

**SUPPORT NMOHVA's BUSINESS MEMBERS!!**

Buy all your gear and equipment from these industry supporters. Make sure to thank them and tell them NMOHVA sent you!

**Bobby J's Yamaha**

4724 Menaul, Albuquerque  
www.bobbyjsyamaha.com  
505-884-3013

**Champion Motorsports**

2801 W. 2nd, Roswell  
www.championroswell.com  
505-624-0751

**Copper King Lodge**

307 E. River St, Red River  
505-754-6210

**Kawasaki Motors Corp**

www.kawasaki.com  
949-770-0400

**R&S Powersports Group**

www.teamrands.com  
505-292-8011

**Santa Teresa Motorsports**

910 Livingston Loop, Santa Teresa  
www.santateresamotorsports.com  
505-589-4980

**Southwest Off Road Enterprises**

Guadalajara NE, Albuquerque  
505-296-6506

**Texas State Enduro Circuit**

Boerne, TX - 830-537-5248

**Member Clubs**

Gila Trail Riders  
New Mexico 4 Wheelers  
Prairie Dawgs MC

**LIFE MEMBERS:**

Steve Fox  
Harry Wagner

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

www.nmohva.org

**DO MORE FOR YOUR SPORT!!! ENCOURAGE ALL YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY, COMPETITORS, CLUBS AND OFF ROAD BUSINESSES TO JOIN NMOHVA!! UNITED, OUR NUMBERS AND RESOURCES WILL IMPROVE OFF ROADING FOR EVERYONE IN NEW MEXICO**



http://www.nmohva.org

By Joanne Spivack, NMOHVA Recreation Resources Director

**Background:** The Forest Service's 2005 Travel Management Rule told every National Forest that they must create maps of what areas, roads and trails we will be allowed to use on our dirt bikes, ATVs and 4WDs. Once that is done, all other areas, roads and trails are illegal for us to use. This policy change can (and is) being used to lock us out of many forest areas, and to close many of the roads and trails we have used for decades. We're the only ones being locked out, not the

*The Inside Line*  
*Newsletter of the New Mexico*  
*Off Highway Vehicle Alliance*

Jan 2008

HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Update: Saving**

**NM Forest Trails**

hikers, mtn bikers or horse riders.

**How They Do It:** To make the decisions, the forests all have to go through the 'NEPA' process (National Environmental Policy Act). NMOHVA keeps track of each forest and how far along it is in the NEPA process. NMOHVA also helps members and the public understand the process and how they can work with it.

**What Are The Forests Doing?** The Travel Management was supposed to be used for managing OHV recreation, not eliminating it, but the early indicators show the National Forests are using this process to greatly reduce

*Continued on Page 6*

**Annual Meeting Upcoming on April 12th**

The Annual Meeting for NMOHVA's membership will be on April 12, 2008 from 9 a.m. to noon. A 'social' lunch of soft drinks and pizza will be provided after the meeting. The meeting will be at R&S Powersports offices at 11200 Lomas in Albuquerque.

Join us to review and celebrate NMOVHA's successes of the past year and help craft the plans and areas of focus for the coming year. Members attending will also

consider and vote on proposed changes to the Bylaws and choose Board members in the annual elections. Members will be electing a President, Secretary, Recreation Resource Director, and an At-Large Board Member for two year terms. If you are interested in helping protect our motorized recreation in New Mexico, consider becoming a NMOHVA Board member, and contact Chris at [president@nmohva.org](mailto:president@nmohva.org). Nominations for all positions will be accepted up to and at the

Annual Meeting.

Directions to Meeting: From I-40, exit at Eubank. Head north on Eubank. Turn East on Lomas. Go past the Target shopping center and turn right (south) at the traffic light onto Hotel Circle. The building is on the southeast corner of Lomas and Hotel Circle. It is a two story tan office building with the number 11200 on the side. The R&S offices are on the second floor. ###



NMOHVA  
13170-B Ccentral Ave. SE  
PMB No. 322  
Albuquerque, NM 87123

## President's Report: Evaluation of Progress

By Chris Johnson, NMOHVA president

When I stood to be President of NMOHVA, I said that I had a vision for NMOHVA to be the advocate for all New Mexico OHV recreation enthusiasts. I talked about improving communication internally (among the members of NMOHVA and its executive board) and externally (between NMOHVA and the public). After a year, my term is nearing its end and I want to evaluate honestly how the board and I have done our jobs.

