



THE NOR'EASTER

Distributed by the Northeast Association of 4WD Clubs, Inc.



Low-RANGE Magazine

<http://www.low-range.com>
P.O. Box 309, Tilton, NH
03276

Inside This Issue

Contact Us	Page 2	PR News/Events	Page 10-11
Advertising Space	Page 3	Upcoming Events	Page 12-13
Membership Info	Page 4-5	Save The Date	Page 14
Executive Columns	Page 6-7		
Land Committee Reports	Page 8-9		
National News and Views	Page 10		



<http://www.reelwebsolutions.com>
info@reelwebsolutions.com
Web Hosting, Web Application
Development and general support.



<http://www.7slotgrilles.com>
54 Edgemere Blvd.,
Shrewsbury MA 01545
508-340-1488



DOMENIC'S AUTO & JEEP REPAIR

19 HAZEL DR. UNIT 2 & 3 • HAMPSTEAD, NH 03841 • (603) 329-9439

2007 Executive Officers

President: Scott Hatch

Vice President: Jason Ghelli

Interim Secretary: Tammy Van Gemert

Treasurer: Steve Nordby

2007 Land Directors

New Hampshire Land Director: Scott Hatch

Maine Land Director: Scott Brown

Vermont Land Director: OPEN POSITION

Massachusetts Land Director: Ryan Schneider

Rhode Island Land Director: Bob Butler

Connecticut Land Director: Joe Mylie

*Interested in filling one of the Land Director positions? Contact Scott Hatch for details.

Public Relations Contact- Mark Dupont/Steve Nordby

Nor'Easter Editor- Tammy Lynn Van Gemert

Website Contact- Scott Hatch

Sales/Advertising/Business Memberships- Scott Hatch/Mark Dupont

Mailing Address: Northeast Association of 4WD Clubs, Inc.
P.O. Box 887
Derry, NH 03038

E-mail: info@nea4wd.org

Please be sure to include the reason for your e-mail in the Subject line so we can forward it to the correct person.

Phone: 508 468-1658

Join us at a meeting! Meetings are the first Saturday of every other month, excluding holidays, from 10am to 2pm. We are now bringing meetings to a location near you so check the Calendar of Events to see when we will be in your area! We would love to have you there!

www.nea4wd.org
forum.nea4wd.org

2007 Member Clubs

Baystate Jeepers, Inc.

Based in MA

President: Pat Charron

<http://www.baystatejeepers.com>

Deep Woods Extreme, Inc.

Based in NH

President: Roy Van Gemert

<http://www.DeepWoodsExtreme.com>

Freedom Trail Riders

Based in MA

President: Mark Dupont

<http://www.freedomtrailriders.org>

JonFund

Based in CT

President: Rich Kaminske

<http://www.jonfund.com>

Long Island Off Road

Based in NY

President: Doug Abrams

<Http://www.ec4wda.org/LIOR/index.htm>

NE4WI

Based in MA

President: Bill Barnes

<http://www.ne4wi.org>

New England Jeepz

Based in MA

President: John Shelton

<http://www.newenglandjeepz.com>

NEWJO

Based in NH

President: Dan Stonesifer

<http://www.newjo.org>

Northeast Jeep Organization, Inc.

Based in CT

President: Damon Scott

<http://www.nejeep.org>

Underground Jeeps

Based in MA

President: Joe Morin

<http://www.undergroundjeeps.com>

Vermont Jeep Association

Based in VT

President: Charleen McFarlane

<http://www.vtjeep.org>

Yankee Toys

Based in MA

President: Joe Mylie

<http://www.yankeetoys.org>

Overland Jeepers of Maine

President: Lou Rumore

NEZR2

Based in NH/MA

President: Michael Yaffe

<http://www.nezr2.com>

Central CT Four Wheelers

President: Tom Lombardo

<http://www.cc4w.org>

Cape Cod Jeep Club

President: Marc Bruyere

<http://www.capecodjeepclub.org>

Legal Jeepers

BECOME A SUPPORTING BUSINESS MEMBER OF THE NEA4WDC

What do you get with your annual business membership?

