Official Newsletter
of the
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org



Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2025

By Shirley Godfrey

The meeting was held at the home of Diego and Lysle Serna, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

President Jack Dickey called the meeting to order at 4:30pm thanking the Serna's for hosting and preparing the meats.

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Glenn Boudreaux, Cathy Dickey, Jack Dickey, Linda Dobson, Patrick Dobson, Shirley Godfrey, Jeff Grenier, Kay Grenier, Ed Kausche, Lyn Kausche, Jack Nutter, Angel Pena, Matthew Ray, Christine Robson, NaDeen Roland, Don Roy, Diego Serna, Lysle Serna, Beth P. Steele, Richard Steele, Mary Turpin, Glenn Vialpando, Rebagayle Vialpando, Ian Watson, Tonia Watson, Andrea Webb, Ben Webb, Beth Whiston, Frank Whiston, William Zobel.

GUESTS ATTENDING: None.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jack Dickey

There were no new applicants this evening or since the last meeting.

There were no guests.

Guests Erik Baldwin and Aidan Caskey both have 4 points and could have become members if they had attended.

Jack Dickey - the club is getting caught up with awarding honorary memberships. A motion was made and seconded for Frank and Beth Whiston to become honorary members. Motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion. Frank had served as club president for several terms, is currently the club Historian, Program Ambassador, Outside Organization Manager and had led numerous rides.

TRIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – No report. Please check for upcoming rides on the website.

Jeff Grenier was fined \$1.00 for not having his spare tire carrier holder latched on the Christmas Tree run.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Shirley Godfrey

Meeting minutes - A motion was made and seconded to approve the November minutes as published in the November newsletter. A motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Richard Steele

Rich provided current balances for both checking and saving accounts.
The Annual nonprofit report for the State has been finalized.
The application for the 501C7 has been turned in to the Feds and State.
Red Cross has been paid.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurers' report. Motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion.

Frank Whiston has had stickers made of various trails. He hopes to have them completed by the next meeting.

At the Toys for Tots Show & Shine 2024, Myron Myers' truck won the best truck award.

Each year at the Christmas party someone wins the money from all the fines collected throughout the year. This year's winner was Bill Zobel, \$61.00.

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. Motion was approved by a majority of members present without discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.



President's Report

By Jack Dickey

Reflections

I apologize that I did not get an article written for the December Trail Tails. November was somewhat busy for me: T or C Mines club ride, helping one of our members after her tragic accident, repairing my broken buggy, and Thanksgiving. Plus, unfortunately I get into a bit of shlumpy funk with the shorter days. Thankfully the earth has moved past the Solstice and there is more sunlight each day. As 2025 starts many of us, myself included, reflect on the past year and take stock of what has been done and dream about what is possible. I don't like New Year's resolutions, but prefer to make realistic plans for the near future.

One of my favorite songs about reflection is *The Confessor* by Joe Walsh. The lyrics from the first verse are,

“If you look at your reflection in the bottom of a well
What you see is only on the surface
When you try to see the meaning, hidden underneath
The measure of the depth can be deceiving
The bottom has a rocky reputation”

I am grateful to say that the converse of the message of these lyrics relates to NM4W in an immensely positive manner! Envisaging the last twelve months, it is obvious that NM4W is a profound organization. We attract folks who enjoy each other's company, the outdoors, and off-road four-wheel drive motoring. We have regular meetings where members connect with each other and help direct the organization. The membership promotes self-improvement activities that benefit the club as a whole such as CPR and wilderness/remote location first aid classes. NM4W exercises the

precepts of Tread Lightly! as exemplified by our financial support, fabrication, and concluding installation of the Quebradas Backcountry Byway Gordy's Hill OHV area information kiosk.

The only thing rocky about our reputation is that we enjoy traveling the lesser used backcountry roads and trails. Our trail rides and overnight trips are popular and well attended. We satiate our need for outdoor engagement with multi-day trips whether at a remote forest basecamp or motels and campgrounds.

