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# Tracks

*The Official Newsletter of Baystate Jeeps*

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July 2014



More of a "Before" pic, this is the meeting spot for the Western Maine Mountain Jeeps Invitational, held every year in Bethel ME  
~100 rigs showed up and it was a blast



This kind of sums it up for a lot of us :-)



It's July and if you're not out there enjoying the wheelin and weather, I'm sorry to hear that. Fellow BSJ'er Dave and I went to the Western Maine Mountain Jeepers club invitational in Bethel and it was awesome. These are the folks that lead the trails for that OTHER event held in Bethel, maybe you heard about the Jeep Jamboree? These guys and gals were awesome. Great hosts and miles of amazing trails. Hope to see you there next year



The trails were littered with rocks, mud or a lot of times, a combination of both. These pics only tell a very small part of the story. There were climbs and off-camber drops where the pucker factor was off the charts





# Tech Talk: D-30 Pinion Seal Replacement

Thinking of tackling that leaky pinion seal? Think it's too much for you to do in your driveway? Think again, home slice. An impact wrench is kind of required but aside from that, your average tool box will have most of what you need. Let's have a look at how I got through this

Stuff that's required to do the job:

- replacement pinion seal. I strongly suggest you go to NAPA or a trusted auto parts supplier and by "trusted auto parts supplier", I obviously mean "anyone but Autozone"
- Big ass socket. Your average tool box won't have sockets bigger than 1" but IIRC, the nut securing your yoke is 1 1/8" or 28mm. I used a 'made in China', HF 3/4" socket set from and an adapter for my 1/2" impact wrench
- Speaking of impact wrench, I used a heavy duty 1/2" drive, running @90 PSI. You might be able to get away with a battery operated gun but I don't know if they have the juice
- Gear Puller – you can borrow one from Autozone, for free (yes, AZ is good for something)
- Misc sockets, extensions, ratchets,.....
- Oil pan to catch the lube. Unless you're really, really low on fluid, when you take out the yoke you're going to have some leakage
- Something to tie up the drive shaft. You can use wire, rope, coat hanger,.....
- Brake cleaner (used to clean up the old seal trust me, you want this)

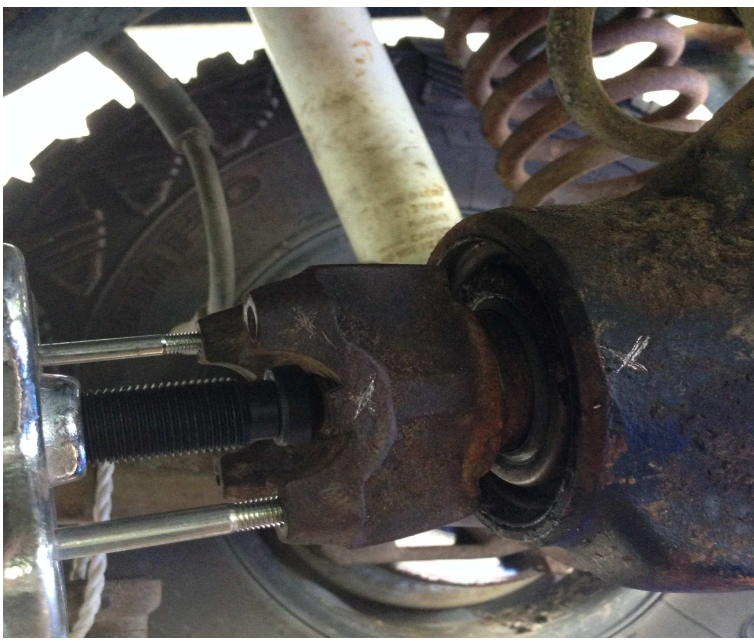
Not Required, but nice to have:

- Seal puller. You can try prying it out with a screwdriver or you can do like I did, and CAREFULLY use a hammer and screwdriver to knock in the sides of the old seal and break it free that way. But if you're not careful you can screw up the housing and have a permanent leak. So choose wisely!
- RTV and fresh lube. You don't *have* to drain and replace the fluid but come on, that's just lazy. Grab a couple bottles of gear oil, drop the cover and do it right

Take pictures and mark the drive shaft. It's real important to mark not only how your yoke went on, but where the retaining nut is, in relation to the yoke. When it comes time to tighten the nut, this is critical information. Here's a link to a YouTube video of a guy doing a pinion seal replacement. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z0zz1\\_4UYqk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z0zz1_4UYqk) I watched this a couple times before I did mine and there's a lot of good information in there. I'm not going to reinvent the wheel, basically, do what he says and I'll add a few pics so you can see how it went on my rig



Here's what I started with. She was leaking, weeping an pretty much a runny mess. This pic shows the caps taken off the u-joints and some rope that's there to hold the DS. Once you pop it loose, it's good to have it suspended



X marks the spot. I lined them up for reassembly and you can't see it now but I also marked the retaining nut so I know how much to tighten it



The old seal didn't want to budge. Shocking, right? So I hammered the edges in. V-e-r-y carefully



Yoke is out. See that orange on the inside perimeter? It needs to come out. Use a screwdriver and slowly scrape it off. Like you're shaving. It peels right off



And the new seal is in (WINNING!!!)





