



The Fairlead

Volume 8, Number 1

January/February/March 2003

From the Director's Chair

By Tom Bache

Hi Everyone.

The newsletter is late as I kept promising to get this thing written, but time has continued to conspire against me. Is it my fault we have had so many things to work on? More on that later.

A quick note to remind you to look over the calendar of events. April is here, and the choices of things to do keeps growing. I did get some volunteers to put on an event in NJ on private property. Contact Steve Hoare if you can lend a hand. We have new members in NJ and already they volunteered to have a shop day. It is warming to see people jump in with enthusiasm.

We had a great meeting at Land Rover West Chester, albeit a shortened version. Lots of new faces and lets hope that continues.


We have some great photos from the SCC event, only one vehicle had a mishap with a tree. Tire chains were required and necessary, but was great experience helping each other get recovered. I promptly buried the Discovery as soon as we got to the cabin and all I wanted to do was back into the parking area!

This year, Jeff, Peter G., Mira and I are going to the UK and to the Sortout. We will meet Steve Hoare and Peter Monk there as well. Going to be a good crowd. Remember to see us at club events and buy your raffle ticket for the Fall trip. Some lucky person is going to win a R-T ticket to the UK in time for the Fall Sodbury Sortout.



▲ On course at Robesonia

Other clubs are hard at work as well. Please note in the web picks, there is info out about the 55th at Paragon. If you hear of an event, please

pass along the info and post it to the list. I am sure others will want to know. Let's go further inside and read up on things some of us have been up to. 

In This Issue...

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Spruce Cabin Camp

by Evan Hoare

On February 14th 2003 we drove to the mountains to Big Evan's camp/cabin.

First we stopped at a restaurant to meet the guys, Evan, Tom, Peter and others from the Land Rover club. Then we put chains on our Range Rover and went into the woods to the cabin. We also passed "shark rock" and "old widow tree".

When we got to the cabin Big Evan turned on the power and we went inside and claimed our bunks. I got the top bunk and my father was on the bottom. After that we had some hot chocolate and talked and talked and talked some more! When we went to bed everyone was tired except me, I stayed up all night thinking about everything that will happen in my life, like who I will marry or what job will I do?

In the morning I had crackers and

Soon we played in the snow and went sledding in the trash pile and sled down over 50 times.

When we got back to the cabin we had more hot chocolate, took a nap and toasted pop-tarts with Reb and Valerie.

After that we watched the movie Aladdin and Shrek and played "Ship" on my



shift run and went to another cabin. We saw a "duck" thing and went inside to see what was in the cabin. Soon we left to get back home.

In the morning we had our last breakfast at the cabin, (pancakes and venison sausages).

We when got back to the village some of us went for second breakfast at a diner. I had some eggs and home fries.


Then we said our good-byes and went home before the snow storm came.

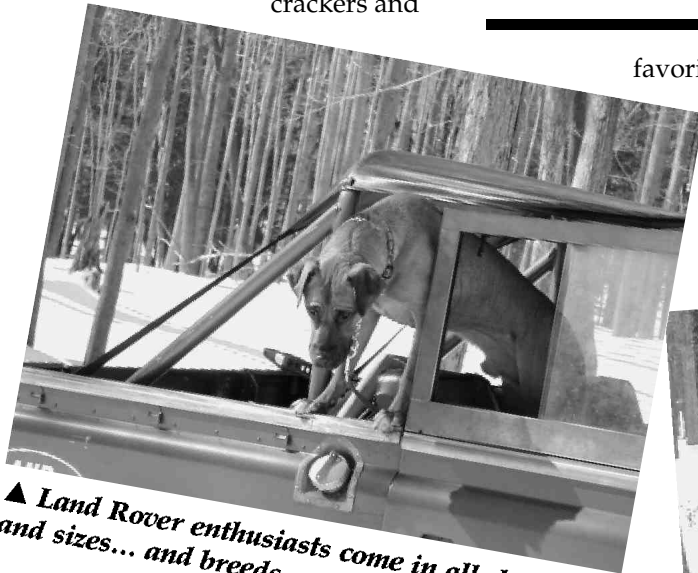
*Then the two Rebecca's,
Sam (the dog) and I
explored the woods.*

*We saw lots of trees, some
dens and a bears den that I
tried to wake up but it was
very very tired.*

favorite bunk, the top. I was the best part (the captain), Valerie was the 1st mate and Reb was 2nd mate. Then we

The End

I dedicate this story to all Land Rovers in the world. 



