



## March Trip Report

My neighbor, Dave, and I were en-route to Masonville via the Horsetooth Reservoir when we decided to stop on top of the dam hoping to catch some CB chatter about which route the Mountaineers were going to take to get to Ballard logging road. It was only a short time when we heard Craig advise that they were going to wait a few extra minutes for a guest that was coming in from Walden over slick and snowy roads. My efforts to communicate with Craig failed, but our dilemma was soon resolved as we overheard that the intended route was, indeed, via Masonville.

As Craig passed the waiting Masonville party we took turns cutting into the already lengthy line of 4 Wheelers. The roads in town were wet from snow that morning but as we trekked further up the Buckhorn the snow began to stick and began to get deep - for two wheel drive anyway. Some opted to stop and lock-in early to make travel easier, while others enjoyed the 4x2 challenge.

We stopped just before the Ballard logging road on a long wide spot for the airing down duties, as there have been a number of uncomfortable confrontations with a local man near the logging road turn-off. We discussed whether Roger Stengaard would be willing to be the one to approach “That Guy” since “That Guy” was a customer of Roger's. Despite this business relationship, Roger declined.

Locked in and rolling again, we approached the turn-off and Craig summoned forth the “Hot Dog's” to take the lead. 'Course, I figured a Tater might compliment the nutritionally enhanced ensemble so forth-ward I went. With a Warranty Sticker in the window and an “X” in the box next to “Sold as is”, Ben Crue took the lead in with a well built Sahara TJ that he happened to have in stock that week.

The Sahara confidently trudged through the ever deepening snow while Tater began to have increasingly more difficulty following in such a narrow track until we suddenly found ourselves crossways in the road. So much for Tater's complimenting 'Hot Dogs'! After substantial effort, Tater freed himself of his confines and again caught up with the Sahara. CB chatter revealed that Tater was not the only victim to fall into that same unsuspecting trap.

Ben trudged onward until finally the right front wheel

dropped off into a deep snowdrift abyss inducing the Day's first casualty, a broken U-joint. A finely orchestrated symphony of winching and a dazzling display of Jeep pirouette ensued. With Ben and volunteer escorts Darwin and Colleen safely off to one side, the remaining Mountaineers passed in search of further challenge.

With Tater now in the lead, the next challenge was the hill climb. The times have been few when all of the Mountaineers would make it to the top, and this would be no exception. After several unsuccessful attempts, the big Blazer was unsuccessful. Next on deck was Don Maresh. Slowly creeping his way upward he broke Tater's high point, but Alas, could go no further, also yielding the trail to none other than... the jumbo of all 'Hot Dogs' Coyote John! The "mildly modified" Cruiser started slowly but wound up quickly, we heard John punch second gear only for a moment when the Cruiser's life suddenly flat-lined. At this juncture (as if he knew something the rest of us didn't) Don Maresh, opened the hood of his own Cruiser and popped open a steaming canister of manifold-baked brats and onions. Lunch anyone? Coyote John finally resolved that a wire had somewhere come loose within the ignition system. He jumpered the connection bringing the Toyota back to

life and then powered to the top of the hill. Still Skeptical, I gave it another few tries. Second gear low-range just wasn't paying off. Out of sheer curiosity I tried 1st gear high-range and floored it. To my astonishment, Tater walked up the section I couldn't do in low-range - a case of too low-range power - something that this 174,000 mile motor had never been accused of before. Maresh followed shortly, after having given Don McDonald a tug here and there. With four of us at the top we pondered the descent down the other side. With little debate we decided to do it. I could tell by the look on my passenger's face, and some quiet mumblings, that Dave didn't share our optimism for the return ascent, but down we went. As the road deepened John became mildly concerned, but with a little light urging I coaxed him onward until it was I that was mired in crusted snow trying to follow his tracks. Dave sighed as he stepped out over his knees into the snow with a tree saver in hand. The dual Don's had similar difficulty further back and had given up chase. John, alone at the front of the pack and fearing for his own safety, opted to turn around and make safe retreat.

