
MOUNTAIN-EARS

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

December Club Trip

This month's trip will be to the upper Cherokee Park for some snow bashing. We anticipate encountering a lot of snow on this trip. We would like to go on the Pratt Creek, McGrevey or the Green Mountain trails if at all possible. Trip leaves promptly at 9:00am on Dec. 23 rd from the North College King Soopers parking lot. Make sure you have a full tank of gas, pack a lunch and come prepared to have a fun day of snow bashing!

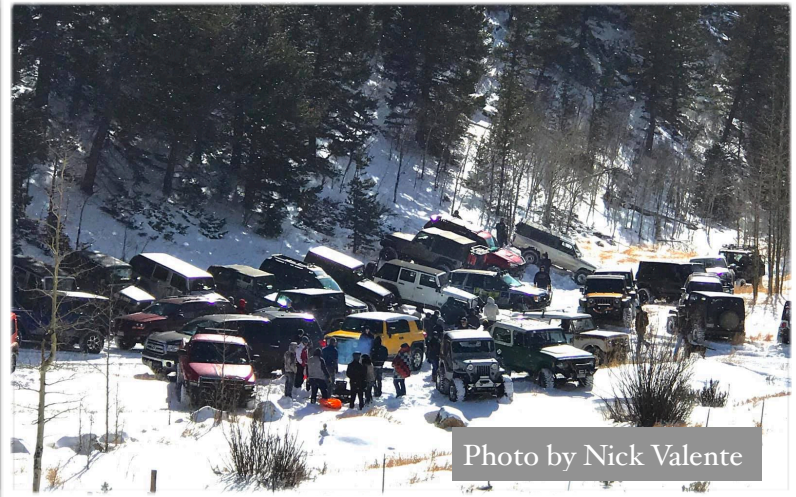


Photo by Nick Valente

November Trip Report

Seven Mile

Mountaineers started gathering early on a beautiful Sunday morning in anticipation of a day of fun on the Seven Mile Creek road. This was not your usual trip start. First order of the day was to donate toys for the Santa Cops toy drive. Tim Palmer, who was representing the Sheriff's Department, drove up in his brand new bright orange (sunglasses please) Jeep JL Rubicon. We stuffed that Jeep to the max with a passel of unwrapped toys. Next was a large group of Loveland four wheelers from the Big

Guests at Last Meeting

Steve Bolz

Club Sponsors

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4wheelparts.com

Thompson club joined us. We had fun seeing some old friends and meeting some new folks from the Big T club. They also contributed to the stuffing of Tim's Jeep with toys. After a brief drivers meeting, the cans of chili were collected so we could have a hot lunch up on Seven Mile. A couple left a little early so they could get up to the meadow and start cooking the chili in a large pot over an open fire before the main group got there.



A few minutes past nine, the horn sounded and we were off on this day's adventure. This was a real convoy, 35 vehicles in all. Going up the Poudre, the road was clear. We had heard from the Forest Service that Red Feather Lakes had six inches of new snow and that the wind was drifting the snow. We were surprised and disappointed that there was just a little new snow at the trailhead where we stopped to air down. Even though there wasn't very much snow down at the lower elevations, as we climbed the snow got a little deeper as we ascended higher up the valley. There wasn't

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www.horsepowerauto.com

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970-310-7195

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1713 Willox Ct,
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970-224-1133
www.4x4offroadnetwork.com

Lee's Towing

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970-587-5711
www.leestowing247.com

much ice buildup at any of the nine creek crossings so the conditions of the trail made a smooth trip for almost the entire group. When we reached the meadow, we found Eddie from the Big T club cooking our chili over the fire. We had made such a quick trip up the trail that we had to wait for a little while for the chili to warm up. That gave us plenty of time to get to know each other. Good thing the temperature was warm enough that we could mill around and gab a little bit and look at all the different vehicles as there were 35 to choose from.

Every once in a while a group of wheelers would go from the meadow to the bottom of Stump Hill to look at the locked gate, wishing that they could take the winter challenge to the top of the hill. Eddie from Big T and Mike from the Mountaineers had contacted Forest Ranger Lenora and requested that the gate be opened for the combined club trip. Lenora responded that she **WOULD NOT** (not could not) open the gate until the Christmas tree sale. For all the volunteer hours doing trail maintenance, tree removable and vehicle retrieval that these two clubs do for the Forest Service you would think that they would want to help us out. Either club would have gladly taken someone from the Forest Service up to the gate to unlock it days earlier.

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970-556-7276
donmcabbling@gmail.com

Wellington Toy Storage

4000 Washington Ave.
Wellington
970-498-2111
www.wellingtontoystorage.com

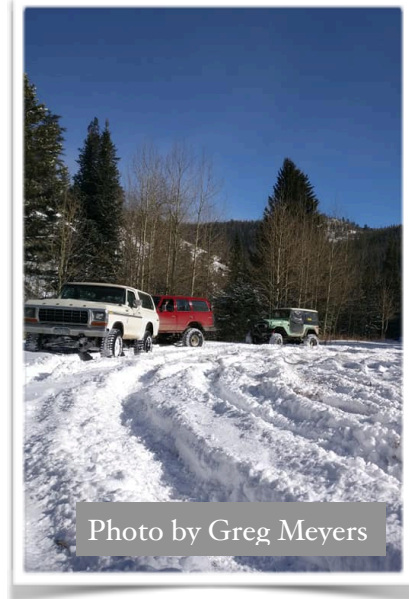
Moab 4X4 Outpost

1831 S. Hwy 191
Moab Utah
435-259-0911

RockStomper

PO Box 724
Firestone Colorado
303-833-1431

Meanwhile back at the meadow, the chili started to bubble. Bowls of chili were dished out and we even had all the fixings like Fritos, onions and cheese along with it. After our hearty lunch, several decided to go back down the trail and head for home. A large group headed up to the top. The more vehicles that went over a

