

OTTAWA
VALLEY
**LAND
ROVERS**



April 2005

www.ovlr.org

Volume XXII, Number 4

Maple Syrup Rally 2005



See article and more photos on pages 4-8.



PO Box 36055, 1318 Wellington Street
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General Information

Ottawa Valley Land Rovers is the oldest and largest Land Rover club in Canada. Membership is open to all Land Rover enthusiasts. Executive meetings are held on the first Monday of every month. Social meetings are held on the third Monday of every month, generally at the Prescott Hotel on Preston Street.

OVL R offers a monthly newsletter and a variety of activities throughout the year, from mechanical seminars and off-road rallies to social events and family oriented outings. Members receive discounts on parts from a number of North American suppliers. Off-road activities come in several categories. The light version, which is usually entertainment during a rally or at one of our family summer events, consists of a little "mud bogging" or tours along country lanes. The heavy stuff, which is usually several days across public lands navigating by compass, topographical maps and aerial photos, involves bridge building, river barging, and driving conditions ranging from cedar swamp to rocky hill winching.

Membership: Canadians joining throughout the year pay \$35 CDN per year, Americans and others pay \$30 US per year. Membership is valid for one year.

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Murray Jackson, Roy Parsons, Kevin Newell, Bruce Ricker, Peter Gaby, Fred Joyce, Andrew Finlayson and all those whose names I just know I'm forgetting.

OVL R Newsletter

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Submissions: Articles may be submitted to the Editor, Shannon Lee Mannion (ottawavalleylandrovers@sympatico.ca) or via post to the club address. Photographs should be sent directly to S.L. Mannion, 2-41 Florence Street, Ottawa, ON Canada K2P 0W6. Please include photographer's name, captions, identifications of people and vehicles, and a return address if you want the photos back.

Deadlines: Submissions to the OVL R Newsletter must be received by the 15th of every month for inclusion in that month's newsletter. All items submitted for publication should be legible and signed. Names maybe withheld at the request of the writer. This is your newsletter. If you wish to write anything, we welcome your input of any kind.

Editorial Policy: The Editor of the OVL R newsletter reserves the right to edit any submitted material for space and content considerations. Articles, statements, and opinions appearing in the OVL R newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the officers, board of directors, members of the OVL R, or its sponsors or advertisers. Where specific data regarding operation, safety, repairs, or legislation are concerned you are advised to obtain independent verification. The Club, officers, and contributors can accept no responsibility for the result of errors or omissions given in this newsletter or by any other means.

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Submissions Deadline

The 15th of the month for inclusion in next month's issue.

Online

<http://www.ovlr.org>

Any ideas for the website please contact Dixon Kenner
Land Rover FAQ: <http://www.lrfaq.org>

Radio Frequencies

VHF 146.520

CB channel 1

FRS channel 1 sub 5

SW 14.160 MHz

OVL R/Land Rover HAM:

14.160Mhz @ 01:00GMT Tuesdays

Advertising Information

\$35 CDN for 1/4 page ad,
must run for minimum of three months.

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Hey man, what's going on?

OVLR Calendar of Events

Socials

Socials are held at the Prescott Hotel on Preston St., Ottawa, the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Meeting

Executive meetings are held on the first Monday of the month. Please contact Jean-Leon Morin for location. morinj@tc.gc.ca

May 29, 2005

Oxford Mills Vintage Motorcycle and Car Show, Oxford Mills, ON. Just off Highway 16, near Kemptville. Go before 11:00 a.m. if you want to ensure a spot inside the fence with other show vehicles. Entrants are free and get a lovely pin. Others pay minimal amount at gate. Delicious BBQ and baked goods on sale.

June 24-26, 2005

OVLR Annual Birthday Party
Silver Lake

Saturday, July 16, 2005

All British Car Day
10:00 am - 4:00 pm, Britannia Park (Lakeside Gardens)
All British vehicles, any marque, any year. \$20.00 registration
Please see website for details www.britishcarday.ca or call Don LeBlanc 596-5692

Trainee Required!

Editor of widely-read monthly newsletter about Land Rovers seeks trainee to join the circus and take over as ring master. Need not be a trapeze artist nor an elephant handler. Being able to type may help. Patience and tact, an asset. Join the great team of people who bring it all to you.

