



# April Trip Report

About 20 vehicles made this trip to the Bunce School Road west of Longmont. We all met at the Loveland K-Mart parking lot to follow guest trip leader Elaine as most of our club members and trip leaders had never been on the road except for her. At the busy trail head we aired down and locked in our hubs for a fun day. We had several guests on the trip and for one couple, Jim & Louanne from Pennsylvania; it was their first real 4 wheeling experience (they had never even had their Jeep in low range).

The main trail was pretty mild as it didn't have too much snow on it. It was fun watching Jim & Louanne make their first challenges with wide grins and a hardy hee-haw when they finished going over a small rock pile or over an ice patch. They said that they never knew that their Jeep was so capable!!! When we reached the playground at the top, it was a free for all as we saw vehicles going

every which way, trying the little challenges and mud.

In between all the fun we ate lunch and had a chance to talk with our friends from the Big-T 4WD Club who had picked the same trail for the day. Corvette Dave decided to climb a little hill. He put his foot to the floorboard and that Corvette engine came to life in the TLC and he caught some good air. The landing was a little hard and he wound up breaking a front shock mount and then noticed some fluid leaking from the front differential. For the rest of the day he was in rear wheel drive. Shane and Stephanie just had to find a challenge for their newly built '05' Rubicon Unlimited. They found it in the form of a side trail with a bunch of snow on it. Shane only got about 15 feet into it when the Jeep slid into a washout and severely listed to the left. With the drivers side firmly against the embankment it was time to do some creative winching. Clifton and Elaine came to the rescue. It took two winches to extract the Rubicon so that there would be no damage.

When all the excitement died down, we were off to explore some of the side trails in the area. At one point, Elaine took a wrong turn and all twenty vehicles had to turn around in a section that was in close trees, what a Chinese fire drill that turned out to be. In the same area,

Coyote John was chasing out a small trail when he got into some snow that put his fender into a tree. He was able to winch himself out with no damage or problems. We did find a trail that had a few challenges on it but we all made it through unscathed. When we all got back down to the trailhead, there were lots of stories to tell as we aired up our tires. Jim and Louanne took a lot of pictures on the trip and can't wait to show them to their flatland friends in Pennsylvania. I'm sure Cory Kinnison has some stories to tell his friends as his dad let him drive their new '05' Rubicon Unlimited on the trail (Cory just got his learners permit a few weeks ago). It was a spectacular day of wheeling for the Mountaineer family.

El Guapo



## New Members

Jason & Lorell Duteil #70  
Mike & Jamie McQuaid #71



# Club Trip

## Kelly Flats Cleanup & Camp Out

Mark your calendars on May 21st and 22nd for our annual Kelly Flats camp out. The back loop of the Kelly Flats campground will again be reserved Friday and Saturday nights for those who wish to dust off their motorhomes, tents or campers. We will leave from the campground promptly at 9:00 am on Saturday and work on the Kelly Flats Trail. We will clean water bars and pick up trash in preparation of the trails opening. Sunday we will work on Seven Mile trying to mitigate the damage that has occurred over the winter. There will be no fee for those that will be camping. If you do not want to camp, be sure you meet the group at the campground before 9:00 am on both days or you will be locked out.



## Guests at Last Meeting

Jason Duteil	Eric McCollum
Jeff Brooks	Louanne Barton
Jonathan Odegard	David Johnson
Mike McQuaid	



# Club Members in the News

On a recent trip to Granada, Nicaragua, club members Bill Marquardt and Judy Heiderscheidt experienced some real bad luck. The following is an article that appeared in the Nicaraguan English language newspaper, The Tica Times, detailing what they endured:

## **Carjacking Raises New Security Concerns**

By Tim Rogers  
Tico Times Staff

GRANADA – A recent gunpoint carjacking of three U.S. citizens on a darkened road in Tipitapa, 15 kilometers from Managua's International Airport, has raised concerns that a group of bandits is following tourists from the airport to rob them as they arrive in the country with their luggage, passports and money.