Standard Membership

\$100

Entry in newsletter as a supporting business

Listing/link on Association website

Member placard for business

10% discount on advertising rates

Gold Membership

\$250

Entry in newsletter as a supporting business

Full page ad and link on Association website

Gold placard for business

Free booth at one NEA4WDC-sponsored event

Free business card size ad in the Nor'Easter or 20% discount on larger ad space

Why is it worth every penny?

The Nor'Easter has the potential to reach over 1500 readers throughout the Northeast. Our website sees traffic on a national level. We all know the advertising power of the internet. By advertising that you support the NEA4WDC, our members will be encouraged to use your services before calling one of your competitors. So really, justifying your investment is a no brainer!

Contact one of our Business Membership representatives today to find out how you can become a 2006 Supporting Business Member!

*You must provide us with logos and text for advertising and website content. Logos should be in a proper resolution and we prefer .jpg format. Advertising text is subject to revision by one of our editors for space and grammar. If you require extensive formatting or editorial services we may charge an additional fee.

Don't want to be a Business Member but you wish to advertise in the Nor'Easter?

- \$10 for business card size advertisement
- \$30 for a 1/4 page advertisement
- \$50 for a half page advertisement
- \$100 for a full page advertisement

You must provide us with logos and text for your ad. Logos should be sent in proper resolution and .jpg format is preferred. Advertising text is subject to revision by one of our editors for space and grammar. If you require extensive formatting or editorial services we may charge an additional fee.

Please contact us for additional information.



<http://www.allthingsjeep.com>

12 Easterbrook Road, Lunenburg, MA 01462
978-582-6606 info@allthingsjeep.com

Find the perfect gift for Jeep & 4x4 Off-Road enthusiasts at All Things Jeep! Our unique Jeep accessories and gifts include T-shirts, decals, diecast models, bumper stickers, tire covers, Jeep bikes, videos, and unique items. Our products will remind you of the trail even when you can't be on it.

BUSINESS MEMBERS

The following businesses have willingly donated financial and material support to the Northeast Association of 4WD Clubs, Inc. Many of the businesses also offer discounts to NEA4WDC members so please remember to use their services and tell them you saw their ad in the Nor'Easter or on the website. Please see their ads for complete business details.

Domenic's Auto & Jeep, Hampstead NH

Reel Web Solutions, Brookline NH

Low Range Magazine, Tilton NH

All Things Jeep, Lunenburg MA

Detours Mfg., LLC, Connecticut Shoreline

Elias 4WD, Townsend MA

7SlotGrilles.com, Shrewsbury MA



The banner features a blue background with a tire tread graphic on the right. On the left is a circular logo with a blue Jeep and the text 'Elias 4WD Center'. The main text reads 'ELIAS 4WD CENTER' in large white letters, with 'BUYER'S REMORSE IS ENEMY #1' below it. The address '178 WALLACE HILL RD TOWNSEND, MA 978.597.8432' is in the bottom right corner.

<http://www.elias4wdcenter.com>



The logo includes a small image of a Jeep on the left. The text 'DETOURS' is in large, bold, red letters. Below it, 'OFFROAD • HARDWARE' is written in white. To the right, 'XJ, CJ, YJ, TJ & Custom' is in small black text, followed by the phone number '203.315.8111' and the website 'www.detoursusa.com'.

Detours Mfg. LLC, is a design & build oriented company involved in the Jeep® 4WD community. Products offered by Detours are designed, tested & manufactured to strict standards to ensure every product produced is completely satisfactory and performs as described for our customers. While on the trail, we use the same hardware we sell, driving common setups that an average Jeeper drives. By doing so, we ensure the parts developed by Detours works as well on your Jeep®, as they do ours.

Owner: Mark Colman info@detoursusa.com

Not sure about joining? Is the NEA4WDC right for your club? **By: Dan Stra, Paul Maxwell-with edits by Tammy Lynn Lucke**

Thinking about joining the NEA4WDC but you have questions or you don't know how to go about joining? Here is some info compiled by our former Membership Committee. Contact us for information if you would like to take the next step and become part of our community.