▲ Land Rover enthusiasts come in all shapes and sizes... and breeds.

cheese while the others welcomed the new comers, like Valerie and her parents.

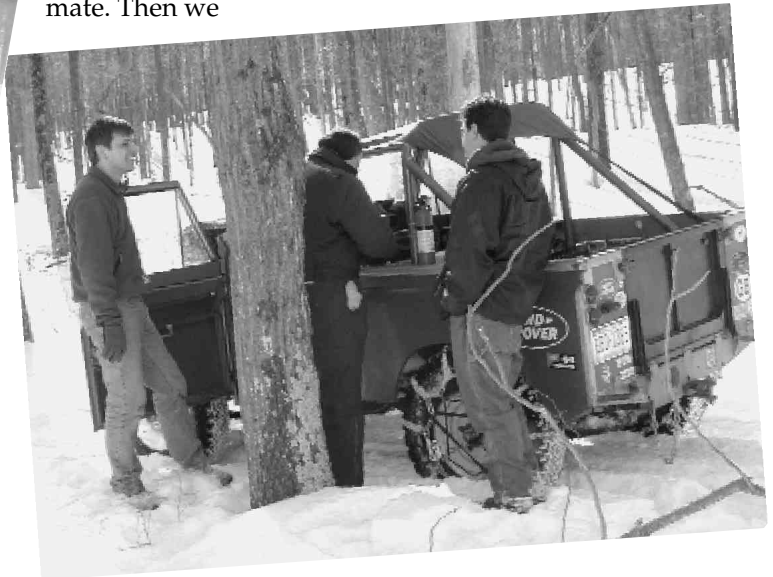
Then the two Rebecca's, Sam (the dog) and I explored the woods. We saw lots of trees, some dens and a bears den that I tried to wake up but it was very very tired.

Then we found Tom in his car and we had to run very fast and scream very loud.

played kittens. I was the bro kitten, Valerie the sis kitten and Reb the mother.

At dinner we had pasta with cheese and sauce.

After dinner we went on a night



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SIII lightweight

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1973 Series III 88" For Sale



For further information, please contact Kristian at ksrb@optonline.net

Our Newest Members



Nathaniel John Bettridge was born 11/26/02, 7lb 5oz.
Congratulations to the Bill and Molly!

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Web Sites Worth Checking Out

www.gpsnavigator.com

Our GPS web site is a place for learning what GPS is and how to use it. Learn how to apply current GPS technology to your outdoor adventure. Check out real GPS adventure stories, maybe submit your own!

www.thegpsstore.com

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www.mcmaster.com

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www.roxs.us

This group is dedicated to bringing back the adventurous expedition spirit, in the old Camel Trophy style, that so defines Land Rover Ownership. Please check out the website, and pass it along to BRLRC. The 2003 (fall) expedition will be a "Great Divide" expedition similar to the one that introduced Range Rovers into the US.

www.bordertoborder.com

Bordertoborder.com is the official home of Border To Border Expedition Society, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of Land Rover adventure travel, 4X4 experience and camaraderie.

www.lrx.com

The Land Rover Exchange is an automated, interactive service where individuals wishing to buy or sell Land Rover vehicles or parts can

post a detailed advertisement. This service, which includes a free photo upload, will allow your ad to immediately reach other Land Rover enthusiasts around the world. There is no charge for any of the automated services at this site.

