



# THE GOPHER TRAP

EST: JUNE 1965

ISSUE: JULY 2020

Meetings: First Friday of the Month 6:30 pm  
Wyandotte Grange, 4910 Foothill Blvd., Oroville  
ophirgopherjeepclub@gmail.com

## Events

- July 4  
Independence Day
- July 5, 7:30-10:30 am  
Grange Breakfast  
\$8
- July 8, 6:00 pm  
Grange Bunco  
\$5
- July 10, 6:30 pm  
Meeting  
Wyandotte Grange
- July 11  
Trail Maintenance  
Stag Point
- July 18, 5:00-6:30 pm  
Grange Dinner  
\$8, Lasagna



## Independence Day

[www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th](http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th)

The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.



## Congratulations

Congratulations to our President and First Lady, Jerry and Bev Roberson, on the birth of their new granddaughter, Kacie, born May 31! Jerry, have you bought a Power Wheels Jeep for her yet?! It's never too soon to get started in 4-wheeling!!



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# Straight from the Gopher's Mouth

Joie Cherry, Secretary

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 5, 2020 MEETING

- Meeting called to order by Judy Bennett, Vice President, at 6:40 p.m. at the Bennett home.
- Attendees:
  - Members: Judy Bennett; David Casagrande; Joie Cherry & Vanessa Purdy; Sharon Cherry; Jody Jobe; Miguel Madrigal; John & Glenda Morse; Jackie Peterson; Keith Van Zandt
  - Guests: Charlie Miller
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Vanessa.
- Secretary's Report – Joie Cherry, Secretary
  - Motion made by Vanessa, seconded by Sharon, to accept the minutes of the May meeting as written.
    - Called to vote and motion carried.
- Treasurer's Report – Judy Bennett, Treasurer
  - Motion made by Joie, seconded by Jody, to approve the treasurer's report.
    - Called to vote and motion carried.
- Delegate's Report – David Casagrande, Delegate
  - In the newest *In Gear*, in Jeff Blewett's report, there is information regarding turning the middle fork of the Feather River into a National Monument. An environmental group wants the monument to cover Quincy to Lake Oroville. Please read about it and we recommend a "No" vote.
  - Cal4Wheel Board of Directors plan to have next meeting in person.
- Trail Master's Report – Keith Van Zandt, Trail Master
  - Next run at Buck's Lake on June 13, meeting at Buck's Lake FD at 9:00 am.
    - Camping Fri-Sun. Bring an appetizer for Friday dinner, potluck side dish for Saturday (meat will be provided), and potluck breakfast Sunday.
  - July 11 workday run to Stag Point.
- Old Business
  - None.
- New Business
  - Next meeting to be July 10, location TBD.
  - In the *In Gear*, there is an ad for a Cal4Wheel Camping Cookbook. Please submit any good camping recipes!
- News
  - None.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.  
Dinner was bring your own to enjoy.

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# Off the Beaten Path

Keith Van Zandt, Trail Master

Greetings, fellow Gophers.

Well, we finally managed to get a run in the book. Several of us met at the Fire Station at Buck's Lake. We headed toward Bald Eagle Mt. The trail is getting a little bumpy and was probably a challenge for a big Dodge. The view from the summit was about as far as your front bumper. That's two trips up there with the same result for me. There was a fire lookout at one time, so the view is pretty good when it isn't foggy or cloudy. We did a little work on the trail where a downed tree had blocked the trail for quite a while. We cleared the trail and blocked off the bypass. The next day was sunny and bright...just our luck.



Speaking of luck...Jackie's Jeep lost the engine climbing Merrimack Grade.



The July run is working on the Stag Point trail on July 11<sup>th</sup>. We will depart Lakeside Market at 8:30 am. Bring plenty of water, gloves, and tools for dealing with brush.

I have put together a spreadsheet to keep track of the runs attended. I will try and bring copies to the next meeting to make any corrections.

<u>Run Count 2020</u>	<u>Total</u>
J. Bennet	0
D. & C. Casagrande	2
K. & M. Casagrande	1
J. & V. Purdy-Cherry	2
T. & J. Jobe	2
M. & J. Madrigal	3
J. & G. Morse	2
J. Peterson	1
J. & B. Roberson	3
K. Van Zandt	4

<u>Guests</u>	
C. Miller	2
D. Tiedemann	2
K. Tiedemann	1

Everyone stay safe.



