

# Red Rock Review



◆2018 TOM (Trail of the month)

(Also, posted on the HOME page at rr4w.com. check it monthly for changes and helpful details about out of town excursions.)  
 (Bob McKenzie & Austin Halloway, Co-Chairman – Trail of the Month Committee.

DATE	TRAIL/RATING	LEADER
Sep 15 <sup>th</sup>	Jax Trax (5)	John Martin
Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Strike Ravine, BFE, BBQ (6)	Tom Edwards
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Hells Revenge (6)	Austin Halloway
December	Happy Holidays – no trails	

## New News for August

### Vote in September Meeting

Annual Charity Donations as follows:

**Standard continuing donations:**

Grand County Sheriff	\$ 2,000
Grand County Search & Rescue	2,000
Moab City Police	2,000
San Juan County Search & Rescue	1,500
Moab Chamber of Commerce	1,500

**Member Donation Requests:**

Moab Valley Humane Society (Pete Kaufman)	250
Grand Area Mentoring (John Marsh)	500
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boston Trip (Carma McElhaney)	1,000
Canyonlands Rodeo (Joanne Kelso)	2,000
Friends of Moab Health Care Center (Tom Edwards)	2,000
GCHS Swim Team (Erin Young)	500
Red Devil Mountain Biking Team (Joanne Kelso)	1,500
Old Spanish Trail Arena-lights in new parking lot (Linda Brewer)**	
Cinema Court Fire Disaster Relief (Linda Brewer)*	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,750</b>

\*\*Executive board deferred this item to Capital consideration. Not to be funded as a charity. Club will buy the light poles & LED lights when the project is ready.

\*Finance committee recommended emergency/disaster status for Club consideration. If separate from Charity donations it will be disbursed in Sept rather than Oct.

John Martin led 7 jeeps and 13 people on the Moonlight run on 7 Mile Rim in July, it was a great night and they got back to town around 11:30pm.

2019 Easter Safari Grid has been set. Just a few changes were made this year. ●The addition of Buttes & Towers trail on 3 days. ●Lowered the vehicle limits on Kane Creek, all Hell's Revenge trails and Cliffhanger ● Raised the rating on Cliff Hanger to an 8. ●Cancelled Golden Spike on Easter Sunday because the participant numbers were so far down. ●Committee meetings to assign Officials for each trail will begin later in Sept. as soon as we receive paperwork back from members wanting to gun.

●Official invites will be mailed the last week of August. Make sure your dues are up to date or you may not receive an invite.

●NEW for 2019 – There will be 3 levels of Registration for Easter Safari. Officials 1<sup>st</sup> on Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, Members in good standing, 2<sup>nd</sup> on Jan 18<sup>th</sup>, and the Public 3<sup>rd</sup> on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hopefully, this will alleviate the crush the morning registration opens to the public. Member dues must be paid up and if just joining, must be registered as a member one week in advance of registering for Safari.

Cliffhanger Trail – we have an opportunity, with approval from the BLM, to dynamite the wall at the entrance to Cliffhanger. The same contractor that dynamited Hell's Revenge would do the blasting job on Cliff Hanger. Part of the work Mike Kelso has done developing a good relationship with the BLM has them applying for a grant to cover expenses of maintenance in our area. The Club essentially pays up front and would receive reimbursement of \$4,500.

Shelves for the Library in the Clubhouse. Carma McElhaney was to get one more bid for construction. The 2<sup>nd</sup> bid for building these was obtained but was well over what Heaton's wanted to do the job. A motion was made and passed to have Heaton do the job.



David Andrew Soukup, 49, of Indiana, passed away Saturday, July 28, 2018, at his home.

Dave was a 1987 graduate of Greensburg Central Catholic High School. He furthered his education at the Electronics Institute and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 5 Apprenticeship Training Program. Dave was employed by Sargent Electric Company as a project manager, following his 28 years as an electrician, foreman and superintendent with Lighthouse Electric Company Inc. He was a member of IBEW Local 5 and the Red Rock 4-Wheelers Inc. Dave looked forward to his semi-annual trips to Moab, Utah, where he navigated the off-road trails, occasionally leading other Jeep enthusiasts over the rocky terrain. In his spare time, Dave enjoyed riding his mountain bike, dirt bike, and going to camp, in addition to almost any outdoor activity.

He is survived by his mother, Barbara Soukup, of Derry; his best friend and wife of 16 years, Margaret "Peg" (Riddle) Soukup, of Indiana; two stepchildren: Luke Good and wife Nicole, of Seattle, Wash.; and Joshua Good and fiancée Natasha Fabian, of Pittsburgh; a brother, Gerald Soukup and wife Lynn, of Uxbridge, Mass.; a sister, Susan Probst and husband Henry, of Latrobe; extended family members: James and Ellen Riddle, Larry and Patty Riddle, Gary and Debbie Lichtenfels, David and Joyce Anderson, Linda Riddle and numerous nieces and nephews. He will also be sadly missed by his best canine friend, Stormy.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly suggests memorial contributions be made to the Indiana County Humane Society, 191 Airport Road, Indiana, PA 15701 or to the Red Rock 4-Wheelers M.U.D. Fund, PO Box 1471, Moab, UT 84532.