What about all those rules and bylaws?

Rules and by-laws are a given for any registered organization but they are also in place for your protection. They also provide protection for the generous landowners that allow us to use their land and for the association that has put so much time and energy into locating new places for us to enjoy our sport.

What about incorporating?

Incorporating is easier and more affordable than you think. All of the current member clubs have done it and the Association is willing to provide you with all of the help you need.

Generally speaking, incorporation provides protection for liability. Although your club's assets remain vulnerable, no one can go after your personal assets such as your house, bank account, or things that you hold near and dear. To be direct, we don't think it is wise for any club to not be incorporated because of the potential liability its members become exposed to. Incorporation should be the first thing someone does after they think about starting any organization.

We want to join, but our club is not incorporated and we don't have by-laws. Will you help me?

We will gladly help any person or club and it is a free service we offer to you and your club.

The NEA4WDC realizes that just the thought of incorporating can be intimidating. Filing costs are minimal in most states. We even have provisions in our bylaws for clubs that are not yet incorporated but seeking to become so.

You see, all corporations need by-laws. It is the law. As the committee is working with you to incorporate it will also work with you to put together a working set of by-laws. One common misconception about by-laws is that they are these long, drawn out documents with a lot of legal mumbo jumbo. That could not be further from the truth. By-laws don't need to have a lot of jargon. They can be a document which lists your club's home address, executive officers, and a set of general rules which allow your club to operate smoothly. You should think of them as a working document that is refined and polished over time. You might initially think that putting together by-laws is going to be tough. Trust us, it is a lot easier than you think. Especially when you have our assistance. We will provide you with several sets (or one set) of working by-laws that our member clubs use. If you find a set that works for you then it simply becomes a matter of tailoring the by-laws for your club.

Well that's all fine and good, but what about that insurance thing?

Insurance is yet another benefit offered to you under the umbrella of the NEA4WDC. We offer you another layer of protection on top of incorporating. But insurance also protects the landowners that we work with and it protects the Association.

Odds are, if you have checked into insurance, you found that it is difficult to obtain. We all know that because we have all tried. It is with this in mind that the NEA4WDC has secured blanket coverage for any member club while on an NEA4WDC sponsored run. Your club would be responsible for covering a per event/per day cost each time you request the use of the insurance. You can contact Steve Nordby for more details.

What about the NEA4WDC bylaws? There are a lot of them! Who can remember all those rules?

Because we are an association, we needed to address issues that a single club would not even consider. Just scan through them; they are all quite reasonable. Many of them are procedural which is good in that you have something to reference or follow. Others are conduct oriented and aimed specifically at shedding the negative images that the public has been lead to believe about us all.

All member clubs are strongly urged to abide by our by-laws. We mean to preserve the strong relationships that we have built with various landowners and frown upon any action which jeopardizes our good standing with them. This is to our advantage and is our future. We are all better off for it.

What we feel we have accomplished with these bylaws is to affect a smooth running association for you and all other member clubs. We have tried to cover all foreseeable issues by proactively addressing them before hand rather than trying to react to situations after the fact. Naturally, there will be bumps in the road but remember that this is a working document that is updated or revised as the member clubs see fit.

So there you have it. We urge you to contact us if you have any further questions or would like to join.

Sincerely,
The NEA4WDC



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As some of you may or may not know Paragon Adventure Park in Hazelton PA has been shut down. The exact details are contained further in this newsletter but the question is, how does this affect us? The obvious result is the loss and closure of the premiere off road adventure park on the East coast for all motorized users. The less obvious result will be the increase in use on the trails and properties available to our use in the Northeast. This increase can and will put a strain on the trail networks and increase the overall impact to all of our trails.

Now more than ever we must become more vigilant about protecting our access to private land and public trails. We must police ourselves and not overlook the impact on our trails. This should come as a wake up call to everyone that we can easily loose what we take for granted at a moment's notice. We must all work to protect the trails we use to insure our continued access for years to come.