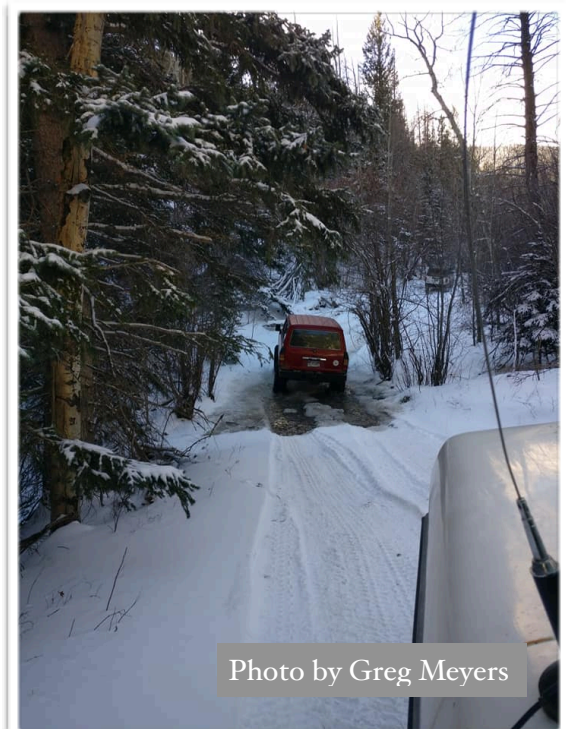


patch of ice on the hill the slicker it got. One vehicle spun his tires and started sliding back down the hill like a toboggan and didn't stop until he hit the guy behind him. There was no damage and we had to use the winch to get over the ice. Get up your speed and let the momentum work was the best way to conquer the ice hill. At the end of the Seven Mile Creek road is the Swamp Creek area where there are several ways to get to the Manhattan Road. We chose to go out via the road that takes you by the Brinkhoff Homestead and ends at the "hanging tree" in the ghost town of Manhattan. A couple of years ago, there was a large logging clear cut area next to this road so the road is known to have large snow drifts to bash because

of the logging. There were no other tracks to follow so we were the first ones to attempt breaking through the drifts. It was great fun to be in virgin powder. The best way to get through was to keep your speed up and let your momentum bust the drifts.

We had a great day of wheeling. Best of all was wheeling together with our sister club, the Big Thompson 4WD club and the Mountaineer families. Let's do it again in the future!

El Guapo



Christmas Party

The Mountaineers Christmas party will be held the night of the regular club meeting. Dec 19th. We will start an hour earlier than normal at 6:30 pm. The club will provide main dish and drinks. Please bring a dish to share. We will have crafts for the kids, an ugly sweater contest, the hot wheel race track will be set up and we will have races. Remember to bring your hot wheels 4x4, stock or modified. We will be having a gift exchange for anyone that would like to participate. Please bring a wrapped gift to exchange, participation is optional. We will be providing gift for the kids. Please email Michelle your child's name, age, boy or girl so we can plan a gift for them. Opdykerm@aol.com We are trying to do age appropriate gifts. We will hold a short meeting during the party!

Hope to see everyone there

The Events Committee



Hot Wheels or Match Box Racing

At the December meeting we will be racing our Match Box or Hot Wheels 4 X 4 racers. You will get to choose your own starting point at the top of the course and gravity will do the rest. There will be two racers at a time down the course and which ever one makes it to the bottom or the farthest on the course will be declared the winner and move on to the next bracket.

Rules

Stock Class:

Racers must be 1/64th scale.

Racers must be a recognizable replica of a 4WD vehicle.

Racers may not be altered except for axle lubricant.

Modified Class:

Weight is no object.

Racers must originally have been 1/64th scale.

Racers must be a recognizable 4WD vehicle.

The only means of propulsion is gravity.

The top of the tire can not be higher than the vehicles roof



December 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Sally Oden	5 Kelly Ficarra	6 Ann Lietz	7	8
9	10 BOARD MEETING Jason Marooney	11 Scott Ficarra	12 Mike Braskich Cristal Opdyke Shelby Peterson	13	14 Suzanne Knapp Matthew DeWitt	15 Steve Claus Shane Peterson
16 Shar Berber Jaden Dyrenforth	17 Teresa Shively	18 Bill Dyrenforth Adrian LeDeaux	19 CLUB MEETING Brandon Loeb	20 Heather Cooper	21	22 John Jansen Dave Martin
23 CLUB TRIP Devan Knapp Bob Paul 30 Troy Mynes	24 31 Michael Nothnagel Thomas Carter	25	26	27 Kyle Eddy	28 Alice Mueller	29 Carl Malone

January 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bradley Mikkelson	3	4 Brittany Eddy	5 Haley Derflinger Bobby Conley
6 Wyvonne Stengaard	7 BOARD MEETING	8	9	10	11	12
13 Jessica Stengaard	14	15	16 CLUB MEETING	17 Michelle Jansen	18	19
20 CLUB TRIP Misty Eddy Kristen Schimierer	21	22	23 Spencer Payton	24 Taylor Crue Brody Deflinger	25 Samantha Richards Kevin Hansen	26 Justin Rennells
27 Karen Riley	28	29	30	31		

Board Meeting: Jan. 7 7:30pm Mike Castell
Feb. 7 7:30pm TBA
Membership Meeting: Dec. 19 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
Jan. 16 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
Club Trip: Dec. 23 **9:00am North King Soopers N.College and**