

ARIZONA DRIVER

THE ENTHUSIAST'S GUIDE TO LIFE BEHIND THE WHEEL

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**OFF-ROAD
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Nena Barlow
I4WDTA Master Trainer
Barlow Adventures
Sedona / Moab

VEHICLES • EQUIPMENT • TECHNOLOGY • PEOPLE • EVENTS • DESTINATIONS • ATTRACTIONS

MASTER OF TERRAIN, TECHNIQUE, GOOD DEEDS & GOOD TIMES OFF-ROAD

You've met 4WD outfitter Nena Barlow in our pages before, as winner (with teammate Kande Jacobsen) of the 2016 Rebelle Rally Bone Stock Award, in a factory-built Ram 1500 Rebel.

Barlow grew up in the Southwest, exploring the back roads by Jeep, horse and hiking boots. She has been in the Jeep business since 1996, providing tours, 4WD instruction, location scouting, offroad event planning, trail mapping and photography, and recovery. She has logged thousands of hours in the backcountry behind the wheel of a Jeep, with additional off-road experience in Hummers, Unimogs, Fords, Toyotas and Nissans. "The most important things about four-wheeling are to let the vehicle do the work, don't overdrive it, and never take any trail for granted," she says, "Go slow, pay attention, and never be ashamed to turn around and go home."

Nena is owner/manager of Barlow Adventures—in Sedona, Arizona and Moab, Utah—where all the staff are passionate about what they do. They specialize in helping visitors find the right trails for them and instructing them in how to use the Jeep easily and safely, wherever they may choose to go. Whether renting a trail-prepped Jeep Wrangler to go explore on your own, taking in the history and scenery on one of their guided off-road trips, or learning technical 4WD skills from a Barlow Adventures certified instructor, you can find the backcountry adventure you are looking for. They don't just "turn you loose"—they are available to help or answer questions every step of the way.

Barlow provides 4-wheel-drive experiences from their locations in Sedona and Moab, as well as custom guided trips across the High Sierra on California's challenging Rubicon Trail—where Nena is on a first name basis with every rock.

I4WDTA MASTER TRAINER: A long-time 4WD Certified Trainer, Nena recently received a new top-level accreditation and accolade, selected as a Master Trainer by I4WDTA, the International 4-Wheel-Drive Trainers' Association. I4WDTA counts among its members Certified Trainers who embody their slogan—"Excellence in 4WD Training"—performing the best instruction and demonstration of Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) operating technique daily, worldwide, to recreational, commercial and government agency customers.

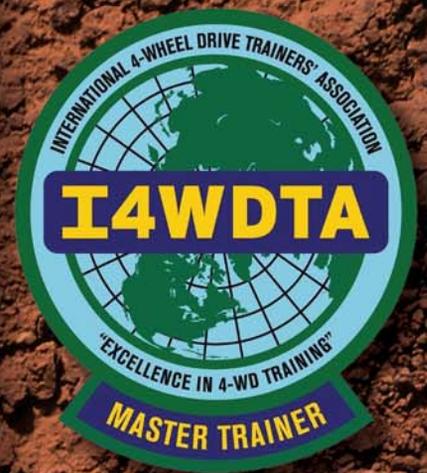
The Association says the select few chosen as Master Trainers "truly distinguish themselves. ... They serve as an example for all of us, trainers and enthusiast alike, through their contributions including the performance and conduct of continuing education; advanced certification in emergency care, rescue technique, and vehicle recovery practices; teaching advanced OHV skills at the recreational, commercial and government agency level; mentorship; environmental stewardship; trail advocacy; community volunteers at the local and state level; consultant to automotive and equipment manufacturers; authors and contributors to industry publications; adapt and develop emerging technology into 4WD training curriculum; provide advocacy, counsel and explore new opportunities for the Association to advance the enjoyment and safety of OHV operation for the consumer and greater community at large."

This is a rare crown—there are only about a half dozen I4WDTA Master Trainers, with the last one awarded two years ago and the one prior to that about eight years earlier (as well as one posthumous award this summer).

Also receiving this recognition was John Marshall, who owns Coyote Adventure Safari (for guiding and training) and Coyote Land Tours (for Unimog adventures) in Moab and also guides on Barlow trips and events.

"I'm very proud and humbled to receive this news," says Barlow.

And what makes a great 4-wheel-drive instructor? Nena says he or she "not only has nerves of steel, but never forgets that this is FUN!" ■



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