Getting all of us turned around we made our way back to the return hill climb. With Maresh in the lead and McDonald on his tail they spun out half way up. They

both broke out the winches and strategically worked their way up while John and I shot the bull near the bottom.

When the “all clear” came over the radio, I cleared Tater's pipes with a defiant roar of the motor. Then I cleared my pipes and hacked one out the window. I looked at Dave as he took tighter grasp of his seat belt and reached up for the “Oh Sheet” bar. We both took one last deep breath and I put the hammer down. As I feverishly worked the wheel desperately dodging trees, Dave weeble-wobbled back and forth in assistance uttering only a few close call expletives. Reaching our summit we both had grins as big as Goodyear's. Oh, and John, well I think he just crawled it - to each his own.

Later!  
Mater





# Guest at last Meeting

Andy Doughty  
Russ & Amy Asher  
Pete Rolfe



# Club Trip

To Be Announced @ the Meeting  
Meet at Albertson's Parking Lot N. College & Willox  
at 9:00 AM Sunday April 20th



## **Moab 2008**

This years Moab Trip will begin on May 31st, and continue through Saturday June 7th. As is tradition, the first trip will leave from the City Market parking lot at 9:00 am and will be one of the favorites, Fins and Things. The rest of the week's trips will be planned as we go along. Most members in tents and motor homes stay at the Canyonlands Campground. More on the trip will be discussed at our regular membership meeting.



## **Highway Cleanup**

We will be picking up trash on our two mile section of Highway 14 on Saturday, April 19th. Meet at mile marker 119 at 9:00 AM which is a couple of miles above Ted's Place in the Poudre Canyon. After the clean up, as has become the tradition, we will head up the canyon to the Mike Braskich abode for pancakes and bacon. The cleanup only takes about 45 minutes. Bring Gloves.

# Members Rides

**Member Name:** Sherry Hobbs

**Member Number:** 100

**Make & Model:** 1991, Jeep Wrangler Sahara

**Engine:** V6

**Transmission:** Manual 5 speed - Stock

**Transfer Case:** Manual - Stock NP231

**Front End -** Dana 30

**Rear End -** Dana 35

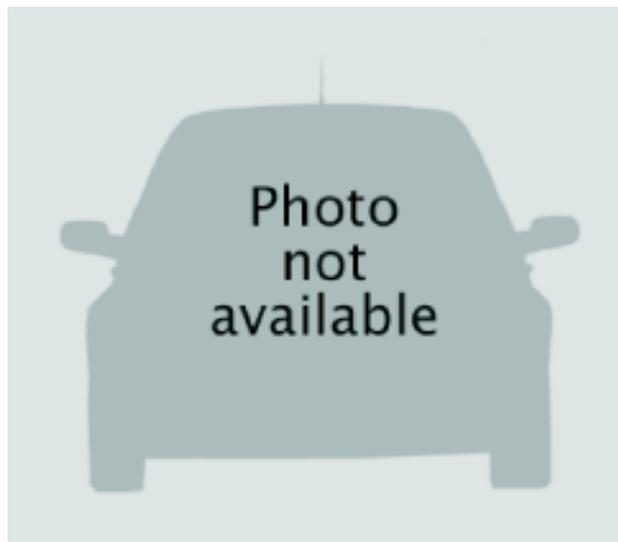
**Wheels/Tires -** 33X12.5X15

**Springs/Shocks -** 4 in Sky Jackers

**Brakes -** Yes

**Miscellaneous -** Cheap CB and Winch

**Current/Future -** Spring Over, Ford 8.8 & Dana 44 w/ARB Lockers.





# 4x4 Classifieds

**Cars, Trucks, and SUV's for sale.** Check out [www.horsepowerauto.com](http://www.horsepowerauto.com) to see what is available. If you don't see what you are looking for give Ben a call at 970-443-1875. I'll help you find it.