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## Delegate's Discoveries & Report

David Casagrande



Old Mining Camp



Used and Abused

Here is an important message from Cal4Wheel President, Jack Chapman:

“It’s hard to believe that we are halfway through the year already. It is my hope that everyone receiving this email is in good health.

I would like to start off by saying that Cal4Wheel continues to move forward with the ideas and dreams Steve Morris once started. This year the BOD did a great job coming up with a working budget by weighing all pros and cons as well as making plans just in case COVID interfered with our planned events. Alongside the State Treasurer they ran many scenarios and came up with the best options.

As of today, there have been many club events, functions, and other activities that have been canceled due to the pandemic. With the rules and restrictions that have been put into effect from the federal, state, and local governments, Cal4Wheel has also felt the impacts. Molina had to be rescheduled, HDR (Hi Desert Round-Up) was canceled, and just recently Sierra Trek was canceled. We have high hopes that the High Sierra Poker Run in September, Operation Desert Fun in October, Panamint Valley Days and Molina Ghost Run in November will still be on the books for this year, along with the many other events and shows that typically happen in the latter part of the year.

As an association, we apologize for having to cancel the events and we hope that if the others are still a go, we will see you out there enjoying yourself with friends and family along with the comradery of being in the outdoors with other like-minded people. Even though Sierra Trek canceled, the committee has some great ideas to help raise money for the association. Should anyone feel the desire to make a donation to your favorite event or to Cal4Wheel in general please know it would be greatly appreciated.

The Win-A-Jeep builder is JEP Autoworks and I would like to thank Josh Epstein for his hard work and time on this very popular annual convention raffle vehicle giveaway held in February. The Jeep is coming together nicely and soon only minimal finishing touches will be required. Don’t forget we have Vehicle Raffle ticket books available at Cal4Wheel’s online store for you or others who would like to take a chance on winning this year’s Jeep. Either way you are helping Cal4Wheel’s raffle become a success. I would like to thank all our sponsors who have continued with their donations in these unusual times. Most are working with limited staff and have cut back this year; however, they continue to give to our association, which we greatly appreciate. Our Corporate Sponsor Coordinator John McCready has been working harder than ever to reach out and get more sponsors for Cal4Wheel. Thank you, John.

This year we had the Win-A-Jeep Chair as well as a Win-a-Jeep Committee member resign from the program, leaving two positions to fill. At this time the remaining committee is working hard at coming up with new ideas to promote the Jeep, as well as making arrangements to move the vehicle to the scheduled remaining events and shows once the state reopens. We are currently asking anyone is interested in joining the existing committee and becoming either the Win-A-Jeep Chair or a committee member to please reach out to me and let me know of your interest by emailing [jack@cal4wheel.com](mailto:jack@cal4wheel.com). The association is also looking for qualified drivers (especially from the Central and South Districts) with a proper towing vehicle and a clean driving record to help tow the jeep to and

from events/shows. If interested in being a part of this team, please reach out to the Cal4Wheel office by calling 916-381-8300.

I want to thank everyone and my hopes are that you have a great upcoming 4th of July weekend. Enjoy and be safe out there.

Regards,  
Jack Chapman”

Additionally, some important information about Sierra Trek being canceled:

“It is with much disappointment and sincere apologies from the California Four Wheel Drive Association that I, as the Sierra Trek Chairman, along with all the committee members, must inform you that due to mandatory restrictions being placed in California as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sierra Trek 2020 is canceled.

A great deal of time has been spent by many individuals who continued to move forward with plans on how to accommodate our attendees and follow all of the current COVID-19 compliance requirements. However, due to the increase in positive cases, changing requirements, regressions in the reopening strategy statewide and the extreme restrictions being placed on group settings, it has led us to no other option than to cancel this year's event.

Thank you to those who had already registered. We have sent you a separate email with more information. Please feel free to contact us if you did not receive a notification.

Should you choose to donate your funds, please know that it is greatly appreciated. Being a not-for-profit organization, this year is proving to be difficult for us. COVID-19 has forced Cal4Wheel to cancel or postpone, to date, all our events this year and we are unsure what the future will hold. Cal4Wheel and your committee members will continue planning for Sierra Trek 2021 and hope to see everyone next year. It is our goal to make this event a huge success and we look forward to welcoming everyone back.