Now more than ever it is important that we all work towards finding and developing new properties with trails for all levels of expertise. If you know a landowner that allows or supports motorized access let a club officer, Land Access Chair, or NEA4WDC officer know. Regardless of who obtains the access it is crucial that our sport sees an increase of trails and properties to further disperse our use and impact. As the new wheeling season begins the NEA4WDC will again be working towards developing parcels of land it has gained access to.

I hope to meet many new members this year and look forward to more fun on the trails with all of you!

Scott Hatch

WANT TO DONATE NOW TO THE NEA4WDC TRAVEL FUND TO SUPPORT SOME OF THE UPCOMING TRIPS THAT SCOTT MENTIONED? YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL A FUNDRAISER-JUST SEND A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO THE NEA4WDC, PO BOX 887, DERRY NH, 03038 AND LABEL YOUR DONATION "TRAVEL FUND". OUR REPRESENTATIVES APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Some of you may not recognize the new name residing by the title Vice President, so I talked Jason into telling us a little about himself. Meet your new Vice President!

Who is Jason Ghelli?

A 32 year old and who lives in Bellingham MA. I work as a computer operator for Waters Corp. doing the over-night shifts.

What club are you affiliated with?

I am the Vice President of NEZR2, Inc. which is primarily a Chevy based stock to slightly modified club, though we accept all vehicles that meet our requirements. We have members from CT to ME. Our website is www.NEZR2.com

What do you drive? What are your plans for the vehicle?

My daily driver is a 2001 Chevy ZR2 pickup. 5 speed, 4.3 with a 2" body lift and 32" BFG All Terrains. It comes stock with 3:73 gears and a limited slip locker in the rear. In the summer I drive a 2002 Yamaha YZF 600R. My trail rig is a 1988 Chevy K5 Blazer. It has a 350, 4-speed automatic and the factory 10 bolt axles with 3:73 gears. I just got it late last year so I haven't modified it too much yet. Current plans include welding the rear axle and a drop in locker for the front until I upgrade to a 14 bolt full floating rear axle and Dana 60. Eventually it will get a 4" suspension lift and 35" tires.

How long have you been into organized OHRV?

I've only been involved with organized wheeling since 2005. Our group started as a loyal following of the Chevy, GMC ZR2 package pickups and Blazer2's. Since 2002 we would get together every other month or so in the good weather and wheel. While we didn't understand all the ramifications of renegade wheeling at the time we were always careful to only go places we knew for sure were legal. Unfortunately that left us in roughly the same four or five spots all the time. Then Mike, our President, met Scott Hatch at the Deep Woods Extreme (DWE) Truck Show in 2005. Scott explained all the benefits of getting organized and joining the Northeast Association of 4WD Clubs (NEA4WDC). Mike and I got to work immediately and with help from Tammy and Roy of DWE we incorporated and joined the NEA4WDC. Since then we have capitalized on the advantage of having pickups in our group to help with trail cleanups. We have also participated in multiple trail development projects, focusing mostly on the new Springfield, NH property.

What made you want to become more active in the volunteer aspect of the sport?

When I saw how little land was available for motorized recreation and how fast it was being taken away by people who have never been off-road, and who don't understand just how careful most wheelers are, I felt I needed to help our cause. It just struck me as unfair that an anti-access group who claims they have the best interest of the land at heart refuses to see that some of us are actually out there trying to do good. Sure we like to drive out into the woods to do our trail cleanups, but we can fit a lot more in a truck to haul away than hiking in and carrying it out in a backpack. Meeting Steve Nordby, Treasurer of the NEA4WDC and long-time member of NE4WI, was another inspiration. I think sometimes able bodied people take it for granted that they can access the more remote parts of New England. Steve opened my eyes to the advantages motorized access plays for disabled people to enjoy that too.

What are your goals for your term as VP?