Please reply to Jean-Leon,
President of OVLR



No Substitute for Fresh Air and Mud

(or How I Convinced my Girlfriend that I'm not Crazy After all)

by Alastair Sinclair
photos by Dixon Kenner

Opting to sleep in rather than meet the convoy at 9:00 a.m, I loaded up the Range Rover with Morgan and Willow, the dog, before stopping at Kirkwood Manor to collect Dixon and Kelly. After the requisite stop to quench the Range Rover's thirst we were on our way. It was a nice morning and we took our time admiring the sites and sounds that the rural Ottawa Valley offers. The Luskville Falls seemed to be flowing at a good rate and we enjoyed some nice views of the bays along the Ottawa River.

As we approached Shawville I noticed a IIA 88", a Freelander and our Club President's open-topped beast on the soft shoulder. Unfortunately, Mr. Morin (JL) was experiencing some belt issues and a large puddle of oil made us fear the worst for his diesel. The Club trailer was quickly attached to the back of the Range Rover and we were off with instructions to ensure the sausages were quickly put on ice!

Needless to say the majority of the gang had already assembled at Vern's farm and the Club trailer must have been a welcome sight to hungrier club members in attendance. The crack team



wasted no time in getting to work and breakfast was quickly on its way.

Having brought Morgan to her first Land Rover club event I spent some time showing her the varied collection of series and newer trucks. Her favourite was Andrew Finlayson's 80" which she thought to be the "cutest" and quickly dubbed it the "little Hopper". I am now saving for an 80". Thank-you, Andrew. Her second favourite was Bruce Ricker's Sedgewick, the faded poppy-red 109" pickup that has real patina. It was great to catch up with everyone and hear about the latest adventures and projects.

After some time had passed, it became clear that no one had rescued our club president, so Kevin Willey and I located Vern's tow bar and set off to bring him in. Not a kilometre away I spotted Peter McGough's 1979 Range Rover rounding a bend, with Jean-Leon's machine on a tow strap rolling along behind. Bringing up the rear was Dale Desprey in his nicely lifted Range Rover. Despite having caught the Rover bug with my first Land Rover, an 88", I was quite pleased to see the Range Rovers doing well for themselves that Sunday morning.

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No Substitute for Fresh Air and Mud *(continued from page 4)*

A crowd quickly gathered around JL's stricken beast and all sorts of theories were offered up. It ran later in the day, much to JL's relief, and I am confident we will see her back on the road shortly.

Breakfast was delicious as usual and we then explored all the neat things to see on Vern's farm, from the Sugar Shack (newly expanded) to the log building under construction. As usual Vern brought out his beautiful collection of classic bikes.

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No Substitute for Fresh Air and Mud *(continued from page 5)*

The light off-road was a little muddy and we made slow progress with so many vehicles, but it was nice to be back on the trails after what seemed like a longer than average winter. When we reached “the big hill” Ted Rose ventured down in Christine’s Discovery and it was quickly apparent that getting back up would be a challenge. With a little winching and pushing Ted made steady progress and it was time to get everyone turned around. (Thank you to Mr. Desprey for so kindly winching my Range Rover up the hill to the turnaround).



The route back was fun with one mud-hole in particular generating the most excitement and pleasure as everyone gather to watch the Land Rover’s splash through. At the far end of the crossing, a tight right turn and a submerged ice/rock shelf presented the biggest problem for those not sensible enough to take the alternate dry route around the crossing.

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No Substitute for Fresh Air and Mud *(continued from page 6)*

Not being particularly sensible myself, I attempted the crossing and, despite advice to keep left on exiting the water, the ruts sucked me in to right, lodging the front axle of the Rangee solidly into the shelf. I had us quickly and properly stuck. Efforts to wrestle the Range Rover free were fruitless. I had to climb out in the muck and managed to dirty my chinos(!!!) (thank-you Dixon Kenner for catching it all on film) attaching the tow strap to the front axle of the Rangee. Even with a good first tug from Peter McGough's Range Rover she didn't want to move. On the second pull the tow strap snapped, cracking nicely against my windshield, and Morgan was a little more frightened than I had intended for her first outing in a Land Rover. With the remaining length attached back to Mr. McGough Range Rover we were pulled out on the third tug (Thank you to Mr. McGough for rescuing a LWB full of passengers).