Sierra Trek is one of the biggest fundraisers for the association. As such, we would appreciate it if you can help us in raising some funds to help support this great organization. In the coming days, please watch for announcements that will provide more details on how to get involved. For now, I am pleased to let you know that we will have T-shirt/sweatshirt sales and are looking at some sort of an auction. We are still working out the particulars on these items but hope that they will be on your radar.

On behalf of the entire Sierra Trek Committee, we appreciate your understanding during this difficult time and appreciate your continued support. Stay safe, Stay healthy, Keep Wheeling and we will see you soon on the trails.

Jeff Dax, Chairman  
John Allen III, Co-Chairman”

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## Camp Food

Ed Cherry via Joie Cherry  
(with help from Sharon Cherry)

### Homemade Strawberry Ice Cream

Every Fourth of July when I was a kid, my dad would make strawberry ice cream. It was the best tasting strawberry ice cream in the world! I loved watching the ice cream maker spin and can still hear the noise it made. It took *for-ev-er!* Or it seemed to as a kid waiting for the amazing treat!

Makes apx 1 gallon

### Ingredients

- 6 c fresh strawberries
- 4 eggs
- 2 ½ c sugar
- 5 c milk
- 4 c heavy cream
- 4 ½ tsp vanilla
- ½ tsp salt

### Instructions

1. Wash strawberries; remove and discard caps. Puree berries in blender or food processor. Set aside.
2. Beat eggs until thick and lemon colored.
3. Add sugar and beat until stiff.
4. Mix in other ingredients and pour into ice cream maker canister. Freeze in ice cream maker according to manufacturer's directions.



### Cal4Wheel Camping Cookbook

We have had some amazing recipe submissions in here, plus I have tasted everyone's delicious food!!! So, pick your favorite camping recipes and send them in to be part of the Cal4Wheel Camping Cookbook!

**LADIES.....&.....GENTLEMEN**  
**WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!!!**

First off thank you for reading past the headline -- that means we piqued your interest!

Bonnie Steele and I have decided to involve our members in putting together recipes for the

**CAL4WHEEL**  
**CAMPING COOKBOOK**

All of us, I'm sure, have gone camping one time or another while our wheeling and needless to say we've gotten creative with meals as a way to save space, pack less cooking articles, and to make meal preparation easier.

We would like to hear from our membership what they do to accomplish feeding their group or family while on the trail. Sharing your meal recipes and cooking tips will make someone else's meal planning much easier as well as interesting and perhaps more diverse.

We will be putting together a **Cal4Wheel Camping Cookbook** but we need your recipes, quick tips, and how to's.

Please send the below info via email to [kitten@cal4wheel.com](mailto:kitten@cal4wheel.com)

**First and Last Name**  
(if you do not want your name published just say anonymous)

**Club Name**

**Recipe**

**Cooking Items required** (i.e. pots, pans, Dutch oven, etc.)

**If you have any quick tips - share those too**

Bonnie and I look forward to publishing your yummy camping eats.

**Kitten Chapman**  
ND Sec./Treas.

Send your submissions to Kitten Chapman via email, [kitten@cal4wheel.com](mailto:kitten@cal4wheel.com). Be sure to include your first and last name (or anonymous), club name, recipe, cooking items required, and any quick tips! I can't wait to see what our club contributes!! I think we have the best cooks in the association!!!

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## New Toys

Joie & Vanessa Purdy-Cherry

Our Jeep is still coming along. With the 'Rona holding up production and shipping, it took months to get the lift. But it has finally arrived and is in Keith's shop ready to be installed! Keith did some poking around under the Jeep and discovered she has a limited slip in the rear (Dana 44). So, the plan is to change the gear ratios to 4.88 in the front and rear and rebuild the limited slip. Now, we just have to figure out how to keep Keith from all the traveling he does so he can focus on the more important things!! What, does he think he's retired?! Just kidding, Keith! We appreciate you more than you will ever know!! Enjoy those well-earned trips!



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## Win-A-Jeep

Don't forget to purchase tickets to win this Jeep! There are tons of amazing sponsors on this build! Tickets can be ordered through the store at [cal4wheel.com](http://cal4wheel.com).