www.seriesrover.com

The Series Shed is devoted to the most rugged, versatile and charismatic vehicle ever produced--the Series Land Rover. Here you'll find everything that I know about Series Rovers, and if that doesn't cover it, you'll find links to people who know a lot more. What you won't find here is any information pertaining to newer Land Rovers--Range Rovers, 90's, 110's, Discovery's, or Freelanders. I'm not knocking these newer Rovers (well, OK, maybe the Freelander), but I want to provide a site exclusively for their predecessors. I hope that you enjoy the site and find the information helpful or at least amusing.

www.little-landies.com

Specialist in scale model Land Rovers.

www.tinmantech.com/html/repairing_aluminum_article.html

Repairing Aluminum: Straightening Damaged Parts from Automotive Body Repair News, May 1995

www.bearfootdesign.com/roverlinks/

Welcome to RoverLinks. This is my collection of links that I have found useful or interesting in my quest for a Land Rover and it's purchase, use, maintenance and customization. I have attempted to break up the inevitable LONG list of sites into manageable "sections."

www.thelen.org/LandRover.html

This is a nice home made site with a bunch of good modification tips.

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/birmabright/>

The Birmabright Brotherhood
A group for Land Rover Owners
Helping other Land Rover Owners

www.4x4connection.com

Formerly known as Land Cruiser Connection, the company was founded in 1992 by James Asti. A small business located in the Washington, DC suburbs, Land Cruiser Connection specialized in aftermarket parts, accessories, repair and installation exclusively for Toyota Land Cruisers.

The company established strategic relationships with key manufacturers worldwide in order to offer the highest quality parts and accessories. Our reputation was built and based on providing customers with the best products available.

www.netknots.com

The best fishing knots as well as essential rope knots are clearly illustrated and described in this site.


www.britishwiring.com

British Wiring has been supplying harnesses and components since 1989.

Our goal is to place quality British made harnesses and associated wiring sundries within easy reach of the British car and motorcycle enthusiast in North America.

www.ovlr.org

Ottawa Valley Land Rovers, Inc. is the oldest and largest Land Rover club in Canada. Membership currently stands at over 250 members. The club celebrates its 20th birthday in June of 2003. Membership is open to all Land Rover enthusiasts.

Features access to articles from past newsletters, a great resource for technical information. 

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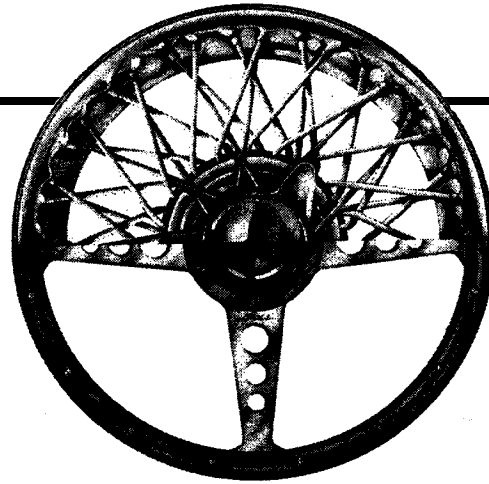
www.RoversClub.com

Club FRS Frequency

Channel 7 sub 5

The Fairlead is a publication of the Royal Offroad Vehicle Expeditionary and Recreation Society and is published six times a year. The opinions expressed in the Fairlead are not an endorsement of any product or practice. No responsibility is accepted for any damage or injury which may result from their utilization.

Advertising is accepted on a yearly basis. Quarter page ads are \$50. Ads run for six issues and must be paid in full. All ads must be submitted as actual size camera ready art or electronic file. For more information about advertising in the Fairlead, please contact Tom Bache at 610-268-8008.



