



# Indiana Four Wheel Drive Association

# 4 x N e w s

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2001/2002

## President's Report

By Dan Firestone

Here it is early December and we're all wondering, "What's going on?" Isn't it supposed to be snowing or something like that? We shouldn't complain. I'm sure we'll get ours when we least expect it. I guess we'll all get another chance or two to go out and do a little wheelin'! Maybe test out a few tricks to use on our trail ride in March. We'll have more about that later. I'd like to thank those delegates who showed up at Jim Carson's new shop for the last quarterly meeting. I was still disappointed that there were still three clubs without delegate representation at the meeting. Those of you in the clubs not represented need to get on your delegates and make sure they get to the quarterly meetings. You can get news of what's going on in the association weeks earlier than the newsletter if you get it from a delegate that attended the quarterly. I know that's one of the reasons we in the Ruffriders have delegates to IFWDA. The other being to vote on issues brought up during the meeting. This is how we get our voice heard by the association. Without delegate representation, your club has no voice within the association. Now on to what I hope you all are waiting to hear about: Convention 2002. I'm sure you've all heard it's going to be in the northern part of the state. In the same location as it was 5 years ago when the Ruffriders hosted convention on their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They have cut us a great rate on rooms and are helping a lot to keep the cost of convention to a reasonable amount. We've managed to keep the cost down to a

## IFWDA's Brian Rowda Named United Environmental Four Wheeler Of The Year



*IFWDA Vice President Scott Sperling presents IFWDA Director of Environmental Affairs, Brian Rowda, with United's Environmental Four Wheeler of the Year award for 2001.*

reasonable amount for a single and giving the couples a bit of a break. The best news is that the fun part of the convention isn't going to cost anyone anything extra at all! No extra fee for what is perhaps the trail ride of a lifetime. We are going to go out on the Hummer proving grounds in our own rigs! Yes, they will have Hummers out there and they will have absolute say over anything that goes on there. We are going to be on the site by invitation only and that invitation could be revoked at any time they feel necessary. We will have to mind our manners and remember to tread lightly. Not to give you the idea this is going to be some mild-mannered trail ride. There will be trails with varying degrees of difficulty. I've been told you can take a brand new show-room stock rig out and see most of the property, but they have some spots they say you'll need 44s and lockers with possibly a winch assist to get through! Sounds great to me! What about you? No one is saying you need to tackle everything, just come prepared to have a great time wheelin'. Be sure to check out

the convention info page in the newsletter and be sure to get your registration in as soon as possible. It might not hurt to let them know on your registration if you'll be trailering a rig with you. Things might get a little tight for parking at the motel and we need to plan for that also. I'm looking forward to seeing yawl up here in the frozen north in March. That brings another thing into play. Will we be trail riding in mud or in snow? What an interesting question. Let's not miss out on what might be a "once in a lifetime" opportunity to go wheelin' where we've never gone before. Just to make sure you didn't miss it in the minutes of the last meeting, the next meeting will be held on January 20, 2002. The location of that meeting hasn't been decided as of yet. It should be in the Indy area. The board has changed the calendar around a bit to get things back to the way they used to be. There will still be an IFWDA meeting at convention also.

As always, feel free to rattle my cage, let me know what's up. See ya soon.

**Indiana Four Wheel Drive Association  
Quarterly Meeting  
Sunday November 18, 2001  
Carson Fletcher Motorsports**

**Call To Order**

**Guests:**

2 members of Hardcore Off Roaders, LaPorte, IN

**Roll Call: Vice President = Scott Sperling**

**Clubs Represented:**

Four Wheelers to Freedom = 2  
Monroe County = 1  
Southeastern IL = 1  
Southern Indiana Four Wheelers = 0  
North Central = 1  
Boonie Riders = 2  
Ruff Riders = 1  
Iron Horse = 0  
JP Frog = 2  
Midwest Trail Runners = 0  
SUBY = 2  
Tri-State Jeeps = 2  
Fat Boys Jeeps = 2  
Individual members = 0

**TOTAL DELEGATES = 16**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dan Firestone**

- Appreciate the amount of delegates present.  
- All IFWDA members need to promote growth. If you talk to any clubs that do not currently belong, please encourage them to join IFWDA.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Scott Sperling**

- Club of the year points are being tallied. If you have any info to go towards the points, please get it to Scott ASAP. Would like to stress that clubs do community service work, and make sure you get that info to Scott as well.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT: Robert Bubala**

- IFWDA email list – all previous users deleted, and IFWDA members that I had addresses for were sent invites. Currently there are 72 members. Please send all addresses to Robert Bubala at jeep\_cj8@hotmail.com so that invites can be sent out to join the list.

