

THE EVOLUTION

EVOLUTION JEEP ALLIANCE'S NEWSLETTER

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Volume 8



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Where's EJA?

John McDowell and his wife travel to Ireland 3-4 times a year. Their first stop is always Dublin where his mother-in-law lives. His wife and eldest daughter were both born there.



"Both sides of my family came from here at some point. The culture the people, it is one of the friendliest



places I have ever been. Ireland beats in every fiber of my heart. I will be moving back one day and will be buried here."

As always post pictures of your adventures on the Evolution Jeep Alliance Facebook page.



IF YOU'RE NOT EVOLVING, YOU'RE STANDING STILL

Member Spotlight

This month's member spotlight is Rose Bortolussi who owns a 2010 Jeep Wrangler named Ducky. Rose came to the Jeep life as a midlife crisis. Rose wanted the ability to enjoy the topless days, but could no longer afford the speeding tickets a Corvette would cost her. She has had 4-wheelers and snowmobiles the majority of her life so a Jeep was a natural choice to her.

Rose surprised herself with Ducky, as she purchased him on a trip from Illinois to Florida on somewhat of a whim. Luckily for Rose, back then the airfare was cheap! Rose didn't mind losing the cost of the return ticket and drove home to Morton Illinois from Jacksonville Florida, where she was visiting her Nephew who was stationed at Jax NAS. By herself, Rose drove Ducky with no cruise control or GPS - she went old school and used an atlas and a printout from MapQuest to get home. After owning Ducky for about 16 months, Rose and her husband added cruise control.



Rose does not get the chance to off-road much, but when she does, she prefers mud and wooded trails over rocks. Rose's passion is running Jeeps Against Suicide, a newly founded 501(c)3 charity that Evolution Jeep Alliance is honored to support. Rose says that Ducky started as a 6-speed manual Sport but has been a labor of love, with the following list of modifications and upgrades:

- 3" Zone Offroad Lift
- Eaton Electric Lockers
- 4.88 gears by G2
- Rough Country Dual Stabilizer
- Ace Engineering Rock Rails
- Bushwacker Fender Flairs
- K & N Air Filter
- 12k Badlands Winch
- 35" Maxxis Tires on Pro Comp Steelies
- Taboo Custom Front Bumper
- Rear Bumper by Tuff Stuff (handle modified by Rose)
- Aries Tire carrier (also modified from hinge mount to spindle) from RuffStuff
- Drake Offroad Billet Grille Inserts
- Light Bar custom made by Davis Metal Fab with 2-Sho-Me Lights
- Custom Made Wood Shift Knobs by Artful Things of Central Illinois
- Head Lights, Running Lights, and Tail Lights all changed to LED that Rose says are "nothing fancy"



Sponsor Highlight

NotSoStock4x4 (N.S.S.4x4) is a family run brand that loves to encourage and support an offroad lifestyle. Our brand creates off-road clothing, decals, and accessories. We think of off-roading not just as a hobby but, a lifestyle.

We support and participate in local events usually with our local clubs and partners.

At NotSoStock4x4 everyone is welcomed. We support all off-roaders and 4x4 owners. We hope to make a big impact in the off-road community.

Thank you for your support!

Not So Stock 4x4 is a valuable Evolution Jeep Alliance Sponsor. They provide a discount to members.



Go to www.evolutionjeepalliance.com, sign up for a free account, then navigate to the Group Sponsor section for our exclusive NSS discount information.



Evolution Jeep Alliance Events & Community Support

Summer is always a busy time for events and Jeep related activities. The past 30 days has proven to be no exception. Evolution members were somewhere every weekend and even some weekdays.



We were are the Wildwood Jeep Invasion, the 35th Annual Summer 4x4 Jamboree, a Scouting for Cars event as well as many jeep shows that benefitted something or someone. We even had an event

to support a local Lemonade Stand Challenge in FL. We had members participate in 4th of July events including parades, meet up, charity events, and many, many more.



One epic weekend event I want to call out due to its great exposure for Evolution was the Ultimate Off Road Field Trip held at AOAA. This was the first in many of these events to be held across the nation. If you get a chance to participate it is well worth the cost. A few Evolution members that were able to attend helped our cause and gained a lot of insight and knowledge.

I know most members have seen the pictures and videos from the event on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube from our members as well as the social media influencers that were the hosts of the event. It was



a 3 day event with the first two days being blue, black, and red trails at AOAA. The third day was focused on the new Mammoth Trail.

Here is a few of the "hosts" for the event: Mischiefmaker; Offroad N Chill; ChuckConverse BleepinJeep; BleepinColt; Psychocupcake4x4; Flex Rocks & Rollovers



Evolution has a big slate of events for the remainder of July and into August. Check out the Events page on www.evolutionjeepalliance.com for something going on in your area. We hope to see you out and about.