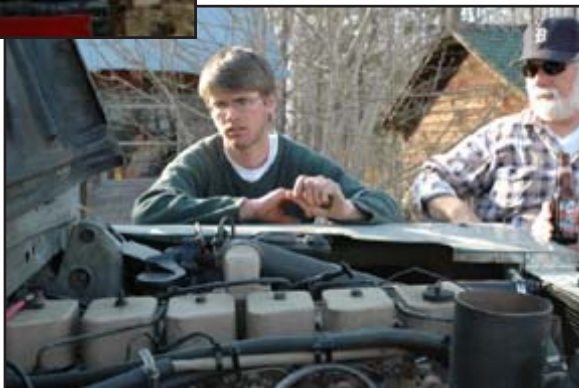
continued on page 8



No Substitute for Fresh Air and Mud *(continued from page 7)*

I have now been to plenty of Rover events, close and not so close, and the defining factor is always the camaraderie and shared fun of playing with Land Rovers outside, whatever your particular strain of Rover infection. Thank you to everyone who pitched in to make this event so enjoyable and to Vern for graciously hosting us year after year. I would also like to point out that this is the perfect introductory event to get a loved one or friend to understand and appreciate why the Land Rover passion runs so deep and is so quickly infectious. The drive is relatively short, you eat a delicious breakfast and the trail trip is (usually!) a short and mild affair. I believe I have now convinced Morgan to join me for the Birthday Party, although she did offer one condition: I have to have the 88" up and running. "It looks like it would be more fun in the old ones," she said. I agree. Or does she just have her eye on my Range Rover???

*More photos of the Rally are available at:
www.ovlr.org/Events/MSR_05/index.html*



Living with Conflict in Recreation

by Del Albright, BlueRibbon Coalition Ambassador

“You can run but you can’t hide!” These words were made famous in the 1980’s movie, “Top Gun” with Tom Cruise. It had to do with aerial combat training, but this wisdom also applies to conflict in our lives. We can fight it, try to ignore it, or learn to deal with it effectively. It can sure affect how we deal with things when it comes to driving our trucks and four-wheel drives. It can certainly affect our truck clubs. I’d like to offer some ideas for dealing with conflict in recreation, and making your life easier, while saving our favorite forms of recreation.

Conflict is unavoidable at some point in your busy life. Whenever we share opinions or ideas, conflict is bound to surface. People just plain disagree on many things, especially when it comes to something we are passionate about. If your opinion is different than mine, then we might just be in conflict. Heck, we might even argue about the value of one truck over another (smile).

Conflict is a part of recreation, just like it is in life and relationships. I am going to suggest ways to embrace it and make it useful. Conflict is not bad; it just is. It’s how you react to it that gives it a flavour of good or bad.

As you read these tips, remember that much of what I suggest here has to do with you having the power to choose how you react to things, and not allowing someone to dictate your happiness or peace of mind.

“Choose” and “allow” are two of the most powerful words in the dictionary. For example, you might hear me say, “I choose not to get caught up in your garbage. And I am not going to allow you to ruin my day.” Unfortunately, the policeman I tried this on didn’t think it was funny! (just kidding). But you have the choice as to how you react to something in your life.

Conflict can be viewed as powerful. It means people are sharing ideas and opinions that don’t agree. It means new doors are being opened and new opportunities are being presented. It also might mean a few sleepless nights for you if you don’t take some steps to harness the power of conflict.

I suspect you’ve encountered conflict in your own 4wd club that could have been handled differently (had you the ability to re-live that whole scenario). People who own off-road rigs by our very nature are independent and possessive of our trails and rigs. When we think something is not going our way, we might tend to react quickly and loudly, with conflict ensuing. But we should not lose sight of the opportunity to make that conflict worthwhile.

Now I’m not suggesting that all conflict is “good”. Conflict can twist up our guts, cut into our sleep; and make our face turn pretty darn red from frustration. But that is not what any of us want. Let me share with you some tips for dealing with conflict and turning it into something useful.

First, accept the fact that when people share opinions, there’s bound to be differences (conflict). Heck, there’s no way we could all think alike or we’d still be carrying clubs and living in caves. Recognize that conflict is natural and use it as a learning experience.

Second, try to stay objective and clearly express your expectations (or ideas). Clear communication is essential to avoiding unnecessary conflict.

There’s no use getting your knickers in an uproar over something you really didn’t mean. So make sure what your listener is hearing is what you meant to say.