- DELEGATES – please get all your email addresses to me ASAP Also; do not forget to get me the alternate delegates email addresses too.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Rob Robbins**

- If any clubs have members that are not getting the newsletter, if you are still not, please contact Rob and he will assist in getting the names added to the distribution

mailing.

- Rob issued the current financial report.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Angie Yaddow**

- NOT PRESENT

**PUBLICITY REPORT: Max Soliday**

- Max wants pictures and videos to put presentation together for IFWDA. If you have any, please see him.  
- Max will have the club picture boards at the convention, and all clubs are encouraged to pick theirs up and update the pics, and club information.  
- Max thanked all IFWDA members that worked the tent at the Indy Jamboree.

**DIR. ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT: Brian Rowda**

- September 29, 2001 Redbird review – Many cars were removed from the property as well as a large dumpster of material. More material needs to be removed.

- State capital funding for Redbird has been cut due to budget issues in the state, but there is a possibility that an endowment can be established where people can donate money or items and that would go straight towards the Redbird project, and you can take those \$\$\$ off of your taxes.

- DNR has thanked IFWDA for helping to curb illegal four wheeling at Redbird.

- All IFWDA clubs need to participate in cleanup days at Redbird. Seems that only the same people are coming. Please send as many club members as possible to help in future cleanup days. Brian is estimating that there will be at least 3 cleanup days per year.

- ORV sticker information was discussed, and how the \$ \$ are currently spent. For more info on this subject, please contact Brian.

- All IFWDA members need to start contacting their local and state legislature representatives and tell them about Redbird, and how you feel that ORV enthusiasts need access. Most legislatures have ideas on four wheeling that are absolutely untrue because they don't have any first hand info on us. So please contact reps ASAP.  
- National Trails Day for 2002 is going to either the first or second weekend of June at Redbird. Please keep those dates open on club calendars. Clubs will be notified when dates are finalized.

**RAFFLE CHAIRMAN REPORT: Scott Sperling**

- 2001 IFWDA raffle – BFG tires. Tickets for this raffle have already been sent to all club delegates. Please help in the selling of these tickets. Contact Scott for more tickets. The winner of this raffle will get their tires by working with Scott.

**SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT: Alane Judkins**

- The 2002 Attica Spring Fling event has been tentatively scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. North Central has agreed to

be the host club of the event. This year's event may be less of an organized event than last year but just as fun. More details to come.

- Wilstem 2002 has been set for August 8th-10<sup>th</sup>.
- Alane suggested a possible day/weekend IFWDA run to the Badlands. This event would be just a get together of IFWDA members to just have fun. An official date has not been setup yet, but info on this will be forthcoming. A Haspin Acres day is also being considered.

- A questionnaire on the Spring Fling to be sent to every club in the very near future. If one is issued, please fill out and return ASAP.

- Clubs are encouraged to reserve the dates for Wilstem and Spring Fling on their calendars.

**UNITED DELEGATE REPORT: Max Soliday - Jerry Ellis**

- Max and Jerry handed out UFWDA's financial paperwork, and also some notes on the business meeting.
- They talked about the trails they were able to ride on in New Mexico.

- IFWDA will be getting a copy of Carla Boucher's video from the convention, and it should be available soon.

- Pacific Four Wheel Drive and the California Four Wheel Drive Associations may be rejoining UFWDA in the future.

- UFWDA Awareness program is becoming very popular even in other countries.

- Deadlines for any submissions in to the UFWDA Voice are November 30<sup>th</sup>.

- Brian Rowda from Four Wheelers to Freedom won UFWDA's Environmental Four Wheeler of the Year award – congrats Brian!

