



THE GOPHER TRAP

EST: JUNE 1965

ISSUE: NOVEMBER 2020

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

Events

- Nov. 6, 6:30 pm Meeting
TBD
- Nov. 6-7 Grange Yard Sale
- Nov. 11 Veteran's Day
- Nov. 14 Club Run
Stag Point
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving



From the Summit

Jerry Roberson, President

Greetings, fellow Ophir Gophers.

What a great trip to Hat Creek. Kudos to Keith for choosing a great campground and a wonderful run. Bev and I really enjoyed seeing the windmills. Quite an experience. It was good to have some guests on the trip. Thank you, Miguel and Jessica, for bringing along Gavin and Katrina. It was nice getting to know them.

As some of you might know, I spend a LOT of time behind the wheel of a truck and I spend a lot of time listening to talk radio. I recently found myself riveted to a report and I thought it might be of potential interest to a club member. Here it goes...

General Motors will soon begin manufacturing the Hummer again and it will be available in 2022. Its features really caught my attention, so I thought I'd share. Let's begin with the powerplant. The new Hummer has 1000 horsepower and can accelerate from 0-60 mph in 3 seconds. That's pretty impressive for such a large vehicle. Especially since it's ALL ELECTRIC! The batteries have a 350-mile range on a full charge and can accept a 100-mile charge in 10 minutes. It doesn't stop there.

It is equipped with full surround cameras so you can monitor the perimeter of the vehicle. I wish I had that feature on my Jeep a few times. Along with the surround cameras, it has cameras underneath so you can monitor what you're crawling over. I'm sure that could be of benefit as well.

Here's where things get really interesting. The new Hummer has the ability to lift itself to create more clearance when going over obstacles and/or water. Probably pretty important to be able to elevate over water so you don't get electrocuted. I wonder if it comes with a warning like a toaster or blow dryer to keep it away from water.

The last thing that caught my attention is a feature called “Crab Mode”. This new rig has the ability with the flip of a switch to have front and rear axle steering. Had I had that on the Fordyce Trail, maybe my Jeep wouldn’t have a crushed right rear corner. Oh well. Live and learn.

Time for the bottom line. Pre-orders for 2022 are already filled. I can sense the disappointment as you’re reading this. However, I’m sure you could get the 2023 model. I suggest you start saving now since the price tag on this little gem is \$112,000 plus tax, registration, and fees.

In closing, I hope I haven’t put you all to sleep or taken a couple minutes of your life you feel is wasted and you’ll never get back. Take care and we’ll see y’all at the next meeting.



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New Gophers

Charlie Miller

Charlie owns a Suzuki Samurai and was voted in as a member at the October meeting.

Dan & Shannon Tiedemann

Danny & Shannon also own a Suzuki Samurai and were voted in as members at the October meeting.

Welcome to the club!!

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Straight from the Gopher's Mouth

Joie Cherry, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2020 MEETING

- Meeting called to order by Jerry Roberson, President, at 6:35 p.m. at the Bennett home.
- Attendees:
 - Members: Judy Bennett; David & Cheryl Casagrande; Sharon Cherry; Troy & Jody Jobe; Miguel Madrigal; John & Glenda Morse; Jackie Peterson; Joie & Vanessa Purdy-Cherry; Jerry & Bev Roberson; Keith Van Zandt
 - Guests: Charlie Miller; Danny Teidemann
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Vanessa.
- Secretary's Report – Joie Cherry, Secretary
 - No September meeting was held.
- Treasurer's Report – Judy Bennett, Treasurer
 - Motion made by Sharon, seconded by Vanessa, to approve the Treasurer's report.
 - Called to vote and motion carried.
- Delegate's Report – David Casagrande, Delegate
 - *In Gear* has an article about Pismo being shut down over the next 5 years.
 - After the fires, we can install new road signs for the forest service.
 - The Four Trees warming hut did not burn in the North Complex Fire.
 - We will need to start Christmas tree planning as our usual area has burned.
- Trail Master's Report – Keith Van Zandt, Trail Master
 - Hat Creek camping next weekend. There are no disasters in the area -- yet!
 - Bring appetizer to share Friday for dinner, a side dish to share and your own meat Saturday for dinner, and a breakfast dish to share for Sunday breakfast.
 - November run: considering Stag Point to see how it looks after the fire.
 - Would like to try to stay in Plumas NF for Christmas trees as Lassen tends to be crazy.
- Old Business
 - Jerry will contact the person from Pleasanton interested in becoming an affiliate member.
- New Business
 - Christmas party
 - Possible dates:
 - Saturday, December 12 or Friday, December 11
 - Possible places:
 - Feather Falls Brewery, Table Top Restaurant, or Roberson's house
 - Grange yard sale next weekend. Contact David to view items.
 - OGJC Election Year: Nominations next meeting.
 - New member applicants: Charlie Miller and Dan & Shannon Teidemann.
 - Motion made by Glenda, seconded by Keith, to vote on new members.
 - Voting was done by paper ballot.
- News
 - None.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Off the Beaten Path

Keith Van Zandt

Greetings, fellow Gophers.