Learn as much as I can from Scott Hatch about the properties we already have. Find out the history of how we got access to it, what the conditions of use are, what maintenance it needs, things like that. Try and lighten his work load a little so he can concentrate on land access since that is his passion. Increase the amount of volunteers to help with events and trail cuts so the usual people aren't getting burnt out. I'd like to try and organize a one day trail blitz campaign to get as many people involved as we can and try and knock off the majority of what needs to be done in one shot. That would mean hitting all the problem trails at one time and would require leaders for each property. A very big task but I think we have enough people who love the sport that we could do it.

Anything else you'd like to add?

The last thing I want to say is I work for you. If there's anything you need don't hesitate to ask. If you can't get me on any of the forums, you can email me directly at spyderghel@comcast.net. I might not have the answer right away but I will find it and get it to you. We are all on the same team and working for the same goal. There is no room for egos. If you have a suggestion on how I can do something better or more efficient please share it with me.

Land Director Progress Reports

New Hampshire Land Use Report **composed from reports by Scott Hatch**

Scott Hatch is going to be the new NH Land Chair since Jen White (Codispoti) now works for the NH Trails Bureau and felt it would be a conflict of interest to remain the head of the committee. Jen will still be involved in the committee as much as time allows.

Recently Scott spoke with the Trails Bureau and they stated that 4x4's are not considered an official user group in NH. They told Scott we need to define our vehicles and how we use them so Scott Hatch and Jay Ghelli are working on putting a definition together to present. Scott also met with the NH State Trails Advisory Committee and hopes to get more involved with them. The ultimate goal is to complete our proposals for a sticker program. Mark Poulet is working with the park in Berlin NH for 4x4 access.

The NH Land Committee is planning a meeting for the month of February to discuss new developments and action items for the parcels of land in NH. Anyone who wishes to be involved in the committee is welcome to attend.

Connecticut Land Use Report **composed from reports by Mark Kosciukiewicz**

The committee formed a land trust titled Connecticut Open Access Land Trust (COALT) to work on collecting funds to put towards the task of gaining land access in the state.

The committee attended a meeting for Connecticut Trail Users, Inc. in January to discuss options of working with the state for land access.

The NEA4WDC is currently planning to make a \$500 donation to the Land Trust.

Rhode Island Land Use Report

The Rhode Island Off-Highway Vehicle Association is still working on land access and maintaining relationships among other recreational vehicle groups. At the time of press there were no new reports to share.

Maine Land Use Report **composed from reports by Scott Brown**

Scott and Jesse, Scott's Maine Access Leader, have been trying to get in touch with ATV Maine to discuss including 4WD vehicles in their group. Due to the lack of response from that group Jesse has also contacted Brian from the State of Maine Parks & Recreation office. Brian agreed to a meeting for sometime in early 2007. Brian stated that he feels pretty positive that the state legislature will soon be required to include 4WD vehicles so he wants to meet with the 4WD vehicle community ahead of time.

The most recent version of the Maine Inspection Manual now allows and references vehicle lifts.

Vermont Land Use Report **composed from reports by Dan Molind**

The Vermont Jeep Association is working with the Vermont Trail Users Association to develop funds for implementing and maintaining trails.

The Vermont Jeep Association is also hard at work planning a Landowner Appreciation event as well as assisting with the Jeep Jamboree at Killington.

Massachusetts Land Use Report
composed from reports by Ryan Schneider

For those of you who didn't know, Ryan Schneider is now the new MA Land Chair. As you can see from the report, Ryan has already been hard at work.

On December 10th the Committee made contact with the NEATV A, an ATV club with approx. 500 members, at their annual meeting. They are having the same land issues as us-losing land with more state closures lurking ahead. We spoke to them about breaking the age old barriers down in regards to us and them, potentially creating an alliance between the two groups for safety patrols. (Property in NEFF holdings). We discussed having further meetings between the committee and NEATV A.

The committee also scouted a few of the Cows Properties, The one in Gill was being actively logged at the time, it is bordered by the Nature Conservatory on two sides and is approx. 40 acres in size. Due to the size and location, it has been deemed not a prime location for our needs.