U.S. citizen and Granada resident Donna Tabor, and friends Bill Marquardt and Judy Heiderscheidt, of Fort Collins, Colorado, were robbed last Wednesday night around 9:00 p.m. on a poorly lit section of the old Tipitapa highway that is often used as a shortcut from the airport to Granada.

They were ambushed by another vehicle and forced out of Tabor's pickup truck by three armed men, who then stole the truck, seven  
5 bags of luggage, two passports, credit cards and close to \$1,900 in

cash, before leaving the three victims standing in a ditch along the side of the dark road.

TABOR remembers the bandits' car almost sideswiped them on the dark, pothole filled road, before skidding around to a 180-degree stop to block the road in front of them. Tabor guesses that they might have been followed from the airport, or the nearby intersection.

The bandits then got out of their car with pistols and a shotgun, and forced the three U.S. citizens out of the truck and into a ditch by the side of the road, where they were left.

Marquardt says the men, who he guesses were in their 30s, appeared "very professional" and calm during the robbery.

"If they had been panicky, we would probably be dead," added wife Heiderscheidt, an academic advisor at Colorado State University.

A good-hearted and impoverished Nicaraguan family living in a farmhouse nearby the scene of the crime heard the three victims' shouts for help, and came to their rescue. The Nicaraguan family called the police, offered lodging to the three stranded gringos, and even scraped together a "couple of crumbled up old bills" to help out, Marquardt told The Nica Times, adding that they didn't accept the family's money.

Luckily, all three victims own property in Granada, and had other resources in the country available to them. Tabor's pickup truck was later found abandoned in a nearby cornfield and returned to her, but the passports, money and luggage – including several bags

of Donated materials for Nicaraguans – never turned up.

WHEN the robbery victims went to the U.S. Embassy the following day to report the crime, they were told that a similar incident had occurred not long before to another U.S. tourist who left the airport in a taxi and was robbed near the same spot.

DAILY U.S.-origin flights on American Airlines and Continental – accounting for most of the U.S. tourists in the country – arrive in Nicaragua after dark.

Marquardt and Heiderscheidt, who have been visiting Nicaragua regularly since 1998, said they usually spend the first night here at the Best Western hotel across the street from the airport, to avoid traveling the country at night.

They blame the carjacking incident entirely on themselves, for going against their own better judgment.

"We have a rule about not traveling at night and we broke our own rule," Heiderscheidt said.

"We take total responsibility for this," Marquardt added. "It was very stupid."

TABOR, who is critical of how the police handled the situation ("everyone had their hand out"), said the incident gave her a wakeup call after having lived here for nine years.

DESPITE their rude welcome back to Nicaragua, neither Heiderscheidt nor Marquardt claim to be in bad spirits, saying that they are just happy to be alive. And they say the incident hasn't

soured them on Nicaragua.

"If you do something stupid anywhere in the world, you get in trouble," Marquardt said.

The Colorado couple, who hopes to one day open a private library in their home in Granada, says they will continue to travel frequently to Nicaragua and plan on spending more time here in the future.

And they plan to return to visit the family that helped them out in Tipitapa to thank them properly and bring them a gift from the United States.

All three victims marveled at the compassion and kindness shown by the family that took them in. In one short period of 15 minutes, the three U.S. citizens witnessed both the best and worst Nicaragua has to offer.



## **MOAB 2005**

Just a reminder, the club trip to Moab will be Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup>. The first Trip will be Fins & Things Sat. 9am City Market. The majority of members will be camped at the Canyonlands Campground, 555 Main Street in Moab. This is one of the nicer campgrounds in Moab as all spaces are shaded and as an added bonus they have a pool and hot tub. The reservation number is 1-800-522-6848. There are a lot of motels to choose from. Go online to check them out and make reservations. Guests are always Welcome --- see ya there !!!



