



July Trip Report

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Club members and guests followed Craig out of the Albertsons parking lot at the appointed time. We snaked our way through Loveland, Longmont and Lyons picking up our southern contingent along the way. When we got to the east portal of the Moffet Tunnel we met some more guests and an associate member. We took this opportunity to air down, lock the hubs and in general gab a little bit. We then headed up the Mammoth Gulch Road towards timberline.

When we reached a wide spot in the road at timberline, it was lunch time. After lunch we kept climbing. We met several vehicles coming towards us including a group of 13 new Land Rovers. As we got higher, the views above timberline got more spectacular. At the top of the trail we came to the rock house that is being built by visitors, one stone at a time. We stopped to add our stones, sign the visitors book and take some pictures. The trail heads down hill from this point into the town of Alice. While it was still early, we decided to try and find the Yankee Hill Road which would take us over to Central City.





MOUNTAINEERS

Dave Oden took over the trail finding and leading duties. He finally found the trail head and we started up Yankee Hill.

On the other side of the hill, there is a spaghetti works of trails and at several points we had to get out the maps and debate as to which road to take. Upon arrival in Central City, we broke up into smaller groups for the trip home.



While the two trails we took were easy, everyone seemed to enjoy the trip as there were all around. Even Darwin got over getting lost on the round-about in Nederland (but that's another story). The weather was perfect for another fun filled day of wheeling with the Mountaineer Family.

Garfield





Club Trip

GreenRidge

**Meet at Albertson's at 8:00 AM
Sunday Aug. 22 th**



Guest At July Meeting

Fred Polinski	Roger Stengaard
Matt & Kristy Wells	Rod & Michele Pullaro
Gary Graham	Jason & Lorell Duteil
Dave Surface	Kyle Eddy



Highway 14 Cleanup

Thanks goes out to Brian Graves, Dave Piller, Richard Marolf and Craig Stumbough for showing up on a cold and wet Saturday morning to cleanup the Mountaineers 2 mile section of Highway 14 in the Poudre Canyon. For their efforts, the club bought them breakfast at Vern's.

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Rubicon 2004

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Small caravans of 4 wheelers headed from Colorado to California with dreams of conquering the Rubicon and Fordyce Creek Trails. Dan & Tara and Darwin & Colleen headed out from Fort Collins on a cool hazy Saturday morning. MHJC members, George & Tim left from Englewood and Richard & Sherri left from Evergreen. Elaine & Tammi and Bob, Tyler, & Ariel left Sunday afternoon. All met at Cisco Grove 53 miles west of Reno ready to take on all the Rubicon and Fordyce would dish out.



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Dan & Tara and Darwin & Colleen on Monday did Signal Peak Trail giving them a great view of the entire area and a taste of the rocks they would encounter in the next few days.

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The group had to take care of a flat tire and a fuel pump problem Tuesday morning during their 65 mile drive from Cisco Grove to Auburn and Georgetown. After making their final gas stop, we proceeded 55 miles to the Wentworth Springs trail head.

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Instead of entering the Rubicon from Loon Lake

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as was done in 2002, the Wentworth Springs trail head was chosen to “face all of the challenges the Rubicon Trail could dish out,” all 13 miles. The trail from Wentworth Springs to Rubicon Springs is called “The Devil's Playground” because of its constant and continuous roughness.

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The Post Pile provided us with our first serious long section of rocks and small boulders to climb over and through. High centering vehicles would be a continuing problem through many of the sections of the Rubicon.

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Walker's Rock section provided us with the additional challenge of the Frame Bender. Tyler's Cherokee needed to have his steering welded and Darwin's CJ7 popped the bead on a front tire.



Camp for the night was set up at Little Sluice Box. Dan & Darwin provided entertainment for the night in their preparations to hang coolers high in a tree to prevent “Howard” the bear from absconding with our supplies.

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Little Sluice in its entirety is probably not doable without serious body or vehicle damage. We decided much more challenges were yet to come. Although there was a short section of Little Sluice which we could have done, we felt the closest bypass was more challenging. Again as we finished the bypass another rock/boulder strewn challenge lied ahead.

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Further on we took the right fork in the trail to take on Old Sluice Box. We found this section provided much more 4 wheeling fun than the trail to the left we had taken last time.

Sharp rocks were a problem here as Colleen cut the sidewall on one of their new tires.

George had to repair a leak in his oil pan as well. After these repairs



only Dan in his Toyota would negotiate the last section of Old Sluice.

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Since repairs had taken some time out of our day, we only stopped briefly at Buck Island Lake to enjoy its refreshing waters. Again continuous rocky trails lead us into the Big Sluice Box which drops us down to the Rubicon Springs Bridge.

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Darwin & Colleen found the mud hole going into Rubicon Springs was not the way to go with mud half way up their doors and wondering if they would need a tug out. The balance of the group decided to take the upper route around the mud holes with part of the group going through Rubicon Springs Resort and the others taking an upper by pass marked "harder."

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As daylight dimmed we started up Cadillac Hill, a steady pace of challenges for each of us. Elaine was struggling with an electrical short that would stop her in her tracks on the serious challenges

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until a fuse was replaced. As darkness ensued us, we finally reached Observation Point. Only another 11 miles to Lake Tahoe in the dark on unmarked trails. We filled gas at midnight in Tahoe City and still had another hours drive to Cisco Grove.

