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THE MOUNTAINERS

August Club trip

The Mountaineers and guests started to gather at the park n' ride located at I-25 and Highway 119 at 7:30 in the morning. When we left, we had a convoy of 19 vehicles headed south on I-25 toward the trail of the month, Spring Creek. When we got to Downieville, several other 4- wheelers were waiting for us and now we had twenty five . We took this opportunity to gas up and air down.

We headed up the trail and got to the first obstacle which is a off camber slab of granite with a door grabbing rock on your right. This was no problem for most except Ross in the \$100.00 hunk of metal. When he got half way up, the ol' Scout stopped dead in its tracks, carburetor and starter problems. Our trip leader, Elaine turned around and hooked up her winch. She winched until her battery was almost gone. She then turned around and it took her TJ and Dave Oden's YJ in tandem to get Ross on level ground to make repairs. While getting through this process, a few of us started up a collection to give to Ross for a new carb and starter.. We collected a total of \$1.23, oh well it's a start. We are sure he can use it as the Scout was a problem all day long.

The views along this trail are spectacular as it runs a long way along a shelf road. We eventually got to the area that we had come to see, The Rock Garden". This is a long stretch of boulders that offers a challenge to all vehicles, even Mike in his rock crawling CJ-5. The bypass is almost as bad as the main trail. When we got there, there was a bad omen sitting beside the trail, a Toyota with a broken axle. The vehicles with lockers made the trip over the boulders without to many problems. We saw one guests Jeep smash the fiberglass top on a tree. Several had to get a tug to make it across the rock garden. For the second trip in a row, Ben in his full size Bronco broke a front axle. As the last stragglers got through, it started to rain, making the boulders even more slippery.. Mike, Tim and Jim stayed at the rock garden to play while the rest of the group went down the Saxton Road to Georgetown. By the time we got to Georgetown, there were several vehicles with problems.

Lets see, there was Ross, but his Scout runs OK on the pavement. Larry in his full size Bronco lost the alternator and regulator. Ross loaned Larry his battery so that he could make the trip home. Then there was Elaine whose TJ wouldn't run right because of a defective oxy sensor. Jeff and Sheila had problems with their alternator. Kevin said he would stay with Jeff and Larry for the slow trip home.. Just as Kevin got on the highway, he said he had steering problems. Jeff looked back just in time to see the wheels going every which way but

straight. Kevin managed to pull over to the side of the road and discovered that the tie rod had come loose. Jeff had enough spare nuts and bolts to make temporary repairs and they were on the road again. Larry wanted to make it back to Pierce before dark so he boogied.

That left Kevin and Jeff. When Kevin turned off at Longmont to head to his house it was getting dark. Jeff got on the frontage road as he didn't have enough juice to run the headlights. They stopped at Johnson's Corner and bought two flashlights and Sheila slipped behind the wheel. What a sight it must have been. Jeff was leaning out the passenger window shining the two flashlights so that Sheila could see where she was going. While on the back streets of Loveland, they were pulled over by one of Lovelands finest. The cop got another call and had to leave and just gave Jeff & Sheila a warning to take it easy. Two blocks later another cop pulled them over but this time offered to escort them home. It was 9:30 when the last Mountaineers got home. Just another glorious day of wheeling with the Mountaineer family!



Garfield

CLUB TRIP

September Club Trip

Please note: The leave time is one hour earlier than normal. We will leave the King Soopers parking lot at 8:00am and head west to the North Sand Hills by Walden. This trip is suitable for stock vehicles as well as the built up rigs. This is always a fun trip!!!!

Catalog Photos - Check it out!

ROCK CRAWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

There I was, sitting around, looking at the latest wish book that I had just received in the mail from Four Wheel Drive Hardware. When I was finished and put the catalog down, something caught my eye and I had to take a closer look. Low and behold, there on the back cover were two pictures of Mountaineers vehicles. One picture is of Clifton DeWitt's yellow CJ-7 and the other is Mike Golly's red CJ-7. It turned out the pictures were shot in the Left Hand Canyon area when Clifton and Mike did a photo shoot for Bestop. Great pictures guys !!!

Calendar Photos

Please bring your favorite photo of your vehicle for the calendar to the membership meeting. Give them to Dave Oden. It looks like we will be able to produce a calendar that is printed and stapled for \$8.00. If any of our sponsors would like to sponsor the calendar, we could sell them for less than \$8.00, and we would put your logo on each page.

Rock Crawling Championships

The Goodyear Extreme Rock Crawling Championship Series is over. Team Fort Collins 4x4 made up of Mike Braskich, driver and Dan Venrick, spotter, placed 28th overall .

In the last event in Farmington, New Mexico we placed 20th. Our team work and performance of the jeep were both outstanding. In competitions like this the smallest error or breakdown can have disastrous effects on final placing. The level of competition changed dramatically over the last twelve months of the series. Purpose built competition rock buggies and high dollar modified jeeps far out number the "built not bought" vehicles you normally see on the trails and in the magazines. But casholla doesn't always persevere... a team of good ol boys from South Carolina took home the series number one ranking , driving a modified CJ 10 (originally an airport vehicle used to move airplanes).

The highlights of the last event was a 20 foot vertical wall climb which frankly scared the biggies out of me, it looked like certain disaster. We were the first competitor to attempt that stage. Unfortunately the stage before had somehow caused the clutch linkage to fail. We decided to not take penalty points by getting out of order and went for it without a clutch. A first gear bump and plenty of throttle got us up



in one try. The guy behind us who placed third in the event rolled on his attempt and the sniper had to winch up, we were feeling great. Many others timed out on that obstacle.

Dan and I met tons of dedicated rock crawlers who are as nice as they are serious about our sport. We had the opportunity to drive up obstacles that left me astonished once on top. One little boy even asked me for my autograph, it was priceless.

Our thanks go out to Fort Collins 4x4, Carquest auto parts, Ramsey winch, Mobiweld and to the Mountaineers. Without you guys I'd still be driving a stiff sprunged, 33"tired, CJ 5. Check out the videos of the event at bigrockvideo.com. And these web sites for coverage and photos : extreme4x4.com and 4x4wire.com.

Dan's ability to spot me up stuff I would of never driven on my own was incredible. He is the best . Thank you Dan for everything.

Sept 22-24 Dan and I are off to Montrose Colorado for the Warn National Rock Crawling Championship, wish us luck and join us if you can.

Seven Mile / Stump Hill

A club member has reported that the Forest Service has closed the Stump Hill trail at the big meadow. This is part of our Adopt-A-Road agreement and is the only challenging 4 wheeling on the trail. This issue will be discussed at our membership meeting. As this issue has come up at our newsletter deadline, we haven't been able to talk to Forest Service yet but will before the membership meeting.

Adopt-A-Highway cleanup on 9/23/00

We will do our final highway cleanup of the year on Saturday the 23rd. Meet at mile marker 119 on highway 14 (just 2 or 3 miles above Ted's Place) at 9:00am. If you get there a little early, there will be some donuts to munch on. Sorry, no pancake breakfast at Mike's this time as Mike and Dan will be at the Warn Challenge in Montrose over the weekend.

THINGS TO PONDER

New Members

102 Dan Bays

Guests at last Meeting

Mike Smith
Jon Schwartz
Mike Longmore
Hollie Troudt

Bumper Stickers we'd like to See:

He who laughs last, thinks slowest.

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.

A day without sunshine is like, well, night.

On the other hand, you have different fingers.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

When the chips are down, the buffalo is empty.

Seen it all, done it all, can't remember most of it.

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

I feel like I'm diagonally parked in a parallel universe

He's not dead, he's electroencephalographically challenged.

You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say will be misquoted, then used against you.

I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.

4X4 CLASSIFIEDS

Honk if you love peace and quiet.

Despite the cost of living, have you noticed how it remains so popular?

Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.

It is hard to understand how a cemetery raised its burial cost and blamed it on the cost of living.

Just remember...if the world didn't suck, we'd all fall off.

The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try and pass them.

4x4 classifieds

'75 AMC 360, Long Block (Needs Valve work), '82 AMC 360 w/ 200K+ miles, ran when removed from vehicle. Burns oil. '82 Chrysler 727 automatic transmission w/ part-time transfer case. Lock stock and barrel for \$150 Please call Jeff 970 663-4391

4" Trailmaster suspension lift Fits 80-96 Ford F-150 Includes springs, all brackets, and rear blocks. No shocks or pitman arm. \$300 o.b.o. 970-686-8847

AMC 304 V-8 engine approx 80,000 miles will sell complete meaning everything ALL bolt on parts brackets etc ...with headers 250.00 or will sell engine with intake manifold and carb for 175.00 engine ran excellent before replaced (it used to go to Denver on a daily basis) for more info contact Joe 970-204-4894

1971 CJ5 new supertop with half doors, V6 w/3 speed/overdrive 80,000 actual miles rebuilt at 45,000 always garaged, all paperwork, new tires, shocks 2 1/2" rancho lift, gas can rack, full roll cage, aux heater, ARB air lockers front and rear, warn winch, heavy bumper, power steering, rear seat, never wrecked, body in good shape, 2 gas tanks, 11' drum brakes front and rear Dana 30 in front will accept disc brakes, bikini top, white spoke wheels 4.88 ring and pinion 18 mpg serious climber. \$7000 Call Rich at 970-587-2508

258 6 cylinder engine Yuell Brothers built, 4 bbl carb, cam, split headers, Mallory Ign, runs strong. Please call Rich at 970-635-0393 or 970-416-0245 Priced to sell.

Pick Axe Pulaskis Pick Axe combo (Rare Govt. Issue) \$39.99 shipping included. Call (970) 221-5895

YJ Stuff Wrangler Hardtop w/ rear wiper (Tan) - \$900, Rear Seat - \$100, Stock Springs - \$50. Call Curtis (970) 217-7226 or pager (970) 416-4238

Teddy Bears Hand made jointed musical Teddy Bears, four sizes \$35 to \$55 - you choose color, type of fur, color of eyes and music box. Great for baby gifts, birthdays, Christmas or just for hugs. Please call Donna for more information 970-229-0119 or 970-222-0885.

MEMBERS RIDES

Member name: Larry and Lori Stein

Member number: 65

Make and Model: 1981 Ford Bronco XLT

Engine: Completely rebuilt 302

Transmission: T-18 4-speed

Transfer case: NP208, soon to be rebuilt

Front end: D44 TTB with 4.56 gears and Lock Right

Rear end: Ford 9" with 4.56 gears and Detroit

Wheels and tires: 36 X 12.50 TSL on 15 X 10 steel rims

Springs and Shocks: 6" Superlift front, 6" Skyjacker rear, Pro Comp shocks

Miscellaneous: Braided SS brake lines, Superrunner steering, onboard air, Warn HD hubs

Future projects: Winch, skid plates, relocated rear shock mounts

