



June Trip Report

We had about twelve vehicles show up at the parking lot for our trip up Moody Hill and Crystal Mountain. We pulled out of town and headed for Masonville to pick up the southern contention of Mountaineers waiting for us. By the time we got to the Moody Hill Trailhead up the Buckhorn Canyon we were up to 24 vehicles, all ready for a great day of wheeling.

While we put in our hubs and aired down, Linda S. passed out garbage bags to each vehicle so that we could pick up the trash along the clubs adopt-a-trail. As we played leap frog along the trail, we checked all the spur trails and camp sights. We were surprised at all the trash that had accumulated since we had last cleaned the trail a year ago.

We all gathered at the quarry for lunch and to watch several attempt the challenge rocks. Several made a valiant try at the challenge but couldn't make it and had to back out. One that didn't was Dan, our newest club member. While

backing up a hill to turn around, one of the front hubs on his CJ-7 exploded. Nobody had a spare hub with the right bolt pattern, so Dan had to find a new best friend to ride with on the rest of the trip. Although several did make the challenge look easy, we left it up to ol' Coyote John to make it exciting. At the top, John got some wheel hop going and just about put the cruiser over backwards. Several of us had to hold onto the bumper until Shane got his winch hooked up to get him on the straight and narrow again. Linda was riding shotgun and she had some choice words for John which can't be repeated in this family newsletter. We think Linda was talking about John's driving ability. We also think John's next upgrade for the ol' FJ-40 might be washable seat covers.

With the excitement and lunch over, it was time to move on to our next objective, Crystal Mountain. The trip up was pretty uneventful except for the leanin' tree. It's a top getter. At the top we took in the views and acted like people from "Iowa". It was amusing to watch Sharon guiding Gene to the rocks that she wanted for her rock garden at home. If they had gotten all the rocks that Sharon wanted, their Jeep wouldn't have made it down the mountain and all the maps would have to be changed to show the mountain two feet shorter in elevation than before. On the way down we stopped at an old mica mine to poke around for a while.

It was just another beautiful day of wheeling with the Mountaineer family.



El Guapo



July Club Trip

Spring Creek
Meet at Downieville exit 234 (just off I-70) at
10:00 AM
Sunday July 23rd



New Member

Derek Harris #83
Brandon Kapperman #84
Dan Meyers #85





JULY 2006 COLORADO ROAD TRIP HOLY CROSS 21 ROAD

A few of the mountaineers started out to do 4 trails; Holy Cross, 21 Road, Billings Canyon, and Montrose; on the Fourth of July weekend but our ambitions exceeded our travel and trail experiences.

Our first destination was to camp close to the Holy Cross trail head Friday night and be on the trail as early as possible Saturday morning. Darwin & Colleen arrived midday Friday and secured a camp site. Without cell coverage in the area, they waited patiently for the others to arrive. Elaine managed to contact Bob, Tyler, and Casey before getting out of cell coverage and waited for them. The wait did get longer than expected when Bob had to change a tire on their trailer and their rendezvous and arrival into camp took until after 6:00 that evening. Dan & Tara with their neighbor, Dave and family, would not be joining us until 9:00 Saturday morning.

Several vehicles did head up the popular Holy Cross trail before our 9:30 starting time. Everyone was moving along at a steady pace, with Dan taking the difficult approach to one of the lower areas only to find the recent rains did not give him the traction to stay on the boulders he was trying to proceed through. He ended up high

centered and Tara had to get out on the drivers side since one of the rocks would not let them open her door. After being strapped back and a few tries, Dan admitted defeat and drove around the boulder challenge.

Elaine found she would again have problems on her favorite challenge. The Drag Queen Challenge as we nicknamed it when she tried on a All For Fun Run. She might get the hang of it soon, as she will get to try it two more times today. Elaine found her ARB pump not working but had enough air pressure until later in the day when Darwin would air up the air tank on her Jeep to keep her ARB functioning.