- Next year's UFWDA convention is in London Ontario on August 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.

- IFWDA put their names in to possibly host the 2002 UFWDA National Convention. More news on that when it becomes available. Location being considered in Terre Haute area due to proximity to Redbird and Badlands.

- If anyone is interested in getting some UFWDA membership software, please contact Jerry Ellis.

- If any member of IFWDA is not getting the United Voice, please contact Rob Robbins.

- If anyone has questions on UFWDA, please contact either Max or Jerry.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR REPORT: Stacey Muncie**

- NOT PRESENT

- All submissions for the IFWDA newsletter are due to Stacey by November 30<sup>th</sup>. If there are any questions please contact Stacey at mizmunce@aol.com or call 812-864-2344.

**WEB SITE REPORT: Jeff Bade**

- NOT PRESENT

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Tony West has discovered a company that makes custom tire covers, and would like to know if anyone would be interested in an IFWDA version. If you are interested, please contact Tony at tdwest@indy.net ASAP with your tire size. Pricing will be available soon.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Bi-law and SOP changes. – Scott Sperling's "memorandum of understanding" will be placed in the SOP. Other reviews will be conducted at future meetings.

- The 2002 IFWDA convention will be taking place in Elkhart Indiana on March 1-3. Ruffriders will be hosting the event to help mark their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Registered participants of the convention will be able to take part in bringing your own 4x4 into the Hummer proving grounds! Registration form and costs will be in the next IFWDA newsletter.

- Future IFWDA meeting dates have been set for 2002, they are: January 20, March 3, April 21, July 21, and November 3.

- Another sticker ordered is being worked on in either 4" or 6" sizes. If anyone has a contact for sticker printing, please contact Max Soliday. Window stickers are being considered as well.

- Congratulations go out to the new Board members of IFWDA – Vice President – Scott Sperling, Treasurer – Rob Robbins, UFWDA Delegate – Brian Rowda, UFWDA Alternate Delegate – Max Soliday, Special Events Coordinator – Allen Popp.

- The new Monroe County website is [www.monroecounty4x4club.net](http://www.monroecounty4x4club.net)

- FAT BOY TRIVIA- thanks to host club Fat Boys Jeppers.

- Thanks to Jim Carson for allowing us to use his business for the meeting as well as buying the donuts. Thanks go out as well to all IFWDA members who brought food to this meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEXT MEETING: Fishers, IN**

**DATE: January 20, 2002**

**TIME: BOD Meeting = 10 am  
General Meeting = 12 pm**

# REDBIRD ORV AREA

Location: near Dugger, IN

**Opening Date:** approximately March 2003

**History:** The Redbird Strip Mine has sat idle since the 1940s. It has been a place for illegal off-roading since the mine was closed down. For the past few years, concerned citizens have been working on developing this into a state owned ORV area. It has been a long and tedious process, but the end is near.

**Goals:** Provide public land in Indiana for a motorized recreational area for people to enjoy the greater outdoors.

**Educational Benefits:** At this property there will be classrooms available for off-road vehicle training.

**Organizations:** Involved in the project includes DNR (Department of Natural Resources) – Division of Outdoor Recreation, D.I.R.T. (Discover Indiana Riding Trails), IFWDA (Indiana Four Wheel Drive Association), also many organized and unorganized volunteers.

**Current Status:** Through funding and donations the DNR is acquiring abandoned strip mining land and converting it into an ORV area. The organizations and volunteers have been involved in mapping trails, trail clean-up (removal of TONS of trash), developing the property, and developing a management plan. It is illegal to ride on state property until the area officially opens.

## For more information about the project contact:

### 4x4 Users:

Brian Rowda

(812) 523-4484

rowda@voyager.net

### ATV and Dirt Bike Users:

Gary DeLong

(812) 466-6190

g.l.delong@att.net

## Indiana Department of Natural Resources:

Nila Armstrong

Streams and Trails Specialist

402 W. Washington St. Rm. 271

Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-4070



# IFWDA CONVENTION 2002

Elkhart, Indiana

March 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>

**WHERE:** Weston Plaza Hotel Convention Center, 2725 Cassopolis Street, Elkhart, IN 46514.  
Reservations at: 1-800-8400 OR 219-264-7502.