Third, never lose sight of your objective and try to maintain the “high ground” as they say in the military (and politics). During political conflict (meetings, hearings, conventions, etc.), take notes like an attorney. Get your key points jotted down for your “come back” and stick with them. Make your points over and over again if needed, until the listener clearly hears your ideas (or rebuttals).

Further, don’t get caught up in emotions. When you feel like you’re about to explode, back off, take a breath, and tackle the conflict head on, but with as much objectivity as you can muster. Break out your notes (like the attorney busily jotting things down during a court proceeding), and review your key points.

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Living with Conflict in Recreation *(continued from page 9)*

Fourth, look for the root of the problem (conflict). If it's purely a political agenda with no real foundation other than making a show, well, then you may have to accept the fact that all the logic in the world won't sway that. In this case, the conflict is phony and attention-gathering. Call it for what it is.

Fifth, assuming the conflict is real, try to agree to some ground rules during the conflict resolution process. For example, if two people who know each other are arguing, it might be good to agree that both will avoid each other's well-known "hot buttons" that merely escalate the emotional intensity of the argument. Agree to that up front. Agree to a fair fight, if you will.

Sixth, trust your instincts and the instincts of people you respect. If your instincts tell you to hang in the fight (conflict), then hang! If that little voice in your head says, "If I give up now, then I will lose much more in the long run", then don't give up.

In recreation, there is that reality, just like in politics, when nothing makes sense and there is no real answer because there is no real question. That's when we need to stay very focused and tuned into your message (bullet points, 5x7 cards, notes, etc.). Don't spend time wondering why someone would dress up like a coyote and wander down the dusty streets of some Texas cow town in front of the Longhorn Saloon on Saturday night!

I've heard many access advocates tell me that you just can't argue with emotional political scene-making. I think they're right. So we learn to argue the facts, stay with our bullet points, label the scene-making for what it is, and keep the high ground.

In the leadership training I offer, I really emphasize the idea of keeping notes and having your message on 5x7 cards or whatever works for you. Public speaking and dealing with conflict both benefit from having our key points right in front of us. If you find yourself at a loss for words, then you simply refer back to your key points (notes, expectations, and ideas). It works!

Lastly, I will admit that there are times when your attempts at conflict resolution may not work, and you may have to accept the fact that the other

person is not in the same game you are. In that case, you may have to step back and change your tactics. Again, I suggest you trust your instincts and advisors (friends). You may have to resort to scene-making or emotions, not that I suggest that. But if you do change your tactics in order to make a point, make your plan first — be clear as to your objectives. Brainstorm the consequences. Then if it's the right thing to do, proceed with gusto!

If you get to this point of succumbing to tactics you don't ordinarily like, then realize that you have changed the game and the ground rules. You may also have given up some of your high ground. I'm reminded of what my Mom used to tell me, "Just because Johnny does it, doesn't mean you get to do it". Oh, by the way, in those days, Johnny was sticking his head in a bag of airplane glue, and I'm sure glad I listened to my mother. :)

If you can recognize conflict for what it's worth, and learn to harness the power of conflict, you will find many new doors open to you. Opportunities will surface that you may have not seen before. And hopefully, by employing the tips I've presented here, you'll not lose any more sleep.

Del Albright, internationally published columnist, full time BlueRibbon Coalition Ambassador, and State Environmental Affairs Coordinator for CA4WDC, has authored volumes over the last 20 years on land use, outdoor recreation, and access. Contact BRC at 800.258.3742 or www.sharetrails.org; or visit Del's Web Site at www.delalbright.com/.

Land Rover Territory!

submitted by Ray Pearmain



Classifieds

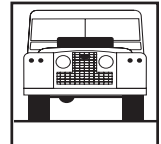
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OVLRL 22nd Birthday Party

Silver Lake, Ontario

June 24th-26th, 2005

More information will be available
in future issues of the newsletter,
or on the club website at <http://www.ovlr.org>.



It's all about the RIDE.



Taking a break from blazing your own trail? We're glad we caught your eye. Rovers North knows the pride and excitement that comes with owning a Classic Land Rover. So get back out there! Stop reading! It's much more fun to ride.

Still there? Perhaps you're giving your Rover's suspension a chance to rest. Why not use your mouse to navigate a path through the internet's back country to our website? We're constantly updating our inventory with new parts, accessories and deals. Even more great deals await when you subscribe to the Rovers North News! It's free for loyal Rover enthusiasts like you.

Seriously, stop reading.
Get out there! Your
Land Rover misses you.



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