The Athol/ Royalston unimproved road system has also had some scouting, rated 1-2 on a scale of 10. There is some harder stuff tucked inside. Possible clean-up efforts will be needed at this location. The committee will follow up on this property.

The committee has contacted at least one local College with civil engineering programs about the possibility of a survey of OFR. They also attended a Patrick/Murray Transition Energy and Environment team meeting. The following is a brief of that meeting:

Last night I (Ryan) attended the meeting along with Chris Hetu and Mark Welzel both from FTR. I was the only one to testify, as the meeting ran long and they cut the people speaking off. There were A LOT of greenies there. When it was my time to speak I went into my best ramble that basically went something along these lines. I introduced myself as the MA Land Chair for the NEA4WDC. I then went on to state that Motorized Off-Road Recreation with vehicles weighing over 1000 lbs. was one of the fastest growing family sports in the USA and how the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has not provided any access to this user group. (this was falling on deaf ears) I then changed gears and told them about the State of New Hampshire's Jericho Park Program and stated that the preliminary yearly revenue numbers were approx. \$694,000 to the State with a residual revenue of \$1 ,000,000 to the local businesses and municipality. (Their ears perked up on this one!) I then went on to state that some of the Motorized Off-Road Community in the State of Massachusetts has access to private land within the State and how we make it a habit to frequent the local businesses when we are there and how most of these communities do not have the luxury of tourism dollars to help their economic growth. I asked them to please consider Motorized Off-Road Recreation user groups when devising new access plans within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

As you can see, there are some common themes in the Land Use Reports.

- Progress is being made.
- There is still so much work to be accomplished.
- WE NEED MORE HELP!!!!

Many of us know from the experience within our own clubs that there are never enough volunteers and the same people end up doing a lot of the work. Those people end up getting burnt out and progress comes to a halt. Well, we all love to wheel right? We are proud of our sport/hobby right? We put a lot of time, effort, and money into our vehicles right? We care about how our states are limiting our right to wheel more and more everyday right? Well then let's do something to insure that we have a place to go! Let's help out where we can- even if it is only devoting an hour a day to logging onto a forum and providing some feedback or going to a 4-5 hour meeting once every other month.

Make a resolution for 2007 to become more involved in your club and in the NEA4WDC so some of the burn-outs can revitalize their roots and get back in the game!

NATIONAL NEWS ON A LOCAL LEVEL

United Four-Wheel Drive Association Annual Meeting-2008

The UFWDA has alerted the member Associations across the country to submit their proposals for locations to hold the 2008 UFWDA Annual Meeting. The NEA4WDC is working on a proposal to hold the conference in New Hampshire and if we succeed this will be United's first convention in New England. The closest they have come to New England for the convention was in 2004 in Pennsylvania.

Tammy Van Gemert has been gathering quotes from prospective vendors and is working with the NEA4WDC to put together the proposal to submit to the UFWDA. The proposals are due March 1, 2007. The location being considered is the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua, NH. The NEA4WDC will propose the necessary requirements as set forth by the NEA4WDC as well as highlight some other attractions to draw the UFWDA to New England. The Association is also considering enticing the UFWDA BOD with an attached wheeling opportunity to be hosted at the end of the convention.

So keep your fingers crossed that we are successful and hopefully we will be able to announce in the Spring newsletter that our proposal was accepted.

A Sad Loss for Our Community? Maybe...Maybe Not

Paragon Adventure Park (PAP), Hazelton PA was ordered to close it's gates on Monday February 5th. PAP is fighting a battle against the landowner, known as PCA Corporation, who was approached with a better offer to convert the land into a cargo airport. The landowner claimed that Paragon violated the terms of their lease and a court judge originally ruled in PCA Corporation's favor, thereby giving PCA the right to evict the owners of Paragon. Despite efforts by Paragon to show the town and PCA Corp. the amount of revenue that will be lost by closing the park, they were asked to vacate the premises on February 5th. The owners of Paragon said they would abide by the judge's ruling but that they planned to appeal the decision. However, current reports state that Paragon will remain open until the appeals process is exhausted or until the court rules otherwise.