NMOHVA has remained true to our mission to support all forms of OHV recreation. It has not been easy; especially as we participate in the Travel Management Rule processes in the various National Forests, the potential for division between various OHV contingents has arisen. In both the Cibola and Santa Fe National Forests, ATV use is coming under tremendous pressure, and we can expect the forces opposing OHV recreation to use that potential for division to their own ends. We must continue to remember that we are stronger united than divided. The folks who do not approve of OHV recreation on public lands see not one iota of difference between single-track motorcyclists, ATVers, or four-wheel-drive enthusiasts. They want us all to go away.

To communicate internally, between NMOHVA's membership and the board, we have relied on periodic newsletters such as this one; but the newsletter only comes out a few times a year and that is just not enough. We had a website, but the board found for various reasons that it was not meeting our needs. We lacked the ability to add content directly to the site, or to use automated communication such as e-mail alerts to our members. So we engaged in a search for a new, locally based website provider who could design a product that can be edited rapidly as the need arises. By the time you read this newsletter, the new design should be live, with much more timely content. You can also expect to hear from us via e-mail if you have provided NMOHVA with an e-mail address. We promise to never make our member e-mail address lists public, and if you find our messages intrusive just tell us and we will remove your address from our list.

One area where I did not meet my goal to improve NMOHVA's internal communication was my failure to visit and post on NMOHVA's online forum. I apologize, and

I intend to use the remainder of my term as president to establish a new model for communication between NMOHVA's executive board and you, its members. Look for more info about the new website and the new forum elsewhere in this newsletter.

As for external communication, NMOHVA has remained mostly behind the scenes. We haven't published opinion pieces in the local papers, and we haven't splashed our name in the media; but we assuredly have made an impression with the local staffs of agencies such as BLM, Forest Service, State Parks, and the State Land Office, and the forces opposing OHV recreation definitely know who we are. Credit primarily goes to Joanne Spivack, who is reaching the end of her term as Recreation Resource Director. Joanne will still use her incredible networking and sleuthing skills for NMOHVA, but only in an unofficial capacity. Meanwhile, look for NMOHVA to become more visible with our message as the Travel Management Plan process moves into the public comment stage. ###

## NMDRC Announces 2008 Schedule

### 2008 NMDRC RACE SCHEDULE

Feb 16/17 - NMDRC #1 Tarantula 100  
Alamogordo, NM

Mar 15/16 - NMDRC #2 Corralitos 100  
Las Cruces, NM

Apr 19/20 - NMDRC #3 The Dunes,  
Farmington, NM

May 17/18 - NMDRC #4 TBD

Jun 28/29 - NMDRC #5 The Rattlesnake 100  
Española, NM

Sep 20/21 - NMDRC #6 Carlsbad 100, Carlsbad

Oct 25/26 - NMDRC #7 Socorro Valley 100  
Socorro, NM

The NM Desert Racing Club (NMDRC) is gearing up for another great season of desert racing with the release of their 2008 race schedule. A coalition of NM clubs and promoters, NMDRC offers dirtbike and ATV riders and racers fun, challenges and a chance to ride in some of NM's premier riding areas. Offering over 50 different classes from beginners to experts, mini, quad and women, there is something for everyone. Most clubs and promoters sponsor a kid's race (usually the day before) and a chance to pre-ride the course to get familiar with the area and spend time with your off roading family. To get the latest info. on locations and schedule changes visit: [www.nmdrc.com](http://www.nmdrc.com) ###

## Win, Hold or Lose? (Cont'd From Front Page)

The Gila website has very detailed maps of the existing roads and trails. Go to <http://www2.srs.fs.fed.us/r3/gila/travel/maps.shtml>. The volunteers working to preserve trails are the **Gila Trail Riders Association (G.T.R.A.)**, **Gila Roughriders ATV club**, **M.A.G. ATV Club**, and the **GRATA** alliance of ranchers, OHV users and local residents.

