

Brattleboro Reformer (VT)

September 29, 2011

Section: Sports

Article ID: 09291109_art_0.xml

Page: 09

Overland Rally & Workshop starts today

By **DOMENIC POLI**
Reformer Staff

ROCKINGHAM - If you were born to be wild, prepare to get your motor running.

Rockingham's Lillie Farm will play host to an Overland Rally and Workshop event for folks all over the country from Thursday, Sept. 29, to Sunday, Oct. 2. More than 80 acres will act as training grounds and a base camp with some access to surrounding trails, according to www.overlandrally.com.

Outdoor training curriculum will include scenic ancient roads, adventure motorcycle training for both basic and advanced riders, outdoor travel photography and seminars on expedition logistics and overland travel skills development.

Carl Reidemeister and his wife Kathy, both of Lyme, Conn., will attend this year's rally (one of four throughout the country) in the Sportsmobile vehicle that belongs to Carl's company, Xtreme Mobile Adventures - which uses the all-terrain beast as a billboard to advertise his sponsors at outdoor events. He said the rally and workshops are meant for avid members of the offroading and overlanding communities that enjoy getting together with likeminded people. He added that the events are a paradise for vehicle exploration enthusiasts. The other three official events are held in Ellensburg, Wash., Hollister, Calif., and Asheville, N.C.

"You get to see places you can't get to in RVs," he said. "Any time we spent in Vermont is just great. There couldn't be a better spot (for the rally and workshops) than up where you guys are." He said he's looking forward to offroading through Vermont every morning as well as vehicle recovery classes taught by Overland Experts, one of his sponsors. Carl, a full-time financial advisor, mentioned that his other sponsors are Master-Pull, Ashlawn Farms Coffee, COBB, Amsoil, PullPal, Sportsmobile West, Hi-Lift, and the United Four Wheel Drive Association.

A veteran of the United States Navy, Carl said a portion of all revenue generated from the advertising fees will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project, which aims to help injured service members. He said the organization became dear to his heart when he went to various charity pro-am golf tournaments and saw soldiers, who had lost their arms or legs, getting hugs from their children upon returning from active duty. "It killed me (to see)," he said. Carl said he will be adding other categories of sponsors, such as companies that specialize in mountain bikes, canoes, kayaks and biodiesel as well as solar panel manufacturers, among others. "We will run out of space on this truck," he said.

Domenic Poli can be reached at dpoli@reformer.com or by calling 802-254-2311, ext. 164.

(c) 2011 Brattleboro Reformer. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Media NewsGroup