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After a couple great days of 4 wheeling, Thursday was a day of rest and repairs. The

Fordyce trail head was only a mile from our campgrounds. Friday we would do Fordyce Creek Trail in one day, although two days could be needed.



Fordyce has 3 creek

crossings and 5 “winch hills” and lots of sharp rocks.

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The large redwood and cedar trees were spectacular in this rocky terrain. The usual rough rocky trail brought us to the first creek crossing with water getting into the vehicles without doors on. Vehicles have been known to float down stream with the rapid deep flow of this creek.

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The Ledge and The Crease were taken on while proceeding to Winch Hill #1 with a steady field of rocks leading up to the difficult boulders which have to be climbed with precision and gusto. It did live up to its name with a couple vehicles needing to be winched.

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We continued to the creek crossing and Winch Hill #2. This was a rough sharp rock covered climb. The sharp rocks here got one of Elaine's tires.

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Creek crossing #3 had a hole to be avoided which could tip over vehicles. On the way to the next challenge, Squeeze Rock one of the narrowest spots on the trail, George got his first tire. Next was Launna's Hill steep, dusty, rocky, and nasty. Then The Grotto approached Winch Hill #3 the Mother of all Squeezes. Elaine did find this to be true as she found her front axle would fit through the squeeze but her rear axle wedged her in making her back up and climb the side of the Squeeze.

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Continuing on and through Winch Hill #4 a rocky boulder filled sluice, George got his second sidewall on a tire. Tire repair procedures would take the limelight from here on out as the large sidewall damage was not taking to basic tire plugging. After several short moves forward and tire repairs up Winch Hill #4 and starting Winch Hill #5 in the dark, a bolt and tire patch plug was made that would almost get him back to Truckee. Elaine was needing to air up her tire every 15 minutes due to a bad rim from the Squeeze and rock damage. Again a long late night getting back to Cisco Grove after a great day of 4 wheeling.

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Saturday some headed for home as others stayed to vacation a while longer. Before everyone got home, 13+ trailer and vehicle tires had been replaced or damaged.

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Meet a Member

Name: Brett Newton

Spouse: Sharon Newton

Children: Sydney

Mountaineer member since: 1998

Four Wheeling since: 1984

In Colorado since : 1988 - second time living here

Resident of: Ft. Collins Colorado

Originally from: Sandpoint, Idaho

Occupation: Locksmith

4WD Vehicle: 1972 Scott II, 1996 Toyota Tacoma

Other hobbies: RC. Cars, Snowboarding



August 2004						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 K&D Kinnison	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Ed Strack	9 BOARD MEETING	10 Lloyd Vlcek	11	12	13 D&C Stengaard	14
15 Bret Mathers	16 Jerome Maes	17	18 CLUB MEETING J&S Mueller	19	20	21 Cody Kinnison
22 CLUB TRIP	23 Milly Smelker	24 Kim Schleppey	25 Brian Graves B&K Schleppey	26	27	28
29 Sandy Briggs	30	31				

September 2004						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 BOARD MEETING	7 Cotton Riley	8	9 Jim Miller	10	11 Brett Newton
12 Cameron Klein	13	14 Cory Kinnison	15 CLUB MEETING	16 C&M Smelker	17	18
19 CLUB TRIP	20 P&K Schnaidt	21	22 Heidi Crue	23	24 Nathaniel DeWitt Troy White	25
26 R&K Kapperman	27	28	29 Bev Klein	30		

Board Meeting: Sept. 6 7:30pm Dave Piller (Labor Day)
 Oct. 6 7:30pm Lori Golly
 Membership Meeting: Aug. 18 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Sept.15 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: Aug. 22 **8:00am** Albertson's Parking Lot N. College & Willox



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

August Newsletter

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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>Ft. Collins 4X4 Center 1101 North College Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-482-5500</p>	<p>Jackson's All American Sports Grill 925 East Harmony Road Ft. Collins, Colorado</p>	<p>CarQuest Auto Parts 2716 South College Avenue Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-226-5050</p>
<p>RockHard 4x4 Parts Lewis Barth 401 Jackie Ann St. Ault, Co 80610 970-834-0767</p>	<p>Fantasy's 4x4 4311 Service Road Evans, Colorado 303-330-3833</p>	<p>Moab 4x4 Outpost 1831 S Hwy 191 Moab, Utah 435-259-0911</p>
<p>Front Range Off-Road Fabrication www.frii.com/~frorfab cel (970) 481-6508 (970) 472-1846</p>	<p>4X4 Used Parts Bob Schleppey Bob@4x4usedparts.com 970-224-4294 www.4x4usedparts.com</p>	<p>RockStomper P.O. Box 724 Firestone, Colorado 303-833-1431</p>
<p>Bullhide Liner 4X4 & Auto Accessories 5817 South College Ave. Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-224-2288</p>	<p>Mark Turner Off-Road 2649 E MulberrySt Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-416-1234</p>	<p>Vanworks 900 East Lincoln Avenue Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-484-5344</p>