Update on Elephant Hill – The Club (Mike Kelso) has worked hard with the Park Service for the last year to come up with improvements that will both benefit the park and 4-wheelers. Currently a work crew will be working on repairs on August 20,21,22 & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Comment Cards reviewed, out of 181 returned by participants of EJS 2018, 39 had adverse comments about Officials. The Trails Committee reviewed the comments, narrowing them down to just a few that the committee chairman

talked to the Officials about. Most of the comments were very good and a lot of the officials were complimented by name.

📧Previously reported to local membership📧

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### 2018-2019 Officers, Directors & Coordinators

President: Mike Kelso  
Vice President: Richard Mick  
Secretary: Gayle Weisbecker, Erin Young, Asst, Secretary  
Treasurer: John Martin  
Land Use Coordinator: Tom Edwards  
Information Coordinator: Ron Brewer  
Activities Coordinator: Carma McElhaneay  
Directors: KL Young, re-elected in June, Curtis King; DeVon Parson; Bob Humphrey; John Picken; John Martin & Bob Kraft

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Mike Kelso, Club Pres., received the support of the members present at the June club meeting when he asked for support to propose that **Cliff Hanger be designated as a full-size vehicle only trail to the BLM.** The creek environ is taking a real hit with the smaller vehicles running up & down to try & locate an exit up to the county road when they can't get back up the first drop off going into the trail.

**Cameo Cliffs/Jax Trax** – repairs to the washed-out culvert that was too small will be taken care of by San Juan County roads as they have budgeted a larger pipe. Thank you, San Juan County!

**Flat Iron** – the Club just needs to get a jack hammer and fix the Intimidator as trail leaders feel it has become a threat to safety, even after the repairs done before EJS.

**New member to the Board of Directors of the Moab Business Park HOA, Mike Kelso** has been busy since he got back from vacation in Ireland in case you can't tell. There is a lot to do as the building inspectors back in the day didn't always carry through the way they should have. We are now under the jurisdiction of Grand County inspectors instead of San Juan.

**EJS Bills have been paid** said John Martin, Treasurer. The land use fees are close to \$64,167 for the BLM & SITLA lands this year. The BLM raised their fee by \$1.00 this year.

**Monticello BLM has extended our permit** for the EJS trails in San Juan County to December 2019 Land Use Coordinator, Tom Edwards, reported. He also received something about reporting the stretches of river we will be using – they must think we have a lot of air in our tires to float that river!

**“Call off the troops**, the BLM is pulling the Do Not Enter signs on the fin on Steel Bender”, Katie Stevens, BLM, said about the sign posting that was reported by Nena Barlow last month when she was doing the trail & saw SUWA (Southeastern Utah Wilderness Assc.) members & BLM officials posting them.

#### Other business:

- 1a♦ Mike Kelso will be building extra parking barricades (providing free labor).
- 1b♦ Two custom made trailers, 10' long with side rails will be ordered to move the barricades.

Other non-profit organizations would be allowed to use the barricades and we would be able to take a write off for it.

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**2•Unit B-8 in the Moab Business Park has been purchased to replace the 2 storage units we currently rent, this unit is 2 doors down from the Club house.**

**Will we offer another new Jeep for donations to the MUD fund again?** It was a rough year, with the Walker Drug Jeep 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary giveaway. The last jeep we had was on our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a special edition and was announced at SEMA by Jeep – so it was a good year. This year we barely made enough to pay for the Jeep, so a lot less went

to the MUD fund than was hoped for. Only if Jeep comes out with a diesel pickup would we consider it again.



**Raimundo Casos for Christos** (apologies for the spelling). RR4W members, Gayle Weisbecker, Kaylan Young and Tony McElhaneay traveled to Guatemala to help build a house for someone in need who had been recommended by their church pastor.



**The fire hazard is still on** – as evidenced by the 9 homes that were burned to the ground earlier this month in Moab. So, be careful, the whole countryside is a big tinderbox & it goes up in a heartbeat!

