

Mountain - Ears

May Trip Report

Kelly Flats & Seven Mile Work Weekend & Campout

Club members started to gather at the Kelly Flats Campground gate a little before noon to wait for Lenora to unlock the gate and restrooms. One of the first ones there were the Gollys in their new Class A motor home (who knew they were Class A people) recently purchased from club member Alice Kinnison. This was their maiden voyage in the motor coach lovingly dubbed the “Spirit of George”. Also on its first shake down cruise was Don M. in his FJ-40 named

“Adobe”. He and Coyote John had built a new engine with an on board air system and got it all installed just in time for the trip. By the time he got to the campground, the new power plant had all of 35 miles on it and he smelled burnt rubber when he shut it down. A quick inspection revealed that the new air line was too close to the muffler and he had burnt a hole in it.. Don had extra air hose with him and soon had problem resolved.

Friday afternoon, Mountaineers were busy setting up their tents, campers, motor homes and building campfires. We had light

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drizzle on and off with about an hour of snow thrown in for good measure. People



Huddled around the camp fires for warmth and a lot of snacks were devoured. Several cooked their dinners over the open flame of the fire pit. As it was getting cold after sunset, it was an early to bed type night. The temperature hovered just above freezing all night. The Dixons said that their tent got too cold and moved their sleeping bags to their Jeep and spent the second half of the night in temperature controlled comfort.

Saturday morning the clouds had gone away and the sun started warming us up. We



Gathered up our polaskis and shovels and awaited Lenora's arrival. At a quarter past nine we went to the Kelly Flats



Trailhead hoping that the gate keeper was there. Lenora got there at 9:35 and we split into two groups. Ranger Chad

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rode with the group of 12 vehicles that went in from



The bottom side and Lenora rode with the eight vehicles that went in on the Wintersteen Mesa side. This year the trail was very dry and both groups did the normal water bar clean out and trash pick up. The upper group did have to move some wood off the trail and they came across a widow maker. Lenora wouldn't let us safely winch it down and said that she would have the timber people come in to take it down. That meant that the trail would remain closed

until they get the job done. Both groups met at the Chutes for lunch. There was a hours



Worth of entertainment as there were so many that felt lucky on this day. The only one without any luck was when Allen B. got his Cherokee Bouncing so hard that he broke the drive shaft yoke. (Didn't he do the same thing at fun daze?). After running The whole trail and locking the gate behind us, it was back to camp just in time as a storm



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was brewing. At camp it started to rain sporadically for the rest of the afternoon. More tarps were hung to cover our sloppy joe Feast. Lori Golly slaved over a hot stove cooking what



seemed like a hundred cans of Manwich. Everyone else brought out the goodies they had made to share, starting with huge trays of Jello shots by Linda S. There was so much food; we could have fed twice as many people. At least nobody went to bed that night hungry. The party lasted well into the night. By the way, the Dixon's spent all of the second night in their comfortable Jeep. Once again, the rain had dissipated over night and the sun beams

were a Welcome sight on Sunday Morning. Once again we Gathered and waited for our adult



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supervision to show up. After awhile we convoyed up



to the Seven Mile trailhead and waited some more. Word was passed up that Chad had stopped and said that Lenora had to investigate a break-in on Forest Service property. We thought that Ranger Chad would go with us, so we waited some more. Shane went to look for him and we decided to go ahead and do our work. Shane waited until 10:30 before heading up the trail to join us. The trash was really bad this year as we filled many bags, mostly in the camp sites. On up the trail we

did find the creek running down the road at two crossings. After getting those areas fixed, we stopped for lunch. We also drained the mud holes on the road back to Stump Hill and the 20 naked hippies and a goat trail. All in all, it was a great campout for the Mountaineer family and we got our adopt-a-trails ready for the summer season to boot!



El Guapo



In Memory of Jim Miller

It is with sorrow that we report the passing of Mountaineer member Jim Miller (unit #8) on June 3rd. Jim joined the club 26 years ago driving his vintage green Willy Wagon. Although Jim hadn't been active in the club for the last twelve or so years, he made sure that he paid his full dues every year so he could keep up with what the Mountaineers were doing. Rest in peace Jim!

Mountaineers at the Chile Challenge

In the current issue of Peterson's 4 Wheel & Off Road (August issue) there is a 2 page photo spread that includes the Mountaineers. The biggest picture is of Coyote John perched on some nasty rocks in his Truggy (yes he made the climb). Picture #3 is of Jake putting his Toyota XO Skeleton through a torture test (5 minutes later he had a catastrophic parts failure, but still could laugh about it). Picture #4 shows Adam (friend of the Mountaineers and Jake's 4 wheeling buddy) on the rocks with six feet of air under one of the tires. You guys made all Mountaineers proud and jealous at the same time.

