



# September Trip Report

**M  
O  
U  
N  
T  
A  
I  
N  
E  
R  
S**

We started gathering at the Albertsons parking lot under ominous skies. The clouds were starting to build and we thought that we could be wheeling in the rain before the day was done. Judging from the amount of vehicles that showed up (27 in all) this promised to be one of the best attended trips of the year. At this time, little did we know that "Murphy's Law" (Whatever can go wrong, will...) would apply most of the day. Craig led us out of the parking lot and then up Rist Canyon and the Buckhorn Canyon to the Moody Hill trail head.

At the trail head we installed our new adopt-a-road sign, aired down and trash bags were passed out to each vehicle for the trail cleanup. Darwin, Roger and a couple of others started their cleanup at the beginning of the trail at the old mine site which is a popular camping place. They filled 5 or 6 bags plus stacked up the big stuff which they left beside the road to be picked up on the way down. Darwin headed up the hill followed by the rest of the group. A Bronco that wasn't with our club had come up the hill and had gotten stuck in the whoop-tee-dos. The Broncos front end was toast so Darwin, the Good Samaritan that he is, went around and tied onto the Bronco. He pulled him up the hill so he could get turned around and go back where he came from and to clear



# M O U N T A I N E E R S

the trail so that others could come up. Meanwhile, the other half of the Stengaard brain trust, Roger, started up the whoop-tee-doo's, stopped, and started to back up to get a better line. Unbeknownst to him, he backed onto a rock ledge which tipped him sideways and rolled the Toyota Pickup at least 2 times (some say 3 times) until it came to rest against some trees. When the dust settled, Roger and his Mom emerged from the Toyota without a scratch. Maybe Mom will put her faith in the sanest of her three sons and ride with Rich the next time.

It took some time to recover the badly damaged red Toyota. Our club president made sure the club decals were turned upside down as per Mountaineer tradition. It was taken down the hill and loaded onto Dans' trailer for the trip back to Waverly. Wait, wait, the saga of the Toyota doesn't end here, now for the rest of the story. Dan got the truck unloaded at the Stengaard abode and reloaded his own ride onto the trailer for the trip back to his house. When he got onto Highway 1, his own Toyota shifted and fell into the center hole of the trailer. Dan stopped to reposition the truck which meant he would have to unload it again. A passerby stopped to help. They put a strap onto it to pull it off while Dan got in to steer the truck. It did come off the trailer but not in the manner that it was supposed to. It flopped off the side of the trailer and put the Toyota onto its side. Dan didn't buckle up and was tossed around inside 2

# M O U N T A I N - E A R S



the cab. The flop broke the back window out and cracked the windshield. Dan was bruised and battered but got his truck up righted and loaded for a slow trip home.

After finding out that Roger and Mom were OK, those that weren't in on the recovery continued to clean up the trail. Even some people that were on the road and not on our trip joined in on the cleanup. We wound up at the quartz quarry for lunch and to play on the rocks. Those that wanted tried the challenge. John in his FJ-40 huffed and puffed and with tires smoking and clutch burning he finally cleared the top with one of the biggest grins ever seen. We all commented about how bad Toyota clutches smell and how someone should invent a clutch deodorant just for John. Jeepn Dave was goaded into trying the challenge by his rider guests. Dave protested, saying that he had never done the challenge but was swayed to try it. He still hasn't made the challenge under his own power. Just as he was making the final climb, we all heard a loud crack and knew the something had broken. Our first clue was the two u-joint end caps lying in the dirt.

After pulling the YJ to level ground, Dave pulled out his spare drive shaft. Shane jumped in to help and crawled under the crippled Jeep. We would like to thank Shane for being our "human oil spill kit" as not one drop touched the ground, it all landed in the middle of his chest. It was determined that Dave had damaged the yoke, but they put in the other driveshaft and drove home

# M O U N T A I N - E A R S



that way. Dave and those who were carrying his rider guests had to leave early to get to a meeting. They decided to go out through the Crystal Mountain Development on the good road.

Cotton was the last one in Dave's good road group. Just after he rounded the five points corner, he was forced over to side of the road by a Toyota pickup pulling a trailer. The man in the pickup proceeded to read Cotton the riot act about how bad all the four wheelers were and discussing Cottons ancestry in the most unpleasant terms. Then the man (?) pulled out a 9mm stainless steel Ruger, pointed it at Cotton and threatened to shoot him and all the other \*\*@:!&\$##+= 4 wheelers that were on private property. After all this , we don't know how he got up the courage to ask what the mans name was. At that point the man left without answering. Cotton called the rest of the Mountaineers on the CB to warn us as we were only 5 minutes behind and on our way to Crystal Mountain Road. Wait now, Cottons story even gets more interesting. Cotton collected himself and proceeded down the road. After just a block or two another man (?) came running out of the forest with a rock in his hand, yelling all sorts of obscenities. Cotton had just been staring down the barrel of a gun and now another guy is threatening him with a big rock. Cotton is fairly smart for a 4 wheeler and it didn't take long for him to devise a plan to extricate him from this danger. No, he didn't play paper, scissors, rock with the guy, he boogied down the road to avoid another confrontation.