“The RR4W TOM, Poison Spider on May 26 had 17 rigs start the run, but 2 turned around mid-way. We were led by John & Carol Martin. I was in the first 3rd of the group so my photos & observations are from that vantage point. The trail rating is 6, indicating that there are some moderately challenging obstacles along the way. The scenery, with trail elevations reaching 800' above river level, was fantastic in all directions. With clear air, sunny skies & temperatures only reaching into the upper 80's, a notable breeze kept conditions pleasant enough.” (Contributed by Carole Hahn)



**Next Meeting**  
**Sept 10, 2018 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7:00pm**

**Rodeo Club President, and RR4W member, Kirk Pearson,** announced he has 80 tons of road base & gravel for the arena and asked the club what to do with it. A plan will be made once we have looked at the arena area.

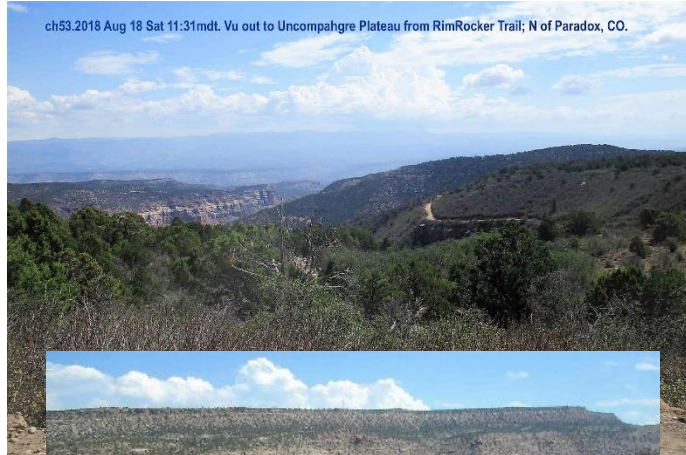
**AREA BFE is going to be a corporate retreat.** The owner's lawyers say NO ONE is allowed on the property and NO ONE can have a route through the property. It would appear the owners' insurance company is holding him hostage. The owner said he wasn't worried about us (RR4W), just yahoos running everywhere messing it up. The owner said he would spend \$2 million dollars on lawyers if he needed to, then hung up on Mike.

●Mike Kelso's side of the conversation consisted of talking to the owner about a leeway for existing routes for Strike Ravine, even though where he is going to build has nothing to do with where the trail is. It was also discussed about perhaps deeding the Strike Ravine part of the trail to the RR4W with easement to consult.

●Blue Ribbon Coalition is in contact with the owner. It is a Class “B” County Road, and San Juan County has not closed it. The BLM will give us latitude to use the portion of the trail we use for Strike Ravine.

**The Trail of the Month Run & BBQ in October is currently still on, we may not be going into BFE space, however, it is the general consensus that the small portion of trail we use should not be closed.**

Carol Hahn posted these pictures of the trip over part of the RimRocker Trail between Moab, UT and Montrose, CO. The trail has some beautiful scenery and has a good road surface. For detailed instructions-try the link below The entire trail is 160 miles, but you can return via highway from Nucla, CO if you don't want that long a day. <http://rimrockertail.org/detailed-directions/>



**Camels along the roadside in China & Mongolia.**



**Pitstop in the Gobi Desert**

**Part of the trail in the Jeep Park Jinson Gao owns in China.**



**Tires definitely need to be aired down and have soft rubber to grab onto the rock on each side of this crack. Mike Kelso, said every Jeep Mr Gao had was equipped with a V8 engine, Mike & Doug's Jeep had a 6" lift with 42" tires and a hemi engine. The tires didn't have soft rubber so it was more difficult to traverse some of the lips on the rock because they wouldn't grab.**

Mike Kelso and I just got back from a 2-week jeeping trip in China. We were based out of Yinchuan City in the Ningxia Province we also traveled to lower Mongolia in the Gansu Province of China. We jeeped in the Hooke Jeep Park,



the Tengger (Tengli) Desert and the Badan Jaran (Badan Jilin) Desert. Our host Jinson Gao and his team were exceptional, all the people we met in all the places we visited were very friendly and helpful. The jeeping at the Hooke Jeep Park was very fun and spectacular with the Great Wall as your back drop, and parts were very technical & difficult even competition worthy. We also camped and jeeped in two Deserts they were both beautiful in their own way. With the help

of our host we were able to visit three temples. We camped at a lake in the Tengli Desert and stayed at a great lodge in the Badan Jilin Desert. Jeeping in the sand with a Hemi jeep was fantastic. The scenery was unbelievable the food was wonderful. I've never jeeped with camels walking around before, you can tell I liked them. I had a great time with Mike. He is definitely better at driving in the sand than I am, but I'm willing to go back again and practice more. A trip of a lifetime. Thank you, Mr. Gao, for the opportunity and the friendship, good to be back home. (Story and pictures by Doug McElhane)



Red Rock 4-Wheelers, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1471  
Moab, UT 84532

Mike Kelso & Doug McElhaney were invited on an all expense paid trip to China to a Jeep park owned by Jinsong Gao, who visited during EJS in 2016.