**Lincoln National Forest** (South Central area: Ruidoso, Cloudcroft, Alamogordo)  
The Lincoln is further along in the NEPA process than the other four forests. They are currently are taking 'Scoping' comments from the public about what they propose to do, the 'Proposed Action'. Go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/lincoln/projects/TMR/maps.shtml>. The Lincoln is the only one of our five forests that

already had a system of designated trails. The maps and descriptions at the website will tell you what is being kept, changed, and eliminated in each ranger district. The local dirt bike group is the Prairie Dawgs M C, [www.prairiedawgsmc.com](http://www.prairiedawgsmc.com). Another group concerned with the Lincoln is the Texas State Enduro Championship Circuit club, at [www.tscec.org](http://www.tscec.org). TSEC is the organizer for the Mile High Enduro, held outside Cloudcroft on trails in the Lincoln National Forest.

**Santa Fe National Forest** (North Central area: Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Cuba)  
Extremist environmental groups have declared war on OHV's, and targeted the Santa Fe National Forest as a key battle. NMOHVA has allied with the

Blackfeather Trails Preservation Alliance, the New Mexico 4 Wheelers and the New Mexico Trials Association to save our roads and trails. Jointly, these volunteers have devoted thousands of hours in meetings, planning sessions, field trips and work groups. The forest website says the NEPA process will start in March 2008, with the release of a "Proposed Action". We are anticipating the forest will release some kind of document this spring. The Santa Fe National Forest has posted maps of the roads and trails they had inventoried, plus the trails GPS's and submitted by the users. Go to: [http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/travelimgt/maps\\_docs.html#Transportation\\_Maps](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/travelimgt/maps_docs.html#Transportation_Maps) ###

## Website Redesign with Our Members in Mind

Effective communication with and between our members is of vital importance. With that purpose in mind, the New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance is pleased to announce a complete redesign of the NMOHVA web site. The address remains the same ([www.nmohva.org](http://www.nmohva.org)) but the new site offers an exciting new look, greatly improved content, and is designed so that the Board can immediately update news, access issue, and calendar entries. If you have news or a calendar item that you would like posted to the web-

site, send a message to [web@nmohva.org](mailto:web@nmohva.org).

The new site also includes a link to NMOHVA's brand new forum. The forum is the perfect place to go to find out where to ride in New Mexico, discuss the latest access concerns, or just brag about your killer riding skills. You can even post photos of your ride, buy and sell items in a 'classifieds' section, and buy NMOHVA merchandise. Go to [www.nmohva.org](http://www.nmohva.org), create



your user ID for the forum, and check it out! For those of you who had been using the old forum, you'll need to re-register on the new forum. We look forward to seeing you online! ###

## Saving our Forest Trails in New Mexico:

*Continued from Front Page*

where we can go. Our only hope and only chance is to get deeply involved and push back, insisting they Forests follow the rules properly.

**What Can I Do to Save Trails?** Join NMOHVA ([www.nmohva.org](http://www.nmohva.org) for info and to join online) If you want to become actively involved in the forest near you, but don't know who to call or what to do, email me at [resourcedirector@nmohva.org](mailto:resourcedirector@nmohva.org). I'll get you 'up to speed'.

### **Cibola National Forest**

(Central New Mexico)

**Sandia Ranger District: This looks like it will be the first official document for designated trails to be released in the entire state.** Sandia Ranger District includes our

**Cedro Peak riding area. The Environmental Assessment (EA) is supposed to be released Jan. 28th.** Release of the EA will start a **strict 30 day public comment period.** Go to [http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm\\_sandia/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_sandia/index.shtml) to see the map and policy for each alternative.

### **Carson National Forest**

(Northern Central area: Taos)

The Carson staff met this December and decided the forest was too diverse to cover under one document. Travel Management will be done by district, with Environmental Assessments. The first one will be the Jicarilla, second is Questa. The third is a group combining the Tres Piedras, El Rito and Canjilon ranger districts, and the

fourth is Camino Real. Proposed actions for each of the four will be developed almost all at once however, with a target release date of April-May 2008. Scoping would end in May for all four groups. By using Environmental Assessments the Carson does not have to release a Notice of Intent. There is no website information at this date. I'm told they are working on that.