Buena Vista Trip Plan

Saturday July 7th, Mount Antero. Chuck Wells describes this trail as difficult. The trail takes you up the 10th highest mountain in Colorado (14,276 feet) although the road ends at 13,854 feet. The area is well known for the gem stones found there, especially aquamarine. We will decide at the time if we would also like to include the spur Browns Lake trail. Bring your rock hammer.

NOTE: Between 5 and 7, we have reserved the group fire pit at the campground. Bring what ever meat you want to cook on the grills and what else you want to eat. This will be a good time----- promise!

Sunday July 8th, Chinaman Gulch & Carnage Canyon. Chuck rates Chinaman as difficult and Carnage as extreme. At the trailhead we will split into two groups, the big dogs going up Carnage and the short legged dogs on Chinaman. We can watch the big dogs for awhile before the Chinaman group takes off.

Monday July 9th, Iron Chest Mine & Grizzly Lake. Rated difficult. As soon as we turn off the main road onto the Iron Chest trail, you will be in the best rock garden ever. Don't worry; it only lasts for 200 yards.

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The trail takes us up a gulch to the Iron Chest Mine where several buildings still stand. We can poke around for awhile before returning the way we came. and onto the Grizzly Lake Trail which is known for the good fishing & camping.

Tuesday, July 10th, Mount Princeton. This will be a short day on a moderate trail with wonderful views of the valley.. The shelf road doesn't take you to the top of the mountain but does end at timberline and a beautiful chalet. You might want to bring your bathing suit for a swim in the Mt. Princeton Hot Springs as the rest of the day is for relaxing, shopping or what ever you want to do.

Wednesday, July 11th, St. Elmo, Tincup & Napoleon Pass. Most of this trip will be easy to moderate. We will go through the historic mountain town of St Elmo and over 12,154 foot Tincup Pass to the town of Tincup where we will turn onto 12,044 Napoleon Pass. and then back to St. Elmo via Hancock Pass (12,140 ft.). We will see a lot of mining history along the way.

Thursday and Friday trips will be determined by the club members still in the area.

June Club Trip

This month's Club Trip is our annual cleanup for Moody Hill. Because of the Fire we do not know if we will be permitted in that area. If we are permitted, we will do our cleanup and then run Crystal Mountain. If we are not permitted in the area, we will be running Middle Saint Vrain and Coney Flats. We should know by the Membership Meeting which way we are going. Look for updates on Facebook. Please meet at our regular trip meeting place at the North Albertsons College and Willox at 9:00am on Sunday June 24th.

For Sale

RAMSEY R.E.P. 8000 with mounting plate and rollers
\$400.00 Contact Roger Stengaard 970-420-3242

June 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 J&L Paben	5 Dave Surface	6 Nicole Riley	7 S&S Payton	8	9 D&C Surface
10 Linda Castell	11 BOARD MEETING <i>Lori Golly</i>	12 Jake Schrader G&S Kapperman	13	14 D&B Klein	15 Aaron Paben	16 Dan Venrick
17	18	19	20 CLUB MEETING	21 Chris McCurry Heidi Kemp Ryan Castell	22	23 Brianna Opdyke B&J Paul
24 CLUB TRIP	25 Amy Kemp	26 Candice Paben	27 Garrett Mercer Laurie Paben	28	29	30 Hannah Eddy

July 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Roger Stengaard Alex Paul D&S Jansen	2 Jake Thoen	3	4	5	6 Kevin Castell	7
8	9 BOARD MEETING <i>Dave Piller</i> Curtis Smelker Jamie Dilgard	10	11	12	13 Linda Schrader Ken Kinnison	14
15	16	17 Troy Helgeson B&M Opdyke	18 CLUB MEETING	19 Dustie Treece	20	21 Jake Adams Allen Burch
22 CLUB TRIP	23	24 Donna Kinnison Sharon Jansen Stephanie Payton	25	26 Macy Thoen	27	28
29	30	31				

Board Meeting: Jul. 9 7:30pm Dave Piller
 Aug. 9 7:30pm Dan Venrick
 Membership Meeting: Jun. 20 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Jul. 18 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: **Jun. 24 9:00am Albertson's Parking Lot N. College & Willox**



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The Mountaineers
PO Box 1225
Fort Collins, CO 80522-1225

June Newsletter

treadlightly!
LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION



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