## 4x4 classifieds

For Sale:

2000 TJ 4.0 5 Speed, Hardtop, AC, Power Steering, CD, Premium Sound sys,  
Front Axle: 4:56:1 ARB Aloy Stubs Warn Lockout Hub kit.  
Rear Axle: 4:56:1 ARB Warn Full Float AX with full lockout hubs.  
Many Extras Shane Payton 970.266.8982

For Sale:

Front Axle: Dana 44 disc brakes 410 ratio with lockright side drive shaft. Rear Axle: 9" heavy housing 31 spline Currie axles, nodgular carrier 410 ratio, Detroit locker, heavy 9 3/8" ring gear, Timpken roller bearings, 11" brakes, Bolt pattern 5x5 1/2. Call Brad anytime on weekends & after 5 on weekdays at: 520-887-9104

For Sale:

Detroit Locker for Dana 30 (f) up to 3:73 \$200  
Set of 4 Pro Comp 6" HD Shackles \$75  
Rock Deflector For AMC 20 \$25  
York Compressor w/all brackets to fit AMC 258 I6 \$150  
MSD Ignition, Box, Distributor Wires \$125  
Call Richard Marolf (970)416-5972

For Sale:

4 33x12.50 BFG AT's Good Tread, \$300 OBO  
Call Brian Graves  
970-897-2525 Home  
303-944-2426 Cell/Work

May 2005						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Karlen Mueller	3	4	5	6 Jeff Mueller	7 M&L Golly
8 Bill Marquardt	9 <b>BOARD MEETING</b>	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Amie Lenderink	17	18 <b>CLUB MEETING</b> Tim Sigley	19 Susan Arnold	20	21 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> Corinne Surface
22 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> B&H Crue C&A DeWitt	23	24	25 L&S Vlcek	26 Shane Payton	27	28 G&A Kinnison
29 Ben Crue	30 <b>Memorial Day</b> Jason Maes	31				

June 2005						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 J&L Paben
5 Dave Surface	6 <b>BOARD MEETING</b>	7	8	9 D&C Surface	10	11
12 Jake Schrader G&S Kapperman	13	14 D&B Klein	15 <b>CLUB MEETING</b> Aaron Paben	16 Andy Shively Dan Venrick	17	18
19 <b>CLUB TRIP</b>	20	21 Chris McCurry	22	23	24	25
26 Candice Paben	27 Laurie Paben	28	29	30 Hannah Eddy		

Board Meeting: June 6 7:30pm Moab  
 July 11 7:30pm Dave Oden  
 Membership Meeting: May 18 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 June 15 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Club Trip: May 21-22 **9:00am Kelly Flats Campground, Poudre Canyon**



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

## *May 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><b>Ft. Collins 4X4 Center</b>            1101 North College            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-482-5500</p>	<p><b>NAPA Auto Parts Ft. Collins</b>            316 S. Link Ln.            Ft. Collins, Colorado</p>	<p><b>CarQuest Auto Parts</b>            2716 South College Avenue            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-226-5050</p>
<p><b>RockHard 4x4 Parts</b>            Lewis Barth 401 Jackie Ann St.            Ault, Co 80610 970-834-0767</p>	<p><b>Fantasy's 4x4</b>            4311 Service Road            Evans, Colorado 303-330-3833</p>	<p><b>Moab 4x4 Outpost</b>            1831 S Hwy 191            Moab, Utah 435-259-0911</p>
<p><b>Front Range Off-Road Fabrication</b>            www.frii.com/~frorfab            cel (970) 481-6508 (970) 472-1846</p>	<p><b>4X4 Used Parts / 4X4 Off Road</b>            938 West Willox Lane, Ft. Collins            970-224-1133 <a href="http://www.4x4usedparts.com">www.4x4usedparts.com</a></p>	<p><b>RockStomper</b>            P.O. Box 724            Firestone, Colorado 303-833-1431</p>
<p><b>Bullhide Liner 4X4 &amp; Auto Accessories</b>            5817 South College Ave.            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-224-2288</p>	<p><b>MTO Suspension</b>            2649 E MulberrySt            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-416-1234</p>	<p><b>Vanworks</b>            900 East Lincoln Avenue            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-484-5344</p>
<p><b>Coyote Cruisers &amp; OffRoad</b>            417 North Hwy 287            Ft. Collins, Colorado 970-221-1833</p>		