A short distance before French Creek a multiple choice rock climb was to make our day. Dan crawled the difficult section easily with his Toyota. Darwin, Elaine & Dave took the easier line, but Bob decided to follow Dan. Bob proceeded into the right line only to hear a loud pop as he went into the climb. Much to his demise, he had broken a pitman arm and no one had the part to fix it. Tyler, Casey & Elaine headed to Leadville to look for parts, with Bob filing on a pitman arm with too small an opening in case it was his last option to get off the trail.

Dan & Tara, Dave & family, and Darwin & Colleen headed on up to wait in line to cross the French Creek boulder patch. There, as usual, were several in front of our group struggling to get through one of the three routes at French Creek. The rain and hail storm made the onlookers and those waiting head for cover just before we were to move to the head of the line. We finally with little adjustment easily moved through the obstacle. Tara's & Colleen's crossing after taking pictures was a challenge as well when they took a short cut (a slick muddy log and slick mud approach) across

the upper French Creek and both ended up wading water up to their waist.

Between the creek crossing and Holy Cross City a rain soaked tree root and the rock side hill made each one of us question our approach and line as we slipped and slide sideways to cross. Reaching the city we decided to bypass the upper obstacles as others were in line and headed back to the French Creek boulders.

Dan dropped off into the creek and out but did not like the line he took. He set up Dave and his Cherokee for a different line out only to have the boulders force his vehicle into the difficult section and he became high centered. Dan could not strap him out forward and Darwin finally winched him backwards to get him off the boulders holding him in place. Darwin also found the line out wasn't as direct as he thought.

We then headed back to join Bob patiently awaiting parts and filing on a pitman arm. Dan and Dave headed back to camp as both had to get home that night and Darwin and Colleen stayed with Bob. Elaine finally got within CB range coming back up the trail to her favorite “Drag Queen Challenge” letting those waiting know that Tyler and Casey were meeting Justin halfway bringing parts from Fort Collins. Pitman arms are a rare creature.

Leaving Bob with food and a sleeping bag; Darwin, Colleen, and Elaine returned to camp to wait. The awaited parts and repairs would take until 2:30 in the morning before Bob would get his Jeep back to camp with the assistance of Tyler, Case, and Elaine.

Day two we packed up camp with hopes of a late start on 21 Road. Beautiful road trip from south of Red Cliff to Grand Junction

except for the time in getting a trailer tire repair outside of Glenwood Springs. So much for any trail time today.

Chris, Tanya, and Garrett Mercer & friends had done Battlement Mesa on Saturday and were to meet us at 21 Road. At 10:30 on Sunday, since they could not get us on our cell phones, Chris and his group headed up 21 Road with other wheelers.

Tanya and Garrett stayed behind to wait for us and be able to send help up the trail if needed. They were glad to see us finally pull in late that afternoon. We unloaded and checked out Bob's midnight pitman arm repair and changed out a leaf spring on Tyler's Cherokee.

Chris and friends had some trail problems but were able to make it out before dark. While Garrett napped, all talked and swapped stories as Mercers and their group loaded up to head home.

Day three, finally 21 Road. Great fun trail, bypasses for those faint of heart, easy, medium, and difficult approaches for everyone. Darwin did a narrow chute only catching a tip of the windshield on the passenger side. Bob, Tyler & Casey, and Elaine worked their way through the lesser difficult section in the dry creek bed. All kept working their way up the creek bed enjoying the obstacles as we saw everyone made it through. Lots of good video and pictures.

The final ¼ mile of 21 Road is only for the serious 4 wheeler. Every obstacle was eyed for the best line, be it for the Jeep CJ/TJ or the Cherokee wheelbase. Spotting skills definitely a plus through this section. Darwin had some clutch linkage pull apart on the last obstacle but it was an quick and easy repair.

Now that we were through the trail we could have turned around and went back down the trail using the creek bed obstacles or the bypass road when it exists, but we need supplies and took the long way out to Fruita via the Gas service road to Rd 16. Heading out, Tyler occasionally had us wait for his fuel pump to decide to work but it was never long. The last of our problems for this trip as all had decided to head home tomorrow, to safely make it back to work. Got to pay for all this fun somehow.

