

Mountain - Ears

August Trip Reports

Spring Creek

A small group of 10 mountaineers met in Downieville to take on the Spring Creek trail. With no



trip planner on this trip, Dave S headed the group toward the trail head. Only to turn too quick on the wrong road and Darren in the Tater at the back of pack was now the

leader heading up to the first obstacle.

This off camber incline always is a favorite photo spot and the mountaineers did not disappoint. Darren in the



Tater and Shane P with their longer wheel base did provide a photo or two. Dave Piller in his Jeep climbed right through but the loud popping noise was not a good sign. Pulling over
1 To the side of the trail, his

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fellow mountaineers grouped to investigate the damage and assist with repairs.



Finding front axle and u-joint damage, the search for repair parts came up short and



temporary repairs were made to drive the Jeep home. Rich S and Roger S decided to follow

Dave P to see he made it home safely. The 8 remaining made their way across the rough and narrow shelf road and through numerous switch backs. The next feat was the boulder studded 90 degree uphill



Which all would need to align for and make a few attempts to get on up the hill.

All were getting anxious to find the famous rock garden still ahead and test their skills and their vehicle setups.

Dave O found a path which kept him working, going back and forward until assisted. He

was not alone as Shane Payton taking on an extreme section found that without a

wheel on the ground he could not go forward or back in his dance through the rocks. Out came the winch to pull his wheels back on the ground. All were ready for lunch at the top of the hill. After debating the trail to Georgetown or the trail to Idaho Springs, all followed Darren out to Idaho Springs. Those that trailered their vehicle returned to Downieville while other headed toward home. Another great day of wheeling.

Snoopy



South Dakota

A meeting time was set for 8:00 am at the wellington exit. Jake and Kirsten with two rigs in tow, Mike driving his Exterra, Jakes friend Caide also driving, Troy flat towing his YJ along with Tammy and Elaine pulling the purple pebble eater. Nate and Lindsay were to leave later and catch up with us. Big A departed shortly before the main group thinking we would easily catch him, which never happened because he took a more appropriate route for the bus. The rest of the bunch stopped in Orin junction for fuel and breakfast. Nate and Lindsay arrived while we were eating, they would have been in time but the Wyoming state patrol had something to say about Nate's desired rate of speed. The next time we saw the bus was in Custer city

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where we all picked up our South Dakota OHV permits. Next stop was Whispering Pines campground.

The next morning Kurt showed up with a new paint job and lots of fresh modifications. We aired down and headed to Big Jake to begin our quest of prosperity. When we arrived we all locked in our hubs with perma-grins. Not too far into the trail there was the evil hissing of air



Escaping a side wall. Not one, but two jeep tires torn on the same rock! After two spare tire swaps by Troy and Elaine we were on our way. Mike

soon decided it was in his best interest to take the bypasses for the remainder of the trail. He had a long road ahead of him to get home. It wasn't long before disaster struck Elaine



Again by breaking the cv in her new drive shaft. She removed the shaft Then she only made it a few more feet, when the unmistakable sound of a dana 30 u joint echoed down the trail. Kurt helped her out with a tow back to camp. When we got back to camp we opened up shop. Elaine and Troy went to town to mount the extra spare tire and to find another 33-12.50. In the

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meantime Jake switched out her axle shaft and yoke on her cv, by dark she was ready to roll good as new. The next morning we headed out to Iceman. Troy rode with Elaine because he couldn't find a spare. Ice man was full of big obstacles and lots of fun. Nobody broke, a few close calls on some tippy stuff and we retreated back to camp. On the third day our company was thinned out. Nate, Lindsay, Caide and Mike all had gone home. Jake, Big A and Troy ran Franken berry while Elaine and Tammy went to the cosmos. This trail was very tight, very short, but intense! Troy was smart and decided to keep his jeep off the nasty stuff. After lunch we went to find the infamous Captain Crunch. We found the lower part of Crunch and decided

we needed to build buggies to have that kind of fun in a boulder field of that magnitude.



The next day we decided to try to find the upper part of Captain Crunch because Kurt said our group could handle it and was close to camp. We ran the trail downhill and it was quite challenging. It was a skinny canyon with tight cut backs and big rock drop offs. Jake tested his exo cadge with a quick trip to the flop-a-goes islands, but was quickly righted with a little help from his friends. We met up with

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the main road and headed back to camp. With full bellies and not quite done attitudes, we thought a night run was very appropriate. Big Jake (the trail) had just what we needed. Big A and Jake loaded up one more time with rock lights blaring. We found the trail quickly and locked'em in. Adam went for the first large obstacle and stalled right on top. His 4 runner wouldn't start and had to be jumped. He got off the trail and pointed it down hill for a rolling start if necessary. Jake continued to the next challenge. He was walking his line he almost stepped on a rattle snake in the middle of the trail! He went for the line anyway and got stuck, Elaine started pitch-in rocks with no fear to help Jake get unstuck. We all told her she was crazy! After that we thought Rattle Snake Jake

was a more fitting name for the trail. We went back to camp for our last evening to wind down before the long haul back home.