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Membership

Want to join R.O.V.E.R.S. or need to renew your membership? Dues are \$25 for one year. Your expiration date can be found on your mailing label. Checks should be made payable to ROVERS and sent to: **ROVERS, c/o Bill Bettridge, 2100 Bulls Sawmill Rd., Freeland, MD 21053-9411**

In the Garage

By Tom Bache

Well, how things change in a couple of months. I finally got my trans fixed (thanks to Bill Schofield!) and Jeff came down to assist with the install back into Bitsa2a. Someone called to ask about Rovers for sale, I mentioned some I was aware of and also the two sitting here. So that afternoon John Paylan came by and looked over what was here, chatted awhile and then left to view others on offer in the Phila. area. Jeff and I managed to get the trans stuffed back into the proper position and called it a day. By Wed., John called back and said he wanted to buy the 86". So the pressure was on to get it finished up. By Friday I had it down the road and Sunday I retorqued the head, readjusted the valves, changed the oil and filled the other liquid cavities and John and Shannon, his wife came over for a test drive. 2 hours later, after I drove it over to John's

house, we were taking the plates off, since John didn't have a trailer to transport it, so this was the simplest way. I never got to make the winch bumper, in fact, John bought the winch too! I hadn't really planned to sell it, but it sort of happened. So what is next?

In January, Pete Goundry imported two Land Rovers, one is a

Among the other vehicles passing along here, is the lightweight Peter bought in the UK last year. We got it at the Sortout as we needed some serious cargo capacity. We turned it into a suitcase and stuffed it full of bits we all collected.

repowered 109 now with a 200 TDI. It didn't keep the intercooler in the swap, but runs very nice just the

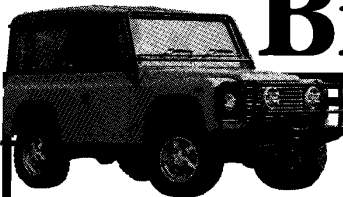
same. That is an engine to lust after, if you are into diesels. We had a shop day at Peter's, I spent time swapping the brake hoses. As soon as it got here the front brakes weren't in unison, I theorized one of the hoses was collapsed. In the end, we found both front hoses were closed up, and since Atlantic British sold Peter all the hoses in a set, this solved the problem. What you may have missed, if you weren't there, was a terrific turkey dinner after. Among Peter's many talents is cooking, Mmmm!!

Later, Keith Mohlenhoff and I took the 109 for a spin. With the Ashcroft gearbox and the 200 engine it is a sweet package. Keith is giving this some thought as his 109 is still powered by the 2.25 diesel. Quite a difference!

Peter had started a service on his LHD lightweight. It is a messy job as many of you know, and I suggested he use a spin-on adapter. Peter got one and later in the week he put it on, but couldn't get the Rover to run



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and was doubting his abilities. Now the filter swap couldn't possibly have anything to do with the running problem, so I mentioned I was headed to NYC the following Sunday and Bill Schofield was going with me, so we would bring some tools and stop by on the way back. It didn't take long to dive into the distributor and see the points had closed. A little clean up with sand paper and reset with feeler gauge, some tinkering with the carb and it was running sweet. Peter, you have to drive it more! <grin>

Just before Peter left for the UK last week, he told me the trans. went south in his Defender, only a couple months inside the extended warranty, lucky him.

Among the other vehicles passing along here, is the lightweight Peter bought in the UK last year. We got it at the Sortout as we needed some serious cargo capacity. We turned it into a suitcase and stuffed it full of bits we all collected. I spent a little time sorting some minor details, as Peter has it for sale. It is a solid vehicle and I sort of took a liking to it.

The weather has kept Jeff from getting his Rover finished. Snow made transport to the welding shop impossible and we discovered that the t-case has some issues. Another hastily arranged shop day and we swapped the t-case. Mike Stevens came by to lend a hand as well and spent most of his time sorting electrical issues. It turns out that there were more gremlins in Jeff's Rover that he thought so more work to go. We also helped Mike sort out his dome lamp switch, looked at the errant brake light.

Now I have an engine to swap and an O/D to install in the blue 109 SW that has been here since Fall. After waiting for 3 months for the correct exhaust pipe to come from the UK, now the prospective buyer wants a petrol engine. It's my luck isn't it? I learn something every time I work on these.

Spring is here, let's get our Rovers out and ready for fun. 

Shop Day - April 2003

by Will Meyers

If any of you have not attended a shop day you're really missing out on a great way to spend the day. Not to mention a great way to get things done on your vehicle. Whether you have years of experience turning wrenches or are brand new to the having grease under your fingernails, two heads, or 10 as it may be, are always better than one. The combined knowledge and experience, available at these events, is a resource that I urge everyone to take advantage of.