Hotel cost is \$39.00 plus tax per night. This hotel has an indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool, miniature golf, video arcade and ping-pong tables.

**REGISTRATION FEE** is \$65.00 per couple and \$35.00 single. We will be going to the AM General Test Track for guided trail rides. **You may bring your own vehicle, however, participation is limited to street legal vehicles and IFWDA members in good standing ONLY. Guests may ride, but cannot drive.** Also due to limited parking space, **trailers will NOT be allowed at AM General.**

**BABY SITTING SERVICES** will be available from 6 pm to midnight on Saturday. If you don't think your child will eat at the buffet, they can eat have pizza in the baby sitting room. Saturday night we will also have a DJ and karaoke.

## CONTESTS:

Model contests- (awards given)- Kids 0-6, Kids 7-12 and Kids 13- Adult  
Photo contests- (awards given)- Class 1= OOPS, Class 2= COMPETITION,  
Class 3=ACTION, Class= SHOW

Awards given for hard luck and most distance traveled to convention.

If you can get registered early this will help us out. You'll be receiving name badges when you check in. If you're going to the AM General Test Track, a green dot will be placed on your badge. This will let the people running the track part of the convention know that you're a paid member and you belong there.

**\*\*\*\*\*We are trying to get a feel for how many vehicles will be going to the test track. We would like to ask each club to bring a rough count to the IFWDA meeting on January 20th. Currently, we are under a 50 vehicle limit, however, we may be able to negotiate that number if there is enough interest. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Angie or Bruce at the numbers listed below.\*\*\*\*\***

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Angie Yadow: Days 210-522-5327 or nights 219-294-4943, or email yadowa@aol.com

Bruce Haberstitch 219-534-2841 or email haber@mapletronics.com

**\*\*SEE REGISTRATION FORM ON BACK OF THIS PAGE.**

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**IFWDA CONVENTION – ELKHART, INDIANA**  
**MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> 2002**

CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DAY ARRIVING \_\_\_\_\_

KIDS: NAMES AND AGES \_\_\_\_\_

PLAYING AT AM GENERAL? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
NO EXTRA FEE- (4-WHEEL DRIVES ONLY)

VEHICLE TYPE \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$65.00 PER COUPLE  
\$35.00 SINGLE PERSON

KIDS 12 YEARS AND OLDER \$7 BUFFET

EXTRA ADULT \$14 BUFFET

*\*\*BABY SITTING SERVICE WITH PIZZA PROVIDED FOR CHILDRN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD IS FREE  
SATURDAY NIGHT (6 PM TO MIDNIGHT)*

SEND CHECK AND THIS FORM TO: ANGIE YADDOW

500 ASPENWALD AVE

ELKHART, INDIANA 46516

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO RUFFRIDERS 4-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB**

RESERVATIONS FOR WESTON PLAZA MOTEL CALL 1-800-521-8400

OR 219-264-7502

IF AT ALL POSSIBLE WE NEED TO TURN IN A NUMBER FOR THE MOTEL (FOOD). PLEASE GET  
REGISTRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.

It is that time again to start selling the IFWDA raffle tickets. The winner can receive any 4

light truck / car tires in size or tread of there choice. *Sorry, baja and R1 type tires not included.*

All clubs have there tickets in hand. Give that special person in your life a winning ticket in the ol' christmas stocking. Drawing will be at the 2002 State Convention in March.

Well, another year is almost over and the all IFWDA clubs are busy planning their outings and events. So far, several clubs are off and running towards the 2001 "Club of the Year" award. If you have any ideas that, you would like to see as new goals towards

"Club of the Year", please contact me. I have a few that I might add. This can only make the clubs within the Association better and stronger. I will send out to all clubs the new rules after the first of the year.

In closing, I just want to encourage EVERYONE to get more involved with the Association. Start by attending the 2002 IFWDA meeting in January and the State Convention. Plenty of events are being planned for the 2002 calendar year. This is your club, you can make a difference!

## President

Dan Firestone  
PO Box 83  
Goshen, IN 46526  
219-536-0960  
email: dandee@bnin.net

## Vice president/Raffle Chairman

Scott Sperling  
2500 Wernle Road  
Richmond, IN 47374  
email: sperling@infocom.com

## Secretary

Rob Bubala  
email: jeep\_cj8@hotmail.com

## Treasurer

Rob Robbins  
Box 47  
Bunker Hill, 46914  
email: scoutman@netusa1.net

## Environmental Affairs

Brian Rowda  
PO Box 342  
Shelbyville, IN 46176  
email: Rowda@voyager.net

## Events Chairman

Allen Popp  
5410 Advantage Rd.  
Tell City, IN 47586  
812-836-2368  
email: nitro@psci.net

## Membership Director

Angie Yaddow  
500 Aspenwald Ave.  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
email: yaddowa@aol.com

## United Delegates

Max Soliday  
6412 Franklin Road  
Hagerstown, IN 47346  
email: soliday@infocom.com

Brian Rowda  
PO Box 342  
Shelbyville, IN 46176  
email: Rowda@voyager.net

## Newsletter Editor

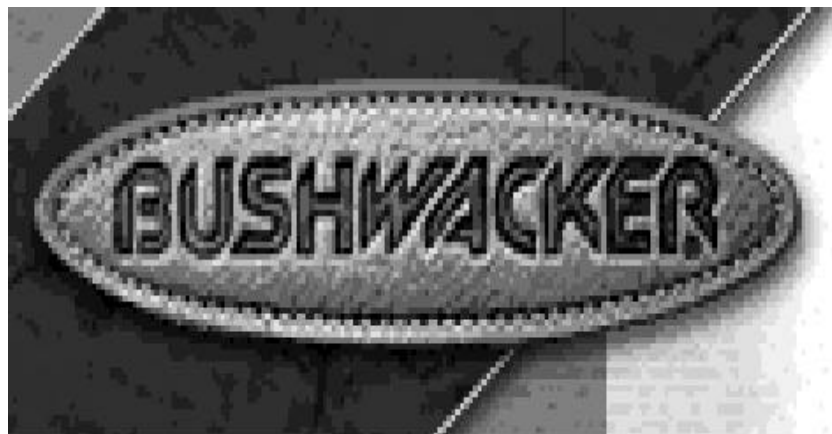
Stacey Muncie  
812-864-2344  
email: MizMunce@aol.com

## Newsletter Distribution

Lisa Goodwin  
58071 Cr. 23  
Goshen IN 46526  
219-875-5074  
email: bogrcr@aol.com

## Web Master

Jeff Bade  
3935 N Elston Ave Loft 2B  
Chicago, IL 60618  
jbade@collidingstar.com



[www.bushwacker.com](http://www.bushwacker.com)

# 2002 Club Contacts

## 4 Wheels to Freedom

Brian Gelinas 1278 N 200 W Shelbyville IN 46176  
317-398-2728 BJGELINAS@SHELBYNET.NET

Jason Settles 3320 W 42nd St Indianapolis IN 46228  
317-828-8468 JASON@4WTF.ORG

Charles Pfleeger 8505 W 500 N Muncie IN 47304  
765-358-3102 LETZGOGPN@AOL.COM

## Boonie Riders

Rich and Melissa Reisz RR2 Box 333a Dale IN 47523  
rmreisz@psci.net

Greg Mauzey RR 2 Box 289 A-1 Dale IN 47523  
bgm791@netscape.net

Craig Leuck 4228 W State Rd 56 Jasper IN 47546

## Fat Boys Jeepers

Tony West 14422 Worthington Blvd Noblesville IN 46060  
tdwest@indy.net

Eric Barnes 1525 Boston Rd Richmond IN 47374  
765-966-1778 navyerb@aol.com

## Iron Horse

Tony Sutton 65 - 1 E 600 N Valparaiso IN 46383  
219-464-8931

Thomas Pizzolato 10222 Avenue M Chicago IL  
60617 773-221-7663 a74chevy81toy@aol.com