The good news for Hazelton, PA is that the cargo airport promises to bring, "thousands of jobs and billions of dollars," to a local economy that is currently not thriving. The bad news is that this would be a major loss for the wheeling community, especially those on the East coast because Paragon is the only major OHV park available to them. Paragon is also used nationally by the UROC division. Comments amongst the wheeling community have been diverse with some saying they would miss the park but they are glad that the town of Hazelton has a chance to boost their economy. Others are sad and have voiced complaints about the park possibly being shut down and say they will help in whatever way they can if Paragon appeals the decision. Let's hope that both parties will reach a happy medium!

Many times we might hear our members asking us what the national organizations such as BRC, UFWDA, and Tread Lightly! are doing for the Northeast. It often seems their focus is on Western issues. The more important question is what are we asking them to do? We have to communicate with them that their help is needed and by attending these national events-we can do just that. We can make connections with the people we need to talk to. Please support the NEA4WDC Travel Fund so we CAN send our representatives!

REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY-PUBLIC RELATIONS

Access 4 All Program

Recently the Access 4 All program received a donation of a 1985 Jeep Cherokee to use for the designated program vehicle. Unfortunately the Cherokee was not in good mechanical condition for the program so the Association is actively looking for another vehicle. Once the vehicle is located and secured, it will soon be modified with adaptive equipment to accommodate people with physical disabilities. The NEA4WDC has received and is accepting donations towards the cost of modifications and other expenses associated with the program. The Association would like to thank those who have made generous donations to the cause.

continued on page 11

Access 4 All Program continued from Page 10

At the time of press the Association was also working with both the insurance company and an off-the-record attorney regarding the liability concerns that are associated with putting such a program into operation. The Association will continue with plans for the program based on the information they receive.

The following is a list of contributors that the NEA4WDC would like to recognize:

Baystate Offroad

NEJeep

Central CT Four Wheelers

Jeff Santucci-NEJeepz

Jim Palmer-Overland Jeeps of Maine

Mark & Katrinka Trysek-NEJeep

Four-Wheeling for a Cure

By Stacey Osborn, Events Director for Freedom Trail Riders

Freedom TrailRiders (FTR), a local non-profit four-wheel drive club based in Southern New England, has put together a team for the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life of Bridgewater, MA. This event will celebrate cancer survivorship and raise money to help the American Cancer Society save lives and help those who have been touched by cancer. The Relay for Life is on Friday, June 15 and Saturday, June 16 at the Bridgewater State College Swenson Field.

To raise money for the cause, the club has a few other fundraising activities planned. One such activity is the "Freedom TrailRiders PowderPuff/Drag Trail Ride for Cancer" on Sunday, June 3. This trail ride will take riders who are either female, or dressed like a female, with properly equipped four-wheel drive vehicles off-road for a fun-filled day of excitement.

If you would like to join the FTR Relay for Life team or participate in the fundraising trail ride, please visit their website at <http://www.freedomtrailriders.org>. If you would like to make a donation to the team in support of the American Cancer Society, please visit the team's Relay for Life site at <http://tinyurl.com/yytznc>.

Please check out the club's flyer in the Upcoming Events section of our newsletter.

Tread Lightly!© Awareness Seminar hosted by Freedom Trail Riders

On Saturday, February 10th three members of the Freedom Trail Riders facilitated a three hour Tread Lightly!© Awareness Seminar. Approximately 26 people attended the seminar representing Freedom Trail Riders, Jon Fund, Cape Cod Jeep Club, New England Jeepz, TTORA, and the Bay State Rover Owners Association. The Seminar was held at the Boyden Library in Foxboro, MA. The following content was copied from the Freedom Trail Riders website with permission and explains what an Awareness Seminar is all about.

This Tread Lightly!© course is a 3 hour session designed to provide a "crash course" on outdoor ethics focusing on motorized and mechanized recreation. Participants will work with local Tread Trainers to understand the role outdoor ethics play in the recreation community, learn the Tread Lightly! principles of responsible recreation, and acquire the tools needed to coordinate community outreach.