Our day started with fine spring weather. Some of the guys were picking up on a series IIA conversion, from diesel to gasoline, where it had been left off. Installing a fuel line, draining the tank and sorting out the intake/exhaust system were the projects for



▲ Jeff and John working on Sean's 109, a IIA in for a conversion from diesel to gas.


the day as well as the installation of an over-drive unit.

Lisa's Discovery was also in line for new front seals and brakes. It was quite a project but Bill made it seem easy. Lisa later reported that her brakes worked great and there were no more leaky seals.



▲ A few stubborn studs. Hank, Jeff, John and Evan sorting out a manifold.

My main project was disposing of a Series chassis, by way of the cutting torch, that was too far gone to be fixed. The bulkhead was salvageable but the chassis had to be cut into bite sized pieces so it could be taken to the dump.

The combination of experienced people and Tom's well outfitted garage helped make easy work of projects that could take days to complete by yourself. So if you have a project in mind or just want to join the fun be sure not to miss the next shop day scheduled for June 14. 



▲ Bill and Lisa working on some new hub seals and brakes for Lisa's Discovery.

Calendar of Events 2003

April 26	Our Annual Trek to Assateague Camping on the beach in the Maryland State campgrounds. You need a special permit to drive the beach. Best camp dinner/campfire is always here. Join your friends.
May 3rd	Del. City Antique truck show. Enter your Rover, spend the day in historical Delaware City, take a tour of Fort Delaware on Pea Patch island. Call Tom for details.
May 17-18	Carlisle Import Show, featured marque is Land Rover
May 24-25	NAS Patuxent River AIR EXPO 2003 "Automobile Display" (See page 7) Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland Gate Open 8 AM and close 5 PM. Dash plaques for first 50 registered cars each day Registration must be received by 30 April 2003, No registration day of show
May 26-30	The Adventure Team Challenge The week-long competition rally is designed to give Land Rover clubs the opportunity to have a representative team test their driving, navigation, and endurance skills against other Land Rover Clubs in the United States and Canada. To reserve a spot for your club or for an information packet please contact James Merriam, Adventure Team Challenge Rally Coordinator, 843 Greenway Court, Derby, Kansas USA 67037, (316) 789-8155 or E-mail: camelrover@aol.com
May 31	Off road Adventure Contact Jason Johnson-jsjohnson@consultant.com for details or keep an eye on the ROVERS email group for comming information
June 1	British Car Week Celebration in Southern Maryland - Picnic and Ralley (See page 9) Little Cove Farm in Saint Leonard, MD
June 14	Shop Day at Tom Bache's house. Projects not yet finished or new ones to do, bring it over.
June 20-22	OVLRL Birthday Party in Ottawa, Canada
July 26	Summer fling in Sunbury - To be confirmed
August 23	Rhinebeck Old Car and Air Show
Sept 7	Annual Club picnic at the Bache's. Ever expanding driving challenges on our dedicated course. Treasure hunt for younger Rover members and the bike trial. Bring your dish to share, drinks and dessert. Theme to be announced. Winning ticket to be drawn for free trip to the UK in time for Fall Sortout.
Oct3-5	MAR near Fork Union, VA-www.roav.org for details. Very worthwhile event.
Oct 24-27	Fall Sortout trip. Our lucky winner will have a round trip airfare to the UK in time to attend this event. Start saving your money and get your passport-you may be a winner their are deals to be had.
Nov 2	Fall Trials at Robesonia Longest running biannual Land Rover event in the USA. Starts 9AM
Addendum	There is room for more events, if you have data for events that may be going on elsewhere within other clubs, please forward the info to Will the Editor at: wilsworld2@aol.com — Share the fun.

While we make every effort to offer correct information in the calendar, please contact the organizing club or organization to verify the information, fees and sign up procedures. Events sponsored by R.O.V.E.R.S. are listed with bold dates.