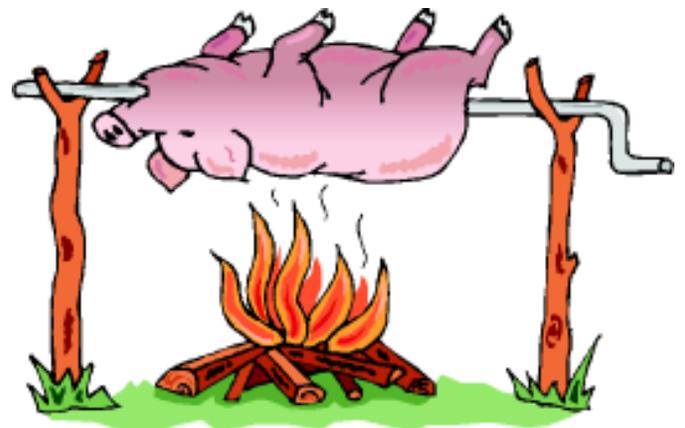


Pig Roast Party at the Braskich Plantation

The party hosts, Mike and Bianca, started greeting Mountaineers around 3:00 pm on this gorgeous Saturday afternoon. The pig had already been in the cooker for hours by the time we got there and we put our potluck goodies to share on the serving table. There were plenty of chairs spread out under the large shade trees by the newly built stage. Several gravitated to the shaded deck by the beach and pond to gander at the large waterfall and to play in the water. There were several tubes and kayaks which were fun and even a couple of RC boats to chase the ducks. The Quonset hut was also a magnet, drawing in people to bowl a line or play pinball, the slot machine or even ping-pong.

Mike pronounced the pig was ready and started to carve that big porker. We had all you could eat especially with all the goodies that Mountaineers had brought from home. Everybody settled in and stuffed their gut.

The party continued until dusk. Thank you Mike and Bianca for letting the Mountaineer family have a great time at your house. You guys know how to through a party!!!



September Club Trip

This month's trip will be
Middle Saint Vrain and Coney Flats
Meet across from Diamond Shamrock in Lyons on
HWY 66 at 9:30 am September 25th

Editor's Note

Just a reminder, I could use some Member's Rides,
Email the info and a picture to
newsletter@montaineers4x4.org
If you take pictures on our club trips and want to share
them, please upload them on our Facebook page.
(I can use them in the newsletter)

New Members

Jake & Cara Thoen #66

CJ Wiescamp #67



September 2011						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Cotton Riley	8	9 Jim Miller	10
11 Brett Newton	12 BOARD MEETING <i>Craig Stumbough</i> Cameron Klein	13	14 Cory Kinnison	15	16 Eric Treece C&M Smelker	17
18	19 Mike Guerassio	20 Skylar Payton	21 CLUB MEETING	22 Heidi Crue	23	24 Nathaniel DeWitt Troy White
25 CLUB TRIP	26 R&K Kapperman	27	28 D&S Oden	29 Bev Klein	30	

October 2011						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Mike Golly	3 Marti Helgeson	4 Clifton DeWitt	5 Patrick Riley	6 Elaine Allbrandt Sarah Paul	7	8
9	10 BOARD MEETING <i>Colleen Stengaard</i>	11	12 Gary Helgeson J&L Schrader	13	14 Alice Kinnison	15
16	17	18	19 CLUB MEETING Dustin Paben	20	21	22
23 CLUB TRIP 30	24 31 Halloween	25	26	27	28 Mike Castell	29

Board Meeting: Oct. 10 7:30pm Colleen Stengaard
 Nov. 7 7:30pm Jake Adams
 Membership Meeting: Sep. 21 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Oct. 19 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: **Sep. 25 9:30am Lyons Colorado on HWY 66**



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

September 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>4X4 Used Parts / 4X4 Off Road 938 West Wilcox Lane, Ft. Collins 970-224-1133 www.4x4usedparts.com</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>Always A Deal Inc. Computer Services Johnstown, Colorado 970-310-7547 www.AlwaysADeal.info</p>	<p>Moab 4x4 Outpost 1831 S Hwy 191 Moab, Utah 435-259-0911</p>
<p>Horsepower Auto Brokers 1409 E. Olive Ct. Unit E, Ft. Collins 970-482-2579 www.horsepowerauto.com</p>	<p>CDR Communications, LLC Cabling Done Right Call Don Maresh @ 970-556-7276 don-cdr@live.com www.cablingdoneight.com</p>	<p>RockStomper P.O. Box 724 Firestone, Colorado 303-833-1431</p>
<p>Fry's Auto Care 210 Commerce Dr. Ft. Collins 970-310-7195</p>	<p>Wellington Toy Storage 4000 Washington Ave. Wellington, Colorado 970-498-2111 www.wellingtontoystorage.com</p>	