The depth of our comradery was acutely measured when we witnessed one of our members endure a frightful plummet to the bottom of a ravine. Once the turmoil of the tumbling jeep ceased, everyone did what was essential to ensure that the worst was over for our battered sister! We closed the year with a wintery Christmas tree run, a nourishing meal and joyous party a member's delightful home, and a soul satisfying, desert jaunt through an old mining area and impressive slot canyon.

This year we recognized several members that have made contributions to the club either through officer service or long-term active membership: Jeanne and Cliff Meier, Ed and Lynn Kausche, and Frank Whiston. What's next? There are several single and multiday trips already on the calendar. NM4W is partnering with NMOHVA to procure a NMDGF grant for Gordy's Hill OHV area trail signs. Members will complete a wilderness/remote location first aid class. We will soon be meeting at our member's homes and enjoying meals together.

I'm confident that our activities and membership reflect what is true and good about our 67 years young club!

Happy Trails,

Jack Dickey



Director of Environmental Affairs

By William Zobel

In mid-December, the Senate passed H.R. 6492 Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act. At the time of this writing, the Bill is awaiting President Biden's signature to become law. This bipartisan legislation is said to improve the lives of outdoorsmen and women while also expanding access to the country's public lands and water and is reportedly the largest outdoor recreation package. The comprehensive package contains several ground-breaking recreation bills, including the Military and Veterans in Parks Act, Outdoors for All Act, Outdoor Recreation Act, Biking on Long-Distance Trails Act, and many others. The legislation will:

- Improve public land access for sportsmen and women.
- Modernize technology to improve visitor experiences, like increasing broadband connectivity and creating digital passes.
- Streamline the permitting process and reduce fees for small businesses that depend on public land access.
- Protect rock climbing in iconic places and create new long-distance bike trails.
- Restore campgrounds and modernize infrastructure.
- Support gateway communities by addressing housing shortages and outdated infrastructure.

- Improve accessibility for military service members, veterans, individuals with disabilities, and kids.

The Act, seen as a big win to expand and foster equity in the outdoors and outdoor experiences, was supported by a broad coalition of organizations, including America Outdoors, American Alpine Club, American Hiking Society, American Prairie, American Mountain Guides Association, American Sportfishing Association, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, Delta Waterfowl, Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences, International Mountain Bicycling Association, KABOOM!, Marine Retailers Association of America, National Forest Recreation Association, National Marine Manufacturing Association, National Parks Hospitality Association, National Recreation and Park Association, National Wildlife Federation, Outdoor Alliance, Outdoor Alliance for Kids, Outdoor Industry Association, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, People For Bikes, Professional Photographers of America, REI Co-op, RV Industry Association, Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, The Mule Deer Foundation, The Trust for Public Land, The Wilderness Society, Vista Outdoors, Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association and Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources.



Thank you, fellow NM4W members. This recognition as an Honorary member by the club is truly an unexpected honor.

To begin, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the club's members. Your passion, commitment to protecting and enhancing recreational resources, and camaraderie are what make this club so exceptional. Whether you're tackling rugged terrains or gathering for a community event, your spirit of adventure and mutual support is inspiring.

Being part of a community that cherishes exploration and the great outdoors is something I've always aspired to be a part of. The dedication and enthusiasm you all share for four-wheeling is contagious, and it's an honor to be associated with such a remarkable group.

I look forward to many more adventures, learning from each of you, and contributing to this wonderful club in any way I can. Thank you once again for this incredible recognition.

Here's to new trails, uncharted paths, and the joy of four-wheel drive exploration.

Thank you!

Beth and Frank Whiston



Chupadera Mountains Loop

December 29, 2024

By Frank Whiston

It was a perfect day. Perfect weather, and a great group of 20 vehicles. We even had a family from Canada join us for the day.

[Here is a link to a video of the fun!](#)





Happy New Year!



Keep PUBLIC lands open to the PUBLIC

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