Scenes from The G4 Challenge - N



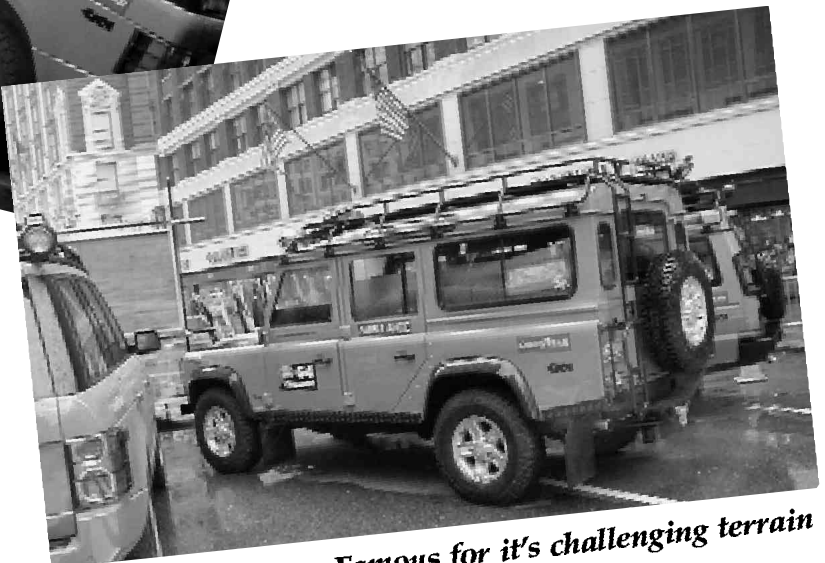
▲ Parking in New York just keeps getting tougher.



▲ The new New York taxi? Looks like the Freelander may replace the Checker.



▲ Romping Range Rover Relentlessly Routes Roadblocks.




▲ New York City... Famous for it's challenging terrain and mountainous obstacles.



Spring Trials at Robesonia

The object of a trial is to test the Driver's skill in completing a series of short courses laid out by the Event Organizers. A trial usually consists of 10 or 12 courses, or "sections" as they are usually known, marked out by pairs of canes to show the line of the section. Each pair of canes is known as a "gate" and there are ten or twelve gates to a section. The object is to drive from gate 10 or 12 to gate 1 without stopping and without hitting any of the gates.

Each Driver collects points depending upon how far along the section he/she gets. For instance, if the vehicle cannot start, or hits the start gate, the score will be 10/12. However, if the vehicle is driven from start to finish of the section without stopping or hitting any gates, the score is 0. Between the start and finish, if the 6 gate is hit, the score is 6, but if the 6 gate is cleared, and the vehicle then stops, the score is 5. i.e. the Driver has cleared the 6, but not reached the 5. At the end of the day the scores for all the sections are added up, and the Driver with the lowest score is the winner. 



The Results are in!

First Place - 30 points - Lyle McMullin - 88 S11a

Second Place - 41 points - Evan Price - 88 S11a

Third Place - 43 points - Dave McMullin - D90



Celebrate "British Car Week In Southern Maryland"

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST, 2003--RAIN OR SHINE

The Second Annual celebration of "British Car Week in Southern Maryland" will take place at Little Cove Farm in Saint Leonard, MD. on Sunday, June 1st, 2003. We again invite the entire British Car community to take a pleasant drive in the lovely Southern Maryland countryside and join us for a relaxed, free-form picnic with other LBC (Little British Car) owners and their families. And on your way down you're also welcome to participate in "The Great Patuxent Valley Rallye" which will start that morning near Upper Marlboro, MD. and end at the farm front gate.

The main event is a picnic at the farm, and all are invited to pack family and/or pets aboard, bring whatever they may want to eat, drink and play with, and come out for a day of fun and fellowship with others who enjoy driving and owning vintage vehicles. We learned a lot from last year's inaugural event, and this year we will be setting up large tents and picnic tables to provide shade and comfortable seating. We'll also have more to do and enjoy: Live music, hayrides, nature walks, etc. If you're coming directly to the picnic, arrive anytime after 10:00 A.M.

