
MOUNTAIN-EARS

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

August Club Trip

This month we will be doing Middle Saint Vrain & Coney Flats. Because the trail is a little ways south we will meet at the Wal-Mart on the corner of Hwy 287 & Hwy 66 at the north end of Longmont. Trip leaves promptly at 9 am. on Sunday August 19th. Be sure to bring lunch and have a full tank of gas.



Photo by Brady Cramer

July Trip Report

Old Flowers/Moody Hill

This month's plan was two trips for the price of one, Old Flowers road and Moody Hill. We all started gathering in the North College King Soopers parking lot at 8:30am. By 9:00 we had amassed a small crowd of thirteen Mountaineer plus seven guest vehicles lined up for the convoy up Rist Canyon. The first stop was at the Forest Service gate to air down. As we proceeded up the trail we heard a little history on the CB about how and why this road was originally built. Ben and Jacob Flowers built it

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as a supply route to the Teller City and Lulu gold fields in Jackson County. To get the payback for their efforts it was a toll road.

A guest in a Nissan Xterra asked if it was permissible to let his son drive on this easy road. After learning that he had driven a lot before coming on this trip, it was granted. We stopped at the burnt out cabin to look around

but couldn't stay to long as there was a traffic jam with people wanting to go around us from the back and three vehicles coming towards us so we had to move on up the trail. Along the way we came



across a Jeep TJ that was parked beside the road. It had a tarp draped across it and we noticed that it was missing the tie rod and rear drive shaft. Even more strange it had an old paper plate dated from 2017. It looked as if it had been there for a while. Craig wrote a note offering the clubs help, if needed, for the recovery. He left the note along with a club

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card on the front seat. Every once in a while we would get a little drizzle of rain.

At the end of Old Flowers, we followed the Pingree Park road up to the Fish Creek picnic area where we settled in for lunch. We couldn't have found a better place for lunch as it featured parking, shade trees, several picnic tables, a babbling brook (Fish Creek) and best of all a potty box. What else could we ask for? After a very pleasant lunch we continued up the road to Larimer County road 44H which took us over Pennock Pass and down to the Buckhorn Canyon road.

After the scenic ride through the forest, we came to Moody Hill and it was time to get out of the two wheel drive mode. It was time to peg the fun meter, so we slapped it in 4WD low and started our steep climb up the mountain. Some of our guests gulped hard when we got to the loose rock and the bump up areas but we all made it up unscathed although a few did have a couple of new notches in their skid plates. About half way up, a guest in a Jeep YJ was having difficulty keeping his Jeep running and thought the problem was carbaration. A little further up the hill the little Jeep had had enough and just quit in the middle of the road and then it caught fire. The fire was put out. It was decided that we would winch the YJ off the

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Moab Utah
435-259-0911

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303-833-1431

road and finish the trip and return to get Tim and Cindy and their Jeep off the mountain safely. Dave P. volunteered to stay with the guests until the rest of us came back down.

We continued up Moody and wound up at one of our favorite play areas, "The Quarry". Just as we got there we encountered a little burst of rain which made the quarry challenge a little slick. Most who tried their luck had to get over the final hump with an assist of a winch. After several short bursts of rain, it

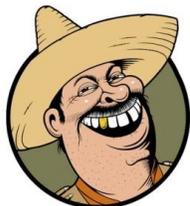


was time for the return trip. Half of the group went out via Crystal Mountain Estates while the rest went back down Moody to escort the crippled YJ off the mountain. When they got to the where they had left the Jeep, there was no one to be seen. It seems that Dave, the guests and a couple of guys in a side by side who stopped to help had found the cause of the fire. It was the positive battery cable that had shorted to ground. They turned the battery around to keep the cable from grounding and

wrapped it with tape which was a quick fix. Although some other wires were scorched that would require repair later, they were able to drive it off the mountain and back to home in Wellington.

Even though guests Tim and Cindy weren't able to complete Moody Hill, they said that they had a great day and were just thankful that they were with our group instead of out there by themselves. They are right; it was just another fun day of wheeling with friends and the Mountaineer family.