Our last campout at Hat Creek was well attended. I hope everyone had a good time. The weather was good except for Saturday. Covid is still putting a damper on some activities. We took a little ride on Saturday. The Observatory was closed to due to Covid. We took a ride up to Lookout Mt. but the weather limited the views. The windmills are always impressive.



As I write this, there is no rain or snow in the forecast. So, conditions permitting, for the November 14th run, I would like to take a run up to Stag Point to see what it looks like.

The Christmas tree run is tough to schedule. The usual places have burned. There are some trees near Bucks Lake, but they may not be accessible if it snows. Lassen Forest can be a real circus. Lassen tree permits can be tough to get. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know.

Winter Fun has just been canceled. Ca4Wheel ran into too many restrictions and were unable to get the Fairgrounds due to Covid.

Camp Food

Potluck Taco Casserole

Judy Bennett

Prep: 25 min. Bake: 20 min. Servings: 8

Ingredients

2 lbs. ground beef
2 envelopes taco seasoning
4 large eggs
¾ c 2% milk
1 ¼ c biscuit/baking mix
Dash pepper
½ c sour cream
1-3 c chopped lettuce
¾ c chopped tomato
¼ c chopped green pepper
2 chopped green onions
2 c shredded cheddar cheese



Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 400°. In a large skillet, cook beef over medium heat 10-12 minutes or until no longer pink, breaking into crumbles; drain. Add taco seasoning and prepare according to package directions. Spoon meat into a greased 13x9-in. baking dish.
2. In a large bowl, beat eggs and milk. Stir in biscuit mix and pepper. Pour over meat. Bake, uncovered, 20-25 min. or until golden brown. Cool 5-10 min.
3. Spread sour cream over top; sprinkle with lettuce, tomato, green pepper, onions, and cheese.

Freeze option: Cool baked casserole; cover and freeze. To use, partially thaw in refrigerator overnight. Remove from refrigerator 30 min. before baking. Preheat oven to 350°. Unwrap casserole; reheat on a lower oven rack until heated through and a thermometer inserted in center reads 165°. Cool for 5-10 minutes, then top as directed.

Apple Sweet Potato Hash

Joie Cherry

Prep: 5 min. Cook: 20 min. Servings: 2

Ingredients

4 slices thick-cut bacon
1 medium sweet potato
1 golden delicious apple
1 teaspoon thyme

Instructions

1. Slice the sweet potato and apple into ½ to 1-in. chunks.
2. Place the bacon in a skillet. Turn the burner on to medium. Fry the bacon so it's just beginning to crisp on the bottom, then flip and cook an additional minute or so. Remove and place on a paper towel-lined plate and set aside.
3. Place the sweet potato, apple, and a pinch of salt into the skillet and sauté until soft, about 15 min. In the meantime, chop the bacon. When the sweet potato and apples are nearly done, return the bacon to the skillet and sprinkle in the thyme. Taste and add salt as needed.
4. Serve and enjoy!

Tip: I multiplied this to serve 14 people and it turned out great!



Delegate's Report

David Casagrande, Delegate

1. North District report...held via Zoom.
 - a. The number of Cal4Wheel members for the whole state is down. North district is down 133 members.
 - b. WINTER FUN FEST for Jan. 2021 has been cancelled due to Covid. Nevada County will not let us use the fairgrounds. Unknown at this time if there will be any snow.
 - c. There will be 4 bylaws proposals at Convention this year to vote on. Possibly a 5th if it gets written this week. More info on this later.
 - d. We will have 2 people running for North District VP this year. Current VP Glenn Reynolds and past president Jim Bramham.
 - e. Scholarship deadline is 12/31/20.
 - f. Due to being unable to hold events this year, the association is getting low on funds. Our biggest fundraiser is the Jeep raffle. EVERYONE needs to buy tickets and sell them to other people.
2. USFS due to the North Complex Fire on the Plumas National Forest has decided to close the entire area of the fire. They are also closing the area where they had contingency fire lines cut in. This is for this year AND ALL of next year.
3. The next Grange yard sale is Nov. 6th and 7th. We will be unable to have the Nov. meeting at the Grange.

More from Hat Creek



While some were on the run, a few currently without 4wd stayed in camp. The wind picked up and blew napkins and paper plates and Jackie's trash can into the pond. Unfortunately, the trash can was not able to be recovered.