**Backhoe Available:** Mike Braskich has a backhoe, bobcat, and dump truck available for snow removal services or other needs of members. Call 970-224-9134

**For Sale:** Five Michelin LTX 30x9.50x15 tires More than 50% tread still remaining. All five for \$200.00 Great All Season Tire  
Call Brett 970-217-9758



April 2008						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Sharon Kapperman	4 Dan Oster Valorie Miller	5 Christina Eddy
6	7 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> <i>Craig Stumbough</i>	8	9	10 Kelly Pautvein	11	12
13 Bob Schleppey	14	15 Cassandra McCurry Jeff Baan	16 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	17 Pat Maes	18	19
20 <b>CLUB TRIP</b>	21	22 Krista Fredrick	23	24	25 Rich Stengaard	26
27 Dave Oden	28	29	30			

May 2008						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Karlen Mueller	3
4	5	6 Jeff Mueller	7	8 Bill Marquardt	9	10
11	12 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> <i>Dave Piller</i>	13	14	15	16 Amie Lenderink	17 <b>CLUB TRIP</b>
18 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> Tim Sigley Austen Hobbs	19	20	21 <b>CLUB MEETING</b> Corinne Surface	22	23	24
25	26 Shane Payton Tonya Mercer	27	28	29 Ben Crue	30 Jason Maes	31

Board Meeting:            May    12    7:30pm    Dave Piller  
    Jun.    2    7:30pm    Moab  
 Membership Meeting:    Apr.   16    7:30pm    Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
    May    21    7:30pm    Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Club Trip:                    Apr.   20    **9:00am**    **Albertson's Parking Lot N. College & Willox**



**Larimer County 4WD Club, Inc.**  
**The Mountaineers**  
**PO Box 1225**  
**Fort Collins, CO 80522-1225**

## *April Newsletter*

**treadlightly!**<sup>®</sup>  
LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION



The following businesses give Mountaineer Members special discounts on parts or specific services. In other words, they save us money... and we are grateful.

<p><b>Ft. Collins 4X4 Center</b>            1101 North College            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-482-5500</p>	<p><b>NAPA Auto Parts Ft. Collins</b>            316 S. Link Ln.            Ft. Collins, Colorado</p>	<p><b>CarQuest Auto Parts</b>            2716 South College Avenue            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-226-5050</p>
<p><b>Bullhide Liner 4X4 &amp; Auto Accessories</b>            5817 South College Ave.            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-224-2288</p>	<p><b>Coyote Cruisers &amp; OffRoad</b>            417 North Hwy 287            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-221-1833</p>	<p><b>Moab 4x4 Outpost</b>            1831 S Hwy 191            Moab, Utah 435-259-0911</p>
<p><b>Front Range Off-Road Fabrication</b>            24192 W. County Rd. 74E            Red Feather Lakes, CO 970-881-2418  <a href="http://www.frontrangeoffroadfab.com">www.frontrangeoffroadfab.com</a></p>	<p><b>4X4 Used Parts / 4X4 Off Road</b>            938 West Willox Lane, Ft. Collins            970-224-1133 <a href="http://www.4x4usedparts.com">www.4x4usedparts.com</a></p>	<p><b>RockStomper</b>            P.O. Box 724            Firestone, Colorado 303-833-1431</p>
<p><b>Fort Collins Floral</b>            205 N. College Ave, Ft. Collins            970-482-1481 <a href="http://www.fortcollinsfloral.com">www.fortcollinsfloral.com</a></p>	<p><b>Horsepower Auto Brokers</b>            1409 E. Olive Ct. Unit E, Ft. Collins            970-482-2579 <a href="http://www.horsepowerauto.com">www.horsepowerauto.com</a></p>	<p><b>Vanworks</b>            900 East Lincoln Avenue            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-484-5344</p>
<p><b>Wellington Toy Storage</b>            4000 Washington Ave. Wellington,            Colorado 970-498-2111  <a href="http://www.wellingtontoystorage.com">www.wellingtontoystorage.com</a></p>	<p><b>Aunt T's Pet Motel</b>            3200 E. Mulberry Ft. Collins            970-484-5776 <a href="http://www.fcvet.com">www.fcvet.com</a></p>	