Epilogue: The following Saturday evening, Craig got a call from a woman in Longmont saying she had rolled her 1995 Toyota 4 Runner on Old Flowers. She said that it had rolled one complete time and the roll was stopped by a couple of trees and it wound up on its side. She had a minor injury when she put her hand through the windshield. She indicated that she wanted to get it out the next day (Sunday). She called our club because she saw the note and club card that we had left in the parked Jeep TJ the previous weekend. As we had the Mount Ethel picnic scheduled the next morning, Craig told her that we could get it the following weekend, but she was insistent that she wanted it sooner. Craig called 4x4 Rescue and Recovery and said they could get it out the next day. Craig put the two in touch with each other but has not heard the outcome.



El Guapo

Mount Ethel Picnic

What you missed if you didn't attend



Photo by Michael Luiz



Photo by Michael Luiz



Photo by Michael Luiz



Photo by Michael Castell

Pig Roast

UPCOMING EVENT!!!!!!!

The annual pig roast is coming up on Saturday Aug 18. Start arriving at 2 pm eating at 4 pm. Plan to attend this fun event. Location will be at Mike and Bianca Braskich plantation

2192 N Taft Hill Rd.

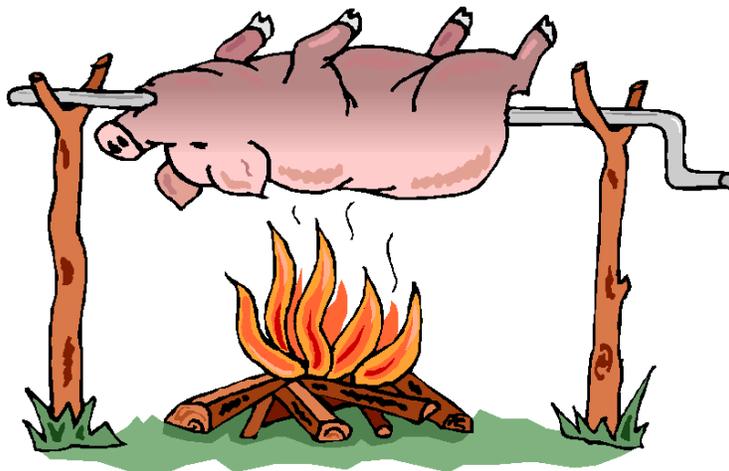
Please bring a side dish to share.

Plates and utensils will be provided.

Drinks will be provided

Bring lawn chairs.

The events committee



August 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 K&D Kinnison	2 Judy Paul	3 Vihaney Graves J&B Zamora	4
5 Rich Lietz	6 BOARD MEETING M&L Castell	7	8 Doug Lenderink Scott Knapp B&J Marquardt	9 Kristi Graves	10	11 J&S Richards
12	13	14	15 CLUB MEETING	16	17	18
19 CLUB TRIP Greg Meyers	20	21 Cody Kinnison	22 Liam riley	23 Milly Smelker Oakley Peterson	24 Kim Schleppey	25 Brian Graves B&K Schleppey
26	27 Katie Schrader	28 John Schrader	29	30	31	

September 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Cotton Riley	8
9	10 BOARD MEETING	11 Brett Newton	12 Cameron Klein D&K LeDeaux	13 Jennifer Meyers Mark Richards	14 Cory Kinnison	15
16 Alex Stone Eric Treece C&M Smelker	17	18 S&A Stultz	19 CLUB MEETING	20 Skylar Payton	21	22 Heidi Crue
23 CLUB TRIP /30 Austin Eddy	24 Mina Richards Nathaniel DeWitt Troy White Becky Palmer	25 Harper LeDeaux	26 R&K Kapperman	27	28 D&S Oden	29 Bev Klein

Board Meeting: Sep. 10 7:30pm Greg Meyers
 Oct. 8 7:30pm Tim Palmer
 Membership Meeting: Aug. 15 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Sep. 19 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: Aug. 19 **9:00am North King Soopers N.College and Willox**