### **Gila National Forest**

(Southwest area: Silver City, Glenwood, Reserve)

Volunteers made great progress in getting the Gila to document the local trails. With a change of top management, the process has slowed this past year. The Gila is not yet in the official NEPA process, and has not made firm decisions about whether to make a forest-wide plan, or do it one ranger district at a time.

## Rick Alcon Named OHV Citizen of the Year for 2007

*By Joanne Spivack, NMOHVA Recreation Resources Director*

If you ride dirt bikes or ATVs in New Mexico you know R&S Powersports, and their four Albuquerque stores. Few people know that R&S stands for Rick & Susie (Alcon), or know the story behind the state's largest powersports dealer. And many don't know about

Rick's passion for off road riding, and his commitment to protecting the last few scraps of public lands open for us to enjoy. Here's his

story and why NMOHVA has honored him as the OHV Citizen of the Year for 2007.

Rick Alcon is an Albuquerque native, and got his first paycheck in a motorcycle store when he was ten years old. He was paid \$5 for pushing a broom in Alcon's Harley-Davidson



Continued page Four

## NMOHVA Establishes Access Defense Fund

*By Mark Werkmeister, NMOHVA Secretary*

Your New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance has established the Access Defense Fund. Why do we need this fund? There are two reasons. 1) Our opponents have the funds and have demonstrated the willingness to sue the Forest Service. The Forest Service knows that being sued is no fun and with legal pressure on just one side of the issue, they may be tempted to take the path of least resistance. We need an equal ability to exert legal pressure to keep the process fair. 2) The day has come when legal action may be the only way left to get a fair result. Legal actions take money and we have to start our preparations now.

Legal action is a last resort, but also an indispensable tool. In order to be respected, we must

be capable of filing lawsuits, the way the anti-OHV organizations do. One Forest Supervisor told us to our faces they weren't afraid of us because we never sue them. There are many organizations pushing the land management agencies to completely eliminate motorized recreation on For-

*We must be capable of filing lawsuits to ensure our voices are heard as the enviros have already learned ...*

est Service lands. They are often well funded and have a history of suing the Forest Service and BLM, and intimidating them with the threat of lawsuits. In the past we have never had a credible way of countering those threats. We have never defended ourselves. That MUST change.

The Access Defense Fund will be sustained completely through voluntary contributions. The Fund will be kept separate from the NMOHVA operating funds. The Fund will be used to support legal actions undertaken by NMOHVA and other organizations working for continued access to our public lands, and for communication on public land access issues that are of interest and importance to NMOHVA and the motorized recreation community in New Mexico. NMOHVA is a 501c3 organization and contributions are tax deductible. Contributions may be sent to:  
NMOHVA Access Defense Fund  
13170-B Central Ave. SE  
PMB #322  
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Contributions can also be made through PayPal on our new website, [www.nmohva.org](http://www.nmohva.org) ###

# NMOHVA Awards One of New Mexico's Off Road Heroes OHV Citizen of the Year for 2007

Continued from Page Three..

which was owned by his dad and uncle. Growing up in the business he got experience managing every department. Rick's first dirt bikes were the 90cc and 125 cc Italian Aermacchi's badged as Harleys in the U.S. Later, when Alcon's H-D carried the Spanish brand Ossa dirt bikes, Rick flat tracked a Dick Mann Replica Ossa. Speedway Park, located on South Eubank, south of the current Costco location, was the local racing hot spot.