The rallye will be of the "Observation" type--there are no distances to measure, average speeds to maintain or the like. Rather, you'll be given a set of simple driving instructions and asked to supply answers to questions relating to what you will see along the 50-mile course. All you need to bring is a pencil and a sense of humor--you can even run it without a navigator, but having someone to help you find the answers will be more fun. The rallye starts at 10:00 AM, SHARP, and will take about 1-1/2 hours to run on rural roads along the shores of the Patuxent River in Southern

Maryland's lovely countryside. The course ends at our farm and awards will be presented at the picnic during the afternoon.

Last year we had about 65 cars-- This year we are expecting many more, and you can help make it so: Pass the word along to your friends and fellow car-club members, and have this event placed on your club's calendar and in its newsletter: The web address for this page is: www.chesapeake.net/~oritt/

TO REACH THE PICNIC:

Saint Leonard, MD. is about midway between Prince Frederick and Solomons Island on Route 4 (Less than an hour from the Capital Beltway or Annapolis). Turn west off of Route 4 at Parran Road, go about 1 mile to a T-intersection at Mackall Road, turn left and go 2 miles to Garrity Road, turn left and go 1/4 mile to 2455 Garrity Road - just follow the British flags!

TO REACH THE RALLYE:

From Route 4 and US 301 (Near Upper Marlboro) go south on 301 about 1/10 mile and enter the Giant Supermarket parking lot (east side of 301). The Driver's Meeting will commence at 10:00 AM and cars will start immediately thereafter. Driving the rallye will take about an hour and a half and the course ends at the farm-- we guarantee that you can't get lost!

We look forward to seeing you-- Michael and Mary Oritt. For further information email us at: awgertoo@aol.com

Ode to a Land Rover Enthusiast

If your V8 starts a tickin' like it's ready to explode, and you're using tons of oil when you're burdened by a load, and you've over hundred thousand on a rig that's not been towed, then your tickin' lifters clackin' means your cam lobes are furrowed.

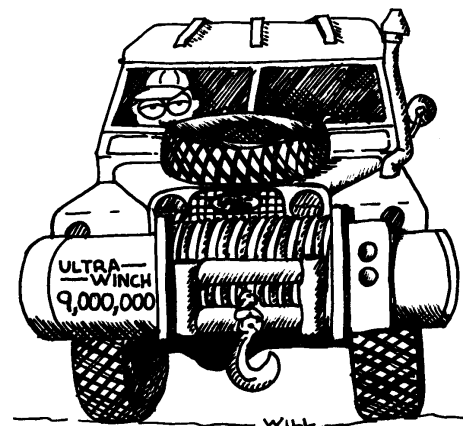
If your swivel balls are leaking in a profuse sort of way, and you hear a click or clacking when you're turning all the way, and you're topping off the swivels almost every other day, then your swivel seals need changing and you'd better not delay.

If your brakes begin a screeching when you're pressing on the pedal, and it sounds like water's ready when it's boiling in the kettle, or you hear an awful noise, like metal rubbing metal, then your brake shoe's need a changin' and for less you mustn't settle.

If your gears begin to howl after a substantial time, and you shift it into overdrive and then that begins to whine, but you're not too low on gearlube cause it's checked from time to time, than your situation's normal and it happens all the time.

If your gearshift lever breaks at the ball where it's attached, and your brakes are out of order, and the parking brake is trashed, and you're going down a hill, and descending much too fast, than your situation's hopeless and you're just about to crash!

Enjoy!
Dave Brown



The UltraWinch 9,000,000, developed for the "Raise the Titanic" expedition.

The Back Page

Caption Contest

It's time to use the creative part of your brain. Send me your captions for the photo below and I'll publish them in the next newsletter.



◀ *The big snow.*

R.O.V.E.R.S. Email List

If you aren't already a member, the ROVERS email list is a forum for technical discussion, club announcements and off-road opportunities. If you would like to join, send an email to our moderator, Tom Bache at tbache9248@aol.com.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED