

FROM OUR HISTORY BOOK  
CREATED BY MARJ TYNAN  
and other sources

On August 1, 2006, Sam Giamarvo mailed a letter to Happy Trails Executive Manager, Beth McWilliams, advising her that he intended to form a 4-wheel drive club in Happy Trails. He enclosed a set of by-laws he prepared for the club.

November 9, 2006: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING The board approved the 4-wheel drive club as an uncharted club.

ADDENDUM

(Sam Giamarvo requested that the Happy Trails Board of Directors change the status of the 4-Wheel Drive Club from unchartered to chartered. Documents were provided to show that the club met all the requirements of a chartered club. After a presentation to the Activities Board they recommended this change. The Board of Directors voted at their April 2007 meeting to change the Happy Trails 4-Wheel Club to a Chartered Club.)

On November 17, 2006, Happy Trails 4-Wheel Club held its first meeting. Five families were represented. The members voted to adopt the proposed by-laws with a few minor amendments to the Extended Rules of Operation.

On November 24, 2006, the 4-Wheel club had a trail run lead by Sam and Connie Giamarvo into the Wickenburg Mountains. Seven families were present. The trail was rated as a class 2, easy. The club visited the Monte Cristo Mine.

On December 8, 2006, Phil & Carol Kennicott lead the club on a trail up to the Harquahala Peak. Five families were represented. The summit was over 5000 feet in elevation. This ride was rated as a class 2, easy.

On January 12, 2007, Sam and Connie Giamarvo lead the club into the Belmont Mountains. Ten families attended. The members visited the ruins of the old Belmont mine.

The 4-Wheel club took part in the Happy Trails Resort Club Fair. Photographs and information about the club was available.

January 19, 2007, the club held its second meeting. Eleven families were represented. An election of club officers was held. Those elected were: Sam Giamarvo - President, Phil Kennicott - Vice-President, Marj Tynan – Secretary, and Judy Loomis – Treasurer.

January 26, 2007, the club was lead by Sam and Connie Giamarvo on a trail run through the New River Canyon. Twelve families were present. This ride was rated as a class 3 medium.

On February 9, 2007, the club ventured on a trail run into the Wickenburg Mountains lead by Sam and Connie Giamarvo. Six families were represented. This trail was rated as a class 4 hard.

On February 16, 2007, the club held its third meeting. The club traveled to Sheep's Bridge North of Horseshoe lake lead by Art Norris. 11 vehicles went on the ride which was rated a class 2 easy.

By the end of the **first season** (2006-07) President Sam Giamarvo, the club had grown to 26 families & had 11 rides.

By the end of the **second season** (2007-08) President Sam Giamarvo, the club was up to 40 families & drove 18 trails.

By the end of the **third season** (2008-09) President Sam Giamarvo, the club had expanded to 44 families & had 23 trail rides.

At the close of the **fourth season** (2009-10) President Sam Giamarvo, the club membership was 35 families & had 40 trail rides.

At trails end of the **fifth season** (2010-11) President Sam Giamaro, the club membership was 33 families & had 34 trail rides.

The **sixth season** came to a close (2011-12) President Sam Giamarvo finally got a volunteer to replace him as president for the next season. We had 34 families and drove 43 trails.

The **seventh season** was another success (2012-13) with Dave Dahl as president. Two new club functions came into being: Our monthly meetings are now being held in the evening preceded with a pot luck dinner. The club members are now gathering once a week (Tuesday) at the Great Eagle Golf Course Grill for a two

hour social. Both of these events have been very popular. We had 35 families join the club and we drove 51 trails.

Our **eight season** has come to a close (2013-2014) with Dave Dahl as President. The club membership reached 42 families and 33 trail rides.

As we complete our **ninth season** (2014-2015) with the leadership of our new President, John Shurtz, we have 43 families and have ventured out onto 44 trails.

Our **tenth season** (2015-2016) has come to a close with John Shurtz as President. We had more fun & social events this year than ever before. This included a tenth-year anniversary celebration with a pizza party, cake and ice cream. We all took part in a boat ride out on Lake Pleasant. Our club socialized every Tuesday at the Great Eagle golf course bar & grille. We ended the season with 41 members and completed 35 trail rides.

The **eleventh season** (2016-2017) with John Shurtz as President past so quickly with so many rides and social events. We finished the season with 42 families and all Jeeps. As a club, we voted to restrict our membership to only jeep owners. We completed our season with 36 trail rides.

We completed our **twelfth season** (2017-2018) with our new president, Don Phelps. We had a Christmas dinner & gift exchange, a Liberty Wildlife presentation, attended the Arizona Opry, and had a club rodeo. We had a record 47 families join and we took part in 46 trail rides.

Our club has completed our **thirteenth season** (2018-2019) with Don Phelps as our President. We started off the season with our Ouray Rally followed up with the Moab Rally. We had our annual Christmas dinner & gift exchange. We held our annual March Pizza party. The Ladies Day Ride was special this year with a BBQ provided by Dick Rice. We managed to sneak in a Kingman/Parker rally in April. We had a total of 46 families join our club. We provided 54 trail rides.

Happy Trails 4-Wheel club completed our **14<sup>th</sup> season** (2019-2020) with Don Phelps as President. We again started off our season with the Ouray Rally. After the Ouray Rally some of our members met up in Moab for a week of trail riding. On Christmas day we had our dinner and gift exchange headed up by Don and Sharon Phelps. We had a club sponsored dinner in January, a Ladies Day Ride and

a BBQ out on the trail put on by Dick Rice. We enjoyed a Pizza Party on our election night. We really enjoyed our Amazon Tour and Dinner Cruise arranged by Kris Miller. We had at least 5 trail rides canceled because of rain, with a total of 29 rides and 47 members. Our largest ride ever was recorded on Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, New River Loop of 24 jeeps. On March 20, 2020 we canceled all remaining official rides and social events due to the Corona Virus.

The **Fifteenth season** (2020-2021) of Happy Trails 4-Wheel Club continued through the Corona Virus with rides every Thursday. Sam Ramsey was our president and held one meeting without our usual potluck. The highlight of the season was a Howl at the Moon ride and catered dinner out in the desert at Boulders. Russ Moes led Fun at the Ranch trail and on our arrival back at Boulders Nancy Strand had a food truck waiting for us. A large bonfire was built and everyone had a great time late into the evening. One of our largest events ever. During our season we had 34 rides and ended up with 41 families.