Note to all: PLAN MORE TIME FOR MORE FUN



Highway Cleanup

We will be picking up trash on our two mile section of Highway 14 on Saturday, July 22nd. Meet at mile marker 119 at 9:00 AM which is a couple of miles above Ted's Place in the Poudre Canyon. The cleanup only takes about 45 minutes. Bring Gloves.



4x4 Classifieds

Tires for sale: Set of 4 P255/70R16 Kelly Safari AWR 50% tread or better \$175 Set of 4 P235/70R16 Goodyear Wrangler SR-A 50% tread \$150. 1 - 35x12.50R16 BFG All Terrain for a spare approx. 33% tread \$30. Call Ben 970-443-1875

1998 Ford Explorer XLT, V8, Auto, AWD, Leather seats, sunroof, Very Clean, 95K miles, #S75781, \$5950.

2001 Jeep Wrangler Sport, 4x4, 5 speed, Soft Top and Bikini Top. New 31x10.5x15 tires, Dana 44 rear axle, 88K miles, #S29906, \$11500,

2001 Honda CR-V LX, 4cyl., 5 speed, AWD, New tires, 106K miles, #S01440, \$9995

1989 Jeep Cherokee Laredo, 6cyl. Auto, 4 door, Very Clean. Only 117K miles, #S65238, \$2950,

1978-1979 Ford Bronco or F-150 Spare parts. If you need something for one of these I probably have it, Hard Top for Bronco, Spare Axles, U-joints, Drivelines, Much more. **Call Ben 970-443-1875.**



July 2006						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Roger Stengaard
2 D&C Harris	3	4 Independence	5	6	7	8
9 Curtis Smelker	10 BOARD MEETING <i>Darren Finger</i>	11	12	13 Linda Schrader Ken Kinnison	14 Rickey Miller	15
16	17	18	19 CLUB MEETING	20	21 Aaron Fredrick	22
23/30 CLUB TRIP	24/31 Donna Kinnison J&L Duteil	25	26	27 George Kinnison	28	29 B&K Mathers

August 2006						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Russ Theilman K&D Kinnison G&M Graham	2	3	4	5
6	7 BOARD MEETING <i>John Arnold</i>	8	9	10 Lloyd Vlcek	11	12
13 D&C Stengaard	14	15 Bret Mathers	16 CLUB MEETING Jerome Maes	17	18 J&S Mueller	19
20 CLUB TRIP	21 Cody Kinnison	22	23 Milly Smelker	24 Kim Schleppey	25 Brian Graves A&K Fredrick B&K Schleppey	26
27 Katie Schrader	28 John Schrader	29	30	31		

Board Meeting: Aug. 7 7:30pm John Arnold
 Sept. 11 7:30pm Rich Marolf

Membership Meeting: July 19 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Aug. 16 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins

Club Trip: July 23 **10:00am I-70 Exit 234 @ Downieville**



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

July Newsletter

treadlightly!
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>NAPA Auto Parts Ft. Collins 316 S. Link Ln. Ft. Collins, Colorado</p>	<p>CarQuest Auto Parts 2716 South College Avenue Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-226-5050</p>
<p>Bullhide Liner 4X4 & Auto Accessories 5817 South College Ave. Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-224-2288</p>	<p>Coyote Cruisers & OffRoad 417 North Hwy 287 Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-221-1833</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 / 4X4 Off Road 938 West Willox Lane, Ft. Collins 970-224-1133 www.4x4usedparts.com</p>	<p>RockStomper P.O. Box 724 Firestone, Colorado 303-833-1431</p>
<p>MTO Suspension 2649 E MulberrySt Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-416-1234</p>	<p>Horsepower Auto Brokers 1409 E. Olive Ct. Unit E, Ft. Collins 970-482-2579 www.horsepowerauto.com</p>	<p>Vanworks 900 East Lincoln Avenue Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-484-5344</p>
<p>Steep Bottom Construction Brian H. Graves Wellington, Colorado 970-631-2412</p>		