The key to a successful workshop is to have participants that are familiar with Tread Lightly!, involved in community outreach or recreational training programs, or are interested in developing a higher awareness and competency on outdoor ethics.

Facilitating a Seminar is a requirement for those who previously attended a seminar hosted by the NEA4WDC to train various members of our community to become local Tread Lightly!© Trainers. I am sure there will be more of these in the future so if you missed this one-keep your eye out for the next one!



Support FTR in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life®

Freedom TrailRiders, a 4-Wheel Drive club based in the Southeastern MA area, is putting together a team of members to participate in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life® of Bridgewater, MA. The event will be held at the Bridgewater State College campus Friday, June 15 and Saturday, June 16, 2007.

The relay for life is a fun-filled overnight, 21-hour, event designed to celebrate survivorship. The event helps to raise money so the American Cancer Society can save lives, help those who have been touched by cancer, and empower individuals to fight back against this disease. During the event, teams gather at the Bridgewater State College track and take turns walking or running laps. Each team keeps at least one team member on the track at all times.

Relay is much more than a walk around a track. It is a time to remember those lost to cancer and celebrate those who have survived or who are currently battling the disease. It is a night for people who have shared the same experiences to comfort and console one another.

Relay gives you the power to help accelerate the Society's advancement toward a future where cancer no longer takes the lives of our friends and family.

Please donate today and together we can accelerate the progress to a cancer-free future. Donations can be mailed to:

**Freedom Trail Rider's
Attn: Relay For Life Team
PO Box 93
North Easton, MA 02356**

You may also donate online at <http://tinyurl.com/yytznc>

The Big 4WD Event
Hebert's Candy Mansion Rt. 20
(575 Hartford Turnpike)
Shrewsbury, MA
October 14th, 2007 9am-4pm

Lots of fun family events, Food, 4WD Clubs, 4WD Vendors, RTI Ramp, Winch contest,* Swap meet spots, The Big air up contest, RC (Remote control) Rock Crawler obstacle course/Race! Granny low contest!

4WD Vendor Spots/Swap Meet spots for \$35! ALL VENDOR CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE HEBERT CONFECTIONS!

4WD Club areas!
New 4WD' s from local auto dealers!
RTI Ramp!

\$5 Donation at the Gate
Parking is FREE!!!

Parking for Trailer space is limited! Please park down by dock.

For more info: Sevenslotgrills@aol.com **OR** 508-340-1488

United Land Use Seminar
March 31, 2007 9am-5pm
Sheraton Hotel Manchester NH

You may have asked yourself, "What does United 4WD Association do for us?" Here is part of that answer!

John Stewart, United's Director of Environmental Affairs, is traveling from San Diego, CA to share with us his knowledge and expertise in lobbying, legislative initiatives, and environmental processes.

The course will cover:

1. John's series on Public Speaking, Lobbying Basics, and Effective Advocacy.
2. The NEPA process as it applies to federal agencies as well as each of the New England state's equivalent with highlights of specific issues in our states.
3. Brief on United's Volunteer Trail Patrol Program.
4. Basic writing style that will cover creating press releases and general writing hints for formal letters and web site articles.
5. Q&A session

Please join the Northeast Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs for these important topics and learn how you can effectively help in keeping northeast wheeling from extinction.

To register for the event, please contact the Association or visit our website at <http://www.nea4wd.org>
Registration deadline is March 21st.

SAVE THE DATES

Post this on your fridge to remind you of upcoming events and remember to check the NEA forum for updates!

March 3	NEA4WDC Meeting	Foxboro, MA
March 20	Earth Day	
March 31	United Land Use Seminar	Manchester, NH
April 21	Cut & Ride @ Carnage Hill	Richmond, NH
May 5	NEA4WDC Meeting	TBD
May 19	MA Land Maintenance Day	TBD
June 3	FTR PowderPuff/Drag Trail Ride	
June 15-16	FTR Relay For Life	Bridgewater, MA

**Northeast Association of 4WD Clubs, Inc.
PO Box 887
Derry, NH 03038**