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# MOUNTAIN-EARS

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## LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

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### January Club Trip

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The Club Trip will be to Lost Lake for some Ice Racing on January 21st. We will meet at the North King Soopers Willox and College at 8:30 am and leave at 9am.

Thank You to the  
Events Committee for a  
Wonderful Christmas  
Party



## December Trip Report

### *Pratt Creek*

It was a week before Christmas and our trip planners wanted to find some snow to play in as we really hadn't had any amount of snow up to this date. They decided to send us to Upper Cherokee Park to find the elusive white stuff. We left the Fort promptly at 9:00 am and headed north on highway 287 to the Cherokee Park Road where we made our first stop to air down. As we climbed in altitude, there was still no snow. Our second stop was the obligatory potty stop just before the "Little Canyon".

## Guests at Last Meeting

Devon Smith  
Konnor McFerran  
David Habeger  
Lee Burke

## Club Sponsors

### Addicted Offroad

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The “Little Canyon” was icy and snow covered and we thought we had finally found what we were looking for. Alas, it wasn’t to be. When we popped over the top into Upper Cherokee Park, the road was dry again. After a few more miles, we came to our destination trail, Pratt Creek (FR-182). We didn’t even have to stop to put our vehicles into 4WD as the trail was mostly dry except for the areas that were in the shade all day. For the most part, it was a nice easy drive through the forest until we intersected with the Green Mountain Trail. We followed the trail for a ways in the tire tracks of those who came before us until they turned off onto another section of the Green Mountain Trail. At last, 4 inches of that elusive fresh untouched white stuff.

Along the trail, Tim Palmer would stop to take pictures for the article he is writing about the trail for the “Trails Off Road” web site. At least that gave Becky a chance to drive the trail herself. Every once in a while Craig would stop to let everyone bunch together and not get to spread out. This gave Tim a chance to walk ahead and take movies of our group coming up the trail. At one point the trail doubles back on itself and it was a chance for the front of the snake to see the guys in the back and visa versa.

About noon we came to a wide open area where

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we could all gather together for lunch. We were only about hundred yards from the Boulder Ridge Road when we stopped. The weather was cooperating and most people were out of their vehicles for lunch. Even the dogs were all out having a meet and greet and chasing a ball or stick. After a long lunch, it was time to bust the only snow drift that we encountered on this day. It was long and about three feet deep. Craig gave it a halfhearted try to see what it was like and to see if there were any gotchas hidden under the snow. He had to be snatched back three times by Ben Crue and Darren Finger before he reached the Boulder Ridge. Once it was opened up, everyone had no problems blasting through the drift, even Ross in his Geo Tracker made short work of it. It was fun watching Jake Thoen blasting the drift from a different angle. I swear that he had that pickup airborne and sideways at 50 mph by the time he reached the other side.

We headed northeast on the snow packed Boulder Ridge road until we came to County Road 59 which took us back into Colorado to the bottom of the Little Canyon on the Cherokee Park Road. From there, it was every man for himself. Several stopped to air up. Others went over to Red Feathers on the Prairie Divide Road. Ben and Darren stopped by the

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ponds near Lost Lake to see if they were frozen over. They were and they walked out on the ice.



It was a fun day for the Mountaineer 4 Wheeling family even though we didn't find the whole bunch of snow we were looking for. Oh well, it will be winter one of these days!

El Guapo



## **Ice Racing in January**

This month we will be traveling up to the ponds by Lost Lake (Red Feather area) to do some ice racing. In addition to the racing, tug of war grudge matches can and will break out at any time. Warning, do not challenge Cotton to a donut spinning contest, you will have no chance of winning as he is known as the king of spin! We will have a warming and cooking fire near the pond. If you want to burn a few hot dogs, be sure to bring your weenie sticks and maybe some marshmallows for the kids. We will also need some firewood.

## **Activity Committee Poll**

The activity committee is going to poll the members at the January meeting for feedback regarding suggested activities other than our monthly trips. The suggested activities will be focused on educational, recreational, and informational activities, with one activity planned per month. An example of each would be:

Educational - Winching Basics

Recreational - Gambling jaunt to Blackhawk

Informational - FEMA seminar on emergency preparedness

# Member's Ride

**Members Name & Unit Number:** Michael Castell #38

**Vehicle Year, Make and Model:** 2012 Rockware 3 seat tube buggy

**Engine:** GM 6.0L LQ4

**Transmission:** GM Turbo 400 with full manual valve body, reverse shift pattern

**Transfer Case:** Atlas 2 speed, 3.8:1 ratio

**Front End:** Dana 60, RCV shafts, Detroit locker, full hydro steering

**Rear End:** 14 bolt, shaved, Detroit locker, air bump stops

**Wheels and Tires:** 17" Raceline beadlocks, 42"x14.5"x17 Goodyear Wrangler MTR Kevlar "stickies"

**Spring and Shocks:** King 2.5" remote reservoir coil over shocks

**Brakes:** Wilwood master cylinders, rear cutting brakes

**Miscellaneous:** Twisted Customs Mini Cooper hood, aluminum body panels, Jazz 12 gallon fuel cell, radius arm three link front suspension, wish bone three link rear suspension, PRP seats with Pro Armor 5 point harnesses



January 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Bradley Mikkelson	3	4 Brittany Eddy	5 Haley Hergenreder	6 Wyvonne Stengaard
7	8 <b>BOARD MEETING</b>	9	10	11	12	13 Jessica Stengaard
14	15	16	17 <b>CLUB MEETING</b> Michelle Jansen	18	19	20 Misty Eddy Kristen Schimierer
21 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> Connor Bowlin	22	23 Spencer Payton	24 Taylor Crue Brody Deflinger	25 Samantha Richards Kevin Hansen	26 Justin Rannells	27 Karen Riley
28	29	30	31			

February 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Chris Mercer	2	3
4	5	6 Morgen Carter Logan Carter	7 Denver Nothnagel	8	9	10
11	12 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> Travis Kaderka  B&R Mikkelson	13	14	15 Cara Thoen  G&J Meyers	16 Michelle Opdyke	17
18 Amber Yetter	19	20	21 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	22 Christopher Kapperman	23 Jeremy Zamora	24 Lucca Schmierer
25 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> Colleen Stengaard	26	27	28	Judy Heiderscheidt		

Board Meeting: Feb. 12 7:30pm Craig Stumbough  
 Mar. 12 7