

Mountain - Ears

November Club Trip

We had thirteen vehicles show up on a cool but beautiful day to do some winter wheeling on the Bald Mountain Trail outside of Red Feather Lakes. After convoying up the canyon we



Stopped at the trail head to air down. We met a four wheeler at the trail head loading his Rubicon onto a trailer. He told us that he was part of a

group of 15 wheelers that came from Nebraska that did the trail the day before. Knowing that



The earlier group had broken trail for us, we thought that it would be an easy day and we would be home early.

Barely one minute onto the trail and we heard Jeff P. on the CB report that he had a problem on the ol' FJ-40 and that he and Laurie were going

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

to turn around and head for home. As we gained elevation the snow got deeper and the trail was slicked up. Along the



Way we encountered several pine trees leaning across the trail and had to be careful that we didn't slide into them and put a new crease in our roof. We had to stop several times to give a strap tug to some that had got sucked into the giggly weeds or couldn't get over some slick rock piles. We stopped for a while so that we could make trail repairs on guest (and former club member) Tim G's Jeep. His bottom radiator hose fell off and he lost all his water and

antifreeze. The only ones that had extra water and antifreeze with them were the Stengaard brothers, Rich and Darwin, and it took quite a while for them to work their way back to Tim and fill his radiator with the needed fluids. They only had enough for a partial fill so it was decided for safety's sake that Tim would turn around and go back down the mountain. Rich and Darwin



Followed him out to make sure he made it home without any more problems. We were now down to 9 vehicles who continued up the trail.

2 The snow got a lot deeper as

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

we neared the top. One of our newest club members (Vince) Toyota wasn't quite short enough to fit under the last of the leaning trees and he did



Some minor damage to his roof rack. At last we could see the top and had only one more big drift area to blast through. With everyone's rev counters red lined, we all made it to the top clearing for our lunch break. The wind swept clearing had only about an inch of snow covering it. After a half hour break, we started down hill to the main road. We soon discovered that the Nebraska bunch had turned around on top and now

we were in deep virgin snow. Jim D. was leading and he did a fine job of trail finding when no trail was visible. When we got down to the level "good" road, there were large snow drifts to contend with. Jim had to bust some of the drifts a foot at a time.

After about an hour of opening trail, Jim turned the lead over to Dan V. Dan continued busting the drifts and we finally got to



Road 300 which runs through the old Killpecker burn area. We thought that this would be easy as it is mostly downhill all the way to the Deadman road. We were wrong as Dan had to

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

winch through several big drifts and those following had to be strapped through. It was



we got back to Fort Collins around 7:30 that evening. Sometimes, that's the way it goes when you are wheeling with the Mountaineer family, fun and tiring!



El Guapo

Very slow going and we eventually had to turn on our headlights due to nightfall. We had to hurry up and then wait



All the way down to the Deadman road. We were ready to see civilization again as it had been a long and tiring (but fun) Mountaineer trip and





New Officers

President Jim Dixon
Vice President Dan Venrick
Secretary Kyle Eddy
Treasurer Michelle Opdyke

Trip Planners
Cliff Dukes
Jim Bridge
Justin Treece
Jake Thoen



Collecting Dues for 2014

The \$45.00 club assessment for dues is payable between January and March membership meetings. This amount not only keeps you current with the Mountaineers, but \$30.00 of it goes to the Colorado Association and Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition to keep you in good standing with them also. If the dues are not paid by the March meeting, you will be dropped from all three rosters.



December Club Trip

This month we will be running Ballard Logging Road.
We may change the trip to Ice Racing on Long Lake.
Please meet at our regular trip meeting place.

North Albertson's Parking Lot

We will leave at 9:00 am

Sunday December 22nd.

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB



Member's Ride

Chris Nugent Family

Unit # 77

It's your basic '98 Cherokee.

Mods include a budget boost consisting of 2" coil spacers in front and an add-a-leaf in back (done before I bought it).

Tires are BFG All Terrains, nothing special but they've been adequate until I can get some MT's on there.

Superwinch LP8500 sits on an Iron Scorpion front bumper and is supported by a Northwestern dual battery setup and a yellow-top Optima.

Cargo rack up top is an old Yakima off Craigslist and I run basic tractor utility floods off of it for camping illumination.

Uniden 520 CB gets the talky-talky done.

Its probably the least capable rig in the club but we use it mostly for light exploration and camping anyway and it holds its own on club trips.

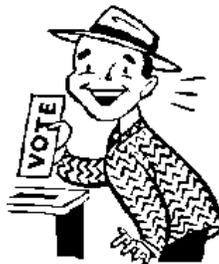
The kids love it, so there's that.

December Refreshments

It is tradition at the December membership meeting to give our snack person a break and have everyone bring in a Christmas goodie to share. We will still provide pop for you. It's always fun to check out all the different confections. Enjoy!

Time to Vote Again

At this club meeting, we will be passing out ballots to see who will get ribbons for most active Mountaineer man, woman, couple and the dreaded boner award for 2013. We will also be asking your opinion on the two most favorite trips or events of the year.



December 2013						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 BOARD MEETING	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 CLUB MEETING	19	20	21
22 CLUB TRIP	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 NEW YEARS	2	3	4
5	6 BOARD MEETING	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 CLUB MEETING	16	17	18
19 CLUB TRIP	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Board Meeting: Jan. 6 7:30pm Jim Dixon
 Feb. 10 7:30pm Kyle Eddy
 Membership Meeting: Dec. 18 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Jan. 15 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: **Dec. 22 9:00am Albertson's Parking Lot N. College & Willox**