

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**May 14, 2002**  
**at El Pinto Restaurant**

President, Ken Rice called the meeting to order and introduced our guest speaker, Tom Harper. Mr. Harper is a fellow Land Rover owner and a representative from the Bosque Del Apache Nature Center.

Mr. Harper began his presentation with the story of how he met Barbara Hoffman who had stopped in Socorro and noticed that at the place she had stopped had other Land Rover vehicles parked outside. They introduced themselves and Mr. Harper told Barbara how he was familiar with the area and that there were a lot of interesting and challenging off-roading areas in Southern New Mexico. Mr. Harper also mention the Bosque Del Apache might have some service related opportunities for the club. So, after several months of trying to arrange a meeting, finally here he was.

Mr. Harper brought pictures to go along with the presentation he made about the different areas available for off-roading. He went on to discuss the three major land grants in the area, the first being the Sevilleta which has limited access. We could contact Virginia Algier to see if we can gain access thru volunteer projects. The volunteer work could possible involve fence building, cleaning up different areas of trash and debris. The land grants are limited in use and the only access to the area is to BLM and scientists that may have nature studies or archeological studies in those areas. Some areas are even restricted to non-vehicle access and may only be traveled by foot.

Mr. Harper mentioned that some organizations do not like to start new volunteers on existing projects since it takes time to train and may be more of an effort to get new volunteers trained than it is worth. But he strongly suggested getting in touch with Ms. Algier and maybe work our way into a new project.

Some of the trails that Mr. Harper suggested for off roading adventures were the Parida Hill on one of the most difficult areas of the El Camino Real. Mr. Harper states that recently the interest on the El Camino Real has grown from a historical aspect and that the access to the area may come to an end soon. The town of Socorro has historical significance during the Civil War. The town celebrates this event by a re-enactment of New Mexico's part in the Civil War with townspeople dressed in that time period. This event takes place in February.

An area close to Socorro is Nogal Canyon, an interesting and technically challenging off roading area.

Mr. Harper brought up the Volunteer project at the Bosque Del Apache Nature Center and their annual Festival of the Cranes. He suggested getting in touch with Steve Green and Daniel Perry to see about volunteering at the Bosque and also a tour of the Bosque Del Apache area.

Mr. Harper went on to discuss and show pictures of the Gallinas Ruins, Mt. Willington located west of Socorro, Hudson Canyon and Alamosa Gap. The Alamosa Gap gives the illusion of the river flowing into the side of the mountains. Legend has it that Apache's used the gap to make quick get aways from mounted patrols.

Mr. Harper brought up the Armendaris Grant, a six hundred acre area belonging to Ted Turner. The Grant now serves as a study area for animals such as the Bison, Big Horn Sheep, Oryx, and the prairie dog. There are many archeological areas, ghost town, and Indian ruins on the ranch. There are only five full time employees of the ranch and the rest are scientists, volunteers, and naturalists. Land Rover Albuquerque will be given a tour of the ranch on May 25 which some of our members will be participating in. This is the first time that the ranch has been opened to the public and future tours have been considered.

Mr. Harper's presentation came to an end by a question/answer session. Mr. Rice suggested that we try to go to one of the areas mentioned by Tom. The membership present voted to try to go to Nogal, but that we needed to check with the forest Service for access since the dry weather has caused fire dangers and many New Mexico areas are now closed to the public for fire hazards.

Our regular meeting with the Treasure's report stating our balance.

Old Business:

An update about our decals from Mike Robertson, said they would be here with in the next week but that they may be a "collectors item" due to the logo change that we have to consider because of the possible infringement on Land Rover.

Mr. Rice announced that he had been informed by Jackie Brandenburg, Secretary who had been checking with Land Rover representatives on the logo infringement. In an email from Jed Tallman, representative from Land Rover North America felt that the logo was in deed an infringement on Land Rover and that we should discontinue use of the logo until approved by Land Rover North America. He also noted that he was certain the logo would not be approved if we pursued the issue with the main office of Land Rover North America. It was decided that we would like Mike Robertson come up with two new logo's and we would decided on a new logo at the next meeting. The only change being the removal of the Land Rover Oval with the wording "Land Rover" and maybe changing the wording inside the oval to HDR for High Desert Rovers. We discussed that this matter should not be drawn out and at the next meeting a final decision would be made.

On future events, the event for May 18 has been canceled and the fishing event on June 1st will be headed up by Ken Rice. Chris Hoffman stated that his work schedule had been changed and that he was not able to guide the event but was willing to help coordinate and help out in other ways. Mr. Rice volunteered to take over the fishing trip, but a place is undetermined because of the fire dangers in the original trip schedule.

Members stated that they needed more meeting cards. They will be available at the next

meeting or check with Jackie at Land Rover Albuquerque.

Scott Hutchinson asked about our BLM training and Suzanne Miller who is in charge of this project could not make the meeting but, Mr. Rice noted that because of the fires in New Mexico the BLM training would probable be postponed until BLM could find the time and man power.

Chris Hoffman mentioned the jewelry and key chains that he had designed for the club. Since the infringement on the logo he would have to change the casts he has already made, but he will be making key chains, charms, and necklaces with the clubs logo in silver, gold, and platinum.

Mr. Rice mentioned that there was renewed interest in starting a newsletter and to check with Mike Robertson about positions opened for writers, editor, publisher, and advertising. Mr. Rice asked Mike to come up with a price list for advertising so that we maybe able to get some of the business that are interesting in advertising in our newsletter a price quote.

Mike Robertson brought a couple of the Topo maps that he purchased thru one of our advertisers on the web page. He stated that he would be changing our logo on the map, but that when a map is purchased thru our website our logo appears on the map itself and that you can log on and map out a trail on the area that you have visited by giving the coordinates. The maps are about \$ 14.95 plus shipping and handling and take about a week to receive in the mail. High Desert Rovers receives about \$ 2.50 from the purchase of each map from our website.

Update on Black Bear Pass event scheduled for July 12 - 14th by Susan Kitsch. Susan stated that interest in the trip was very good and that she had checked with local motels in the area, but due to the time of year the hotel rooms were going for about one hundred dollars a night. She mentioned a bed and breakfast in Montrose that had quoted her about seventy-five a night and a possible discount depending on the size of the group. It was mentioned that we had at least six different members interested in going along with family and friends and that she need to call the B&B back and see if they could accommodate six rooms for those days. Everyone is looking forward to this event and participation is good.

New Business:

Chris Hoffman mentioned an interest in Clay Shooting and a possible trip.

With nothing else on the agenda the meeting came to a close at about 9:15pm.