The evolution of R&S began in late 1985. Rick and Susie had graduated from UNM in 1983 and opened a gun store and indoor shooting range. But Rick's passion was the motorcycle business. When the opportunity presented itself, the range building on Lomas was converted into a motorcycle dealership and reopened as a Kawasaki only dealer in 1985. They added KTM and Sea-Doo in 1989, and then Suzuki in 1993. In April 1999 they bought Albuquerque Yamaha on Juan Tabo. Years earlier, Rick's dad and uncle had purchased Simonson's Honda on San Pedro Blvd. and called it Alcon's Honda. The Alcons sold it, and the buyers moved it to Wyoming Blvd., renaming it M&M Honda. R&S bought it back in 2000. The deal included a dealership in construction which would become their first



Rick Alcon (center) accepting his award from board members Joanne Spivack (right) and Hurley Wilvert (left)

west side location at Coors and I-40. In 2006 that store was relocated to their new 'superstore' dealership at Coors and Coors By-Pass, just east of Cottonwood Mall.

When Rick grew up at the east end of Montgomery Blvd, Tramway Blvd was a dirt road. He could ride all the hills east of Tramway and up the side of Sandia mountain. The current trail from South Peak down to I-40 was even a dirt bike trail. There were no houses north of Montgomery and they could ride to the Coronado airport. Over the years, he was all too familiar with the off road opportunities that continued to diminish not only in the Albuquerque Metro area but across the

state and country as well. When he re-entered the industry with his own dealership, he committed to the importance of preserving off road access. By this time, most of the nearby single track riding was in the East Mountains, particularly Otero Canyon, which had about 150 miles of trail. Rick was riding the early KDX200's and KX 250's, doing single track trail riding and a few enduros. Rick is still an active dirt biker.

Rick took it very personally when Otero Canyon and some of his favorite Jemez trails were closed. That's when it became very clear that we must be much more organized as a community to protect access.

Rick is particularly passionate about the Cedro Peak trails. This riding area is the last trail network we have left in the Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest. When we lost Otero Canyon in a 'compromise' agreement, the Cibola National Forest assured the riders they would continue to have access in the Cedro Peak area. A few short years later, that is now being threatened too. Rick believes things could have been different if the riders had been more formally organized back then. Additional areas were available and could have been designated for motorized use. This is one reason he has been a strong supporter of NMOHVA.

Rick is committed to preserving the sport for all of us, and our grandkids as well. This means protecting our right to ride in Forest Service and BLM lands, but it also means fighting off attempts to ban kids from riding at all. That started with a phone call in 2003. Senator Dede Feldman (D, Corrales) was writing a so-called ATV safety bill. She believed they could pass a bill which would ban anyone under age 16 from riding any OHV product. This 'under 16 total ban' was Senator Feldman's public position. Rick jumped in and, with his input, the bill was almost completely revised. When the bill was fi-

nally passed two years later, the ban and many other irrational and oppressive restrictions were gone. Although the initial legislative process is over, there are still many open items of great concern to the off highway community during the implementation process. As the Vice Chairman of the state Trail Safety Board created by the law, Rick remains heavily involved in representing the users in this continuing process. Thanks to Rick, we have some rational and reasonable rules being implemented and a strong voice to resist attempts at inappropriate future legislative challenges.

NMOHVA didn't exist when the legislation threat first appeared. Rick saw the riders had to get organized, and asked for help from the National Off Highway Conservation Council (NOHVCC) and the AMA. NOHVCC's Dana Bell came out from California in December 2003 and over the next six months she helped get NMOHVA off the ground with a core group of about 20 people.

Now it is four years later, and NMOHVA is a recognized force for motorized recreation. Our numbers continue to grow, including member clubs. Rick Alcon continues to work for access, for fair regulations, and

he strongly supports NMOHVA's work representing motorized recreation in New Mexico. We are delighted to be able to recognize Rick for his great achievements.

## Where to find a R&S near you....



3305 Juan Tabo Blvd NE  
(Just north of Candelaria)  
Albuquerque, NM 87111  
Phone: (505) 292-8011



9601 Lomas NE  
(Just west of Eubank)  
Albuquerque, NM 87112  
Phone: (505) 292-6692



1425 Wyoming NE  
(Just north of I-40)  
Albuquerque, NM 87112  
Phone: (505) 293-1860



10012 Coors Blvd NW  
(Just east of Cottonwood Mall)  
Albuquerque, NM 87114  
Phone: (505) 896-0200