# M O U N T A I N - E A R S

When the Crystal Mountain group got to five points, we saw the guy that had threatened Cotton. After crossing through 5 points, Richard snuck back with a pair of binoculars and got the guys license plate number which was given to the Forest Service and Sheriffs Office the next day. On up the road, Troy in his Bronco 1.5 reported he had broken something in the rear end. Brett went back to help Troy limp his vehicle home in 2WD. By now we were down to 9 vehicles and only 4 could make the last climb to the top of Crystal Mountain for the spectacular views. Again, John made an impressive bonsai (that's a Toyota term to you Jeep owners) to the top. Near the top he had the nose of that Cruiser pointed at the clouds as he let out a unintelligible yell and began laughing. We don't think John has ever had that much fun before! On the way down we stopped at the United Airlines crash site and then on down Moody Hill and home. Some of the Mountaineer family had a great day while for a few others it was a bummer.

We are still trying to figure out the reasons for all the bad luck on this trip. Let's see, it wasn't Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> and we didn't see a black cat cross our path on the way up. Maybe someone walked under a ladder or broke a mirror. Was there a full moon? When we do get it figured out, we will let you know. What we do know for sure was that some valuable lessons were learned on this trip ...



# M O U N T A I N - E A R S

- \* Never, ever let your mom ride with Roger
- \* Yellow TJ's attract people that throw large rocks..
- \* If you break down and there is a chance of losing fluids, invite Shane to take a look.
- \* If you are following Cotton on a trip, stay 50 yards behind him as he is a trouble magnet.
- \* There is never a dull moment when Craig is leading the trip (unless we are lost).
- \* If you are looking for a good time, keep an eye out for a green FJ-40 driven by a guy named John.
- \* Never go looking for trash with Darwin, you will always find it.
- \* If Dan puts your vehicle on his trailer, double or triple check the tie downs.
- \* Dave is easy to goad into doing dumb stuff.
- \* Never ever try to make a real 4 wheeler out of a Bronco II.
- \* Always ask the name of the guy pointing a gun at you, he will go away.

Garfield





# **Club Trip North Sand Hills**

**Meet at Albertson's at 8:00 AM**

**Sunday Oct. 20 th**

We are leaving early because it is 100 miles each way to get there.



## **Guest At July Meeting**

Chris Martin	Ken Fetter
Matt & Kristy Wells	Jeremy Reese
Gary Graham	Jason & Lorell Duteil
Dave Surface	Paul & Micheal Atkinson
Chance Parker	Don Maresh
John Shrader	



## **New Member**

**John Schrader #61**



# M O U N T A I N - E A R S

## Thanks Mike & Thanks George

Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, was a busy day for the Mountaineers. It started off in the Poudre Canyon cleaning our two mile section of highway 14. Nine people showed up to pick up trash. After our work was done, we retired to The Braskich chalet in Poudre Park where Mike and Bianca cooked up a batch of yummy blueberry pancakes and bacon for us. Thanks go to the clean-up crew and to Mike and Bianca.

That evening about 20 vehicles gathered at the JJ's parking lot for a Mountaineer picnic up on Horsetooth Mountain. We caravanned around Horsetooth Reservoir to the gate where George Kinnison was waiting to let us in. We had one vehicle vapor lock on the way up the mountain. The people who had never been on the road marveled at how many trees were along the road and how beautiful it was near the crest. It sure doesn't look that way from below. On top, we spread out our chairs and tables for a fun picnic. Some went for a hike over to Horsetooth Rock while others just took in the views on both sides. We waited until dark for the trip down so that we could see the city lights. Everyone one seemed to enjoy the picnic and wanted to make it an annual event. Thank you George for opening up your property so we all could enjoy it.





**M  
E  
E  
T  
A  
  
M  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R**



## Member's Ride

**Name:** Chris & Tonya Mercer #34

**Vehicle:** 1946 Toyota CJ-2A

**Engine:** 1985 Toyota 22r

**Tranny:** 1985 Toyota 5-speed

**T-Case:** 1985 Toyota stock

**Axles:** 1985 Toyota front 4:10

1988 Toy wide rear w/spool

**Suspension:** front-Wrangler rears w/ Black Diamond shocks ---- rear-4" Skyjacker, 1.5" longer shackle, Buggy spring, Skyjacker shocks

**Tires/wheels:** Grooved 33x12.50 Swampers on white spokes

**Extra's:** Anti-wrap rear bar, on-board air, 5k Warn winch, full cage, F&R bumpers

ALMOST AS MUCH FLEX AS THE DODGE HAD.



October 2004						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Mike Golly
3	4 Clifton DeWitt	5	6 Elaine Allbrandt	7	8	9
10 Nikkolette Leahy	11 <b>BOARD MEETING</b>	12 Patty Oden J&L Schrader	13	14 Alice Kinnison	15	16
17	18	19 Dustin Paben	20 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	21 Robin Kerns	22	23
24 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

November 2004						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Ron Kapperman	3	4 Andrea Paben Tyler Schleppey	5	6
7 Anna Mueller	8 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> Mindy Lenderink	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	18	19	20
21 <b>CLUB TRIP</b>	22 Darwin Stengaard	23 Gail Horner	24	25	26	27
28 Darold Klein	29	30				

Board Meeting:            Nov. 8    7:30pm    Troy White  
                                  Dec. 6    7:30pm    Brett Newton  
 Membership Meeting:   Oct. 20   7:30pm    Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
                                  Nov. 17   7:30pm    Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Club Trip:                Oct. 24   **8:00am**   Albertson's Parking Lot N. College & Willox



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

## G *October Newsletter* G

**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>Jackson's All American Sports Grill</b>            925 East Harmony Road            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</b>            Bob Schleppey Bob@4x4usedparts.com            970-224-1133 www.4x4usedparts.com</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>		