When it comes to prepping for sealant, you can't be to anal. Clean and prep the surface right the first time, or clean and prep it when you go back and do it the second time. I use a wire wheel on the surface, and stuff rags into the diff to keep crap out. This also sops up the pool of old diff fluid. The final step was to rattle can my diff cover, prior to bolting it back on. With an appropriate sealant, of course

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## BSJ is Looking for a Few Good Jeeps

(and the guys and gals who drive them)

Baystate Jeepers is accepting membership and the cost is only \$50. What does that fitty dollah get you? Invitations to club runs, camping trips, trips to off road parks, access to the Members Only BSJ forums and if that wasn't enough, you're eligible to attend 'NEA only' events. And more

Baystate Jeepers is a family oriented, stock(ish) friendly, Jeep-specific club. We understand that we're not for everyone so if you're on the fence about joining or you're not sure BSJ is a good fit for you, ask about joining a club run as a guest. No commitment required

You can download a BSJ membership application here  
[http://baystatejeepers.com/aboutus/membership\\_information.htm](http://baystatejeepers.com/aboutus/membership_information.htm)

Or visit the BSJ web site [Baystate Jeepers Forum](#), sign up for complimentary access to the forums and under 'New Member Checkin', introduce yourself and ask about joining us on a trail run

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## Jeeps, Jeep Pahts and More

Looking for Jeep parts? Who isn't? Or maybe you want thin your herd of parts?

Then you need to check out my lightly moderated, Jeep specific forum where the rule is, play nice. We're closing in on 1,000 members, so check out [New England Jeep Parts](#) and ask to join for free. But caveat emptor!

Just like any other forum or site, you list, buy and sell at your own risk



Baystate Jeepers member Evelyn Howe was taken from us, her life cut short while trying to help a friend in a dire situation. Those of us who knew Eve remember her as a fun, loving and fiercely independent spirit, a loyal friend who put her son above all else. Please help us remember our friend by showing your support for the Evelyn Howe Memorial Scholarship fund, [Evelyn M Howe Memorial Scholarship](#)

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## Crawling for a Cure

Baystate Jeepers own Jeff Cambray is one of the founders of Crawling for a Cure, whose stated mission “is an annual off-road family- and survivor-friendly event designed to raise money for breast cancer research and survivors”. Please check out their FB page to keep up to date on current events

<https://www.facebook.com/crawlingforacure>

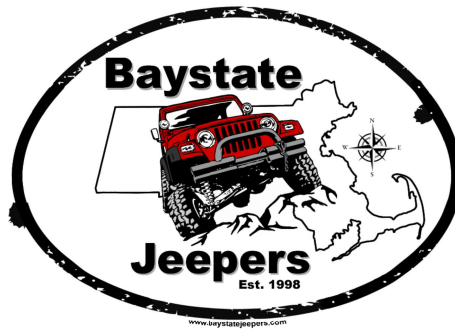
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It's never too soon to mark your calendar! This years event could be the biggest and bestest yet **Saturday, September 13**

Check them out on FB for updates

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1418806275033081/>



## Baystate Jeepers 2014 Board of Directors

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## Baystate Jeepers forum

<http://forum.baystatejeepers.com/>

## Baystate Jeepers is a member of the Northeast Association of 4WD Clubs (NEA)

<http://forum.nea4wd.org/index.php>

NEA Delagate – Kurt Klopp

## Tread Lightly

<http://www.treadlightly.org/>

Pat Charron

Don Dewar

This edition of Tracks was written and edited by Carl McIsaac, except where noted  
(Carl McFly on the [BSJ boards](#))

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## OK Clones, it's time to Air Up



**DID YOU KNOW** that as a member of Baystate Jeepers, your rig can be on the cover of Tracks\*? Just ask Kerri how easy it is. Piece of strudel. Send me a pic, and you're in. Preferably a Jeep in it's natural habitat but nobody's beating down my door with requests, so I'll take what I can get

I hope you enjoyed reading this issue of Tracks. I'd like to say I welcome criticism..... but I don't. What I do welcome, is suggestions for additional Jeep related content or events. Email your ideas to me @ [Carl McFly](mailto:Carl McFly)