Robert Bubala 1103 E. Miller St. Griffith In 46319  
219-922-8180 jeep\_cj8@hotmail.com

## JP Frogs

Tom Degenkolb 1606 Chestnut Ct Nobleville IN 46060  
tntdegen@indy.net

Mark Shogren 22893 West Rd Sheridan IN 46069  
mshogren@usa1.net

## Midwest Trail Runners

David Miller 382 Northridge Dr Mooresville IN 46158  
317-834-1867 dajeeper@aol.com

Keith Mitchell 1005 E 106th St Indianapolis, IN  
317-844-5434 grimtich@earthlink.net

## Monroe County

Leonard Hunter 8712 Mt Pleasant Rd Gosport IN 47433  
toyshopp@smithville.net

## North Central

Bret Maggert 429 S Armstrong Kokomo IN 46901  
765-457-5816 electricfarmer@webtv.com

Mark Wesson 6142 E 1000 N Pittsboro IN 46167  
317-892-5957 BIGBIRD4WD@HOTMAIL.COM

## Ruffriders

Dee Coats 6509 W 800 N Nappanee IN 46550  
dodgebabe@bnin.net

Mark Pattee 208 High Street Goshen IN 46526  
219-534-5453

## Southeastern Illinois

Jerry Ellis P.O.Box 164 Greenup IL 62428  
217-923-3440 jellis@rr1.net

Jim Higginbotham 14521 E State Hwy 33 Newton IL 62448  
618-783-4263 higgysathome@psbnewton.com

James Stewart 758 West Elm Street Charleston IL 61920  
217-348-8863 stewartj40@yahoo.com

## Southern Indiana

Mike Walters 116 N Depot St Brownstown IN 47220  
812-358-5602 harpo@voyager.net

Volz William 200 S Depot St Brownstown IN 47220  
812-358-4286 wvolz79@yahoo.com

## SUBY

Chris Nash Scoutbuzz@hotmail.com

Michael Pogue csnsane@ix.netcom.com

## Tri State

Tim Fleming P.O.Box 248 Elberfield IN 46713  
yjeeper@hotmail.com

Scott McKannan P.O. Box 21 Fransisco IN 47649  
jeep4fun@gibsoncounty.net

Jason Gilles 6315 E Baseline Rd Evansville IN 47725  
jasong@dynasty.net

## Club News

### 4 Wheels to Freedom

By Brian Rowda

After membership renewal for the year, the club is at 58 families and climbing. During the last couple of months members from the club have gone to Livingston, Kentucky and Moab, Utah to wheel. Plans are to have a club trip next year to the United Convention.

Accomplishments this year include, Chuck Pfleeger finishing ninth overall at the Indy Jamboree in the Rock Crawling contest, and Brian Rowda receiving the United 4 Wheel Drive Association Award as Environmental 4 Wheeler of the Year.

The club also has a new president, Chuck Pfleeger.

The annual club hog roast and trail ride was held on a member's property near Nashville, Indiana. Some great trail riding along with the new Trusty-Cook Trail established after Buddy taking a new line into a tree with his front fender.

The club is planning its annual Christmas party and News Years Day run.

Hopefully everybody had a great Thanksgiving, and took time to give thanks to the men and women in the Armed Forces who will be away from their families this holiday season to preserve the freedom we so much enjoy.

### Boonie Riders

By Greg Mauzy

The first four years of the Boonie Riders and the end of my term as Vice President. In the four years of my term the club has grown from 5 to 35 members, which is better than we ever expected. The four years the Boonie Riders have been in IFWDA we have seen and done a lot. In the last year alone we have gone from our annual Chill on the Hill in January to LBL in March. Not to forget the snow run during the Convention at Attica. We've had several trial rides through the early spring and summer months at Mt