EJA Newsletter Team

Stephen Ellis
Brennan McMahon
Shaun McMahon
Jake Hayden
Gary Swogger



2022 EVENT CALENDAR

Date:	Event:	Location:
7/22/22	EJA Supports Skid Row Offroad Open House	Carlisle, PA
7/23-7/24/22	All Breeds Jeep Show	Carlisle Fairgrounds, PA
7/23/22	EJA with Genesis Jeep Coalition Meet up and Parking Lot Party	Carlisle, PA
7/28-7/30/22	Jeep Jamboree	AOAA
8/5-8/7/22	Great American Crawl	Browns Camp, OR
8/6/22	EJA at AOAA - Women's Wheeling Day	AOAA
8/13/22	Penitent Souls Children's Foundation Jeep Show	Hughesville, PA
8/25-8/28/22	Ocean City Jeep Week	Ocean City, MD
8/25-8/27/22	Great Smoky Mountain Jeep Invasion	Pigeon Forge, TN
8/27/22	SLRC @ Field & Forest Recreation	Harrisville, NH
9/2-9/5/22	EJA Morris Mountain Event	Delta, AL
9/17/22	EJA Supports J.E.E.P. Fall Trail Ride	AOAA
9/24/22	EJA at AOAA	AOAA
9/25/22	EJA supports Tires Against Tumors	Easton, PA
10/13/22	EJA Attends Whitehall Township Halloween Parade	Whitehall Twp, PA
10/14-10/15/22	Krawlin' 4 K9's	Rausch Creek
10/29/22	EJA To Field of Screams	Montville, PA
11/11-11/13/22	Great American Crawl	Big Bear, CA
11/12/22	Wheel2Heal	AOAA
12/10/22	EJA at AOAA	AOAA
4/1-4/9/23	Easter Jeep Safari	Moab, UT
4/23-4/30/23	Jeep Beach Week	Daytona, FL
5/6/23	Recovery for a Cause	AOAA
6/9-6/11/23	Bantam Jeep Festival	Butler, PA

Tech Talk

Winches — One of the best recovery tools to be equipped with on your Jeep. Winches can not only help you but help someone else. There are many different brands of winches: Warn, Smittybilt, Superwinch, Badlands just to name a few. But brand is not as important as have the correct rated winch for your vehicle. The rule is to have a winch that can pull 1.5 times your vehicles weight (GVWR). For example, a 2 door Wrangler Rubicon is approximately 5,000lbs. Multiply 5,000 by 1.5 equaling 7,500lbs. A winch with a 7,500lbs capacity or more is what you should be looking for.



Now that you know which winch pulling capacity you should get— should you get synthetic rope or steel cable? It really comes down to personal preference as both have pros and cons.

Steel cable is an option to use in highly abrasive terrains, such as in mud, rocks, and sand, as it is less prone to fraying and abrading. Steel cable is also more affordable than synthetic rope and requires less maintenance. Steel cable can rust, as well as develop sharp burrs as it wears, requiring gloved hands to operate. Some wheelers recommend keeping a light coating of chain oil or WD-40 on the line to protect the steel and disperse moisture, preventing rust. Steel is also prone to kinks, making it harder to spool up on the drum properly and decreasing strength. Also, steel cables carry a lot of energy in the event it is to break.

Synthetic rope is a lot lighter than steel cable. Synthetic rope doesn't store as much energy as a steel cable does, meaning it won't become as much of a projectile if it breaks. Being lighter than steel also gives it an advantage on vehicles that are sensitive to weight, especially over the front axle. Synthetic rope's high flexibility and low weight make it much easier to handle than steel with the added benefit of not kinking the way steel cable can. While synthetic rope has a higher breaking strength than a comparable steel cable, that doesn't mean it is unbreakable. If a synthetic rope does break, it can be repaired in the field with proper braiding techniques. Synthetic rope also has the advantage of floating, which could make a recovery in a mud hole or body of water easier. Synthetic rope does have its share of disadvantages. Drawbacks include; susceptibility to UV exposure; chemicals; heat; and abrasion, all of which can substantially weaken the rope. Because of this, quality synthetic ropes come with a protective anti-abrasion sleeve that slides the length of the rope as well as a special protective coating. To protect against heat buildup from the drum brake, either a heat sleeve or more heat-resistant material can be used on the portion of the rope that wraps around the drum. Another disadvantage to synthetic rope is that it can hold water, which can add weight or even freeze in cold weather, turning your winch in to a useless ice block. It is important to note that not all synthetic ropes are made equal and not all synthetic ropes will have these features.





EVOLUTION SPONSORS

EVOLUTION MERCHANDISE



Purchasing some Evolution Merchandise is a great way to support our mission to build, grow and help not only the Jeep community, but our local communities.



All proceeds of our merchandise goes to funding events for our members as well as supporting local charities and fundraising efforts to better our communities.



Check out our website www.evolutionjeepallianc.com to browse all of our available merchandise from T-Shirts to Towels and Phone Cases. Your support is greatly appreciated!



ALWAYS EVOLVING