Watson in French Lick. Made some new trails and have helped out during Wilstem by taking two groups over to Mt Watson for some trail riding. We've done two parades and trail and roadside clean-ups. The clean-ups were in conjunction with Tri-State Jeepers as well as the H-3 Halloween trail ride. Hopefully in 2002 we can get more IFWDA members to join us and Tri-State Jeepers at the H-4 trail ride. Some people have said that the trails are a lot like Redbird. We have adopted a section of highway and are looking forward to helping the EMA this winter in local counties. We've had some ups and downs this year alone, we've lost one member to cancer and we've had member Allen Popp become IFWDA's Events Coordinator. Congratulations Allen. For those who made it to Wilstem they met Allen when they signed in and probably saw the reason for Allen being chosen as Events Coordinator. Not to take away from past Coordinators, but everyone was abuzz about how smoothly things went. Great job, Allen. A big thanks from the Boonies and the rest of the association to Jim Carson for inviting us to Carson Fletcher Motorsports for this last quarterly meeting. Jim Carson is one of the nicest guys I've ever met and has done so much for the association that words alone aren't thanks enough. As we all do our best to promote our sport and try to educate others, I'm looking forward to continued fun with our club and association. Hope to catch everyone at local and other trials and meetings in the future.

### FAT BOYS Invade Haspin Acres

By Scott Sperling

Five Jeeps from the Hagerstown-Richmond based Fat Boys Jeepers invaded Haspin Acres on December 8<sup>th</sup> for a day of fun and not doing home chores. New club member Guy "HOGHEAD" Kaeser met us there along with Max and Jayson Soliday, Matt Staton, Greg Turner, Eric Barnes and myself. We had planned to go down to Lawrenceburg for the weekend to do the "WORLD", but, due to recent rains that Thursday, we decided at the last minute to hit Haspin.

Eric was anxious to try out his jeep with the new Superlift 4" lift and 33" mud tires that he bought at the Indy Jamboree.

This was going to be his virgin run on his jeep.

After signing in and getting our 2002 membership cards, off to the parking lot to air down and to get ready. Overcast and with chances of rain and maybe snow in the forecast, off to the trails we went. Thank goodness I dressed warmly, I was the only one without a top and doors. Just smell that fresh air!!!! All jeeps were pretty much ready for the challenge – everyone was rolling on 33" mud tires, locked (except for Eric) and with 3 winches between 5 jeeps, we were ready for bear.

We just basically hit some of the easy stuff and nothing major in the first hour or so. We were more interested in covering terrain than spending time exploring the numerous deep mud holes and slick muddy, rocky hills that Haspin offers. Just like NASCAR, all rookies have to have their front and rear bumpers painted yellow for identification. Since we didn't have any paint for Eric's jeep, the Soliday family tied some YELLOW CAUTION tape across the rear of his CJ. NOW he is ready.

After several hours of "cruising", we headed to a place called "Devil's Backbone". Four of us headed down to the midpoint of this challenge. Hoghead and I checked out a way to go down to the very bottom, but, really couldn't find a safe way down. Well, maybe better luck next time.

Since Guy, Max and I were locked front and rear, we didn't have a problem getting to the top. Eric, however tried, but, no way. He ended up backed up against a tree with no way to get out.

Time to winch him up the trail about 10', turn the wheels, then winch him back down to flatter ground. No problem. He and I, with help from the guys up on top of this hill, found a bypass that we could climb to the top. Time to head back to the parking lot for our favorite pastime-LUNCH. After lunch, we played for another hour or two till it was time to head back home. It was a GREAT time for all.

Brian Rowda has organized a joint 4WTF/FBJ Ground HOG run for the first weekend in February at Haspin Acres. By the time you read this article, Jerry Ellis should have our web site up and going. Check out the pictures, especially Eric's jeep. We will be at [www.fatboysjeepers.com](http://www.fatboysjeepers.com).

**Indiana Four Wheel Drive Association,**

c/o Stacey Muncie  
4014 W Lower Bloomington Rd  
Cory, IN 47846



[www.arb.com.au/](http://www.arb.com.au/)



[www.warn.com](http://www.warn.com)



[www.adventure4wd.com](http://www.adventure4wd.com)



[www.autometer.com](http://www.autometer.com)



Toll Free 800-233-2051

[www.hi-lift.com](http://www.hi-lift.com)



[www.msdition.com](http://www.msdition.com)



[www.powertrax.com](http://www.powertrax.com)



(937) 525-0000

[www.superscoutspecialists.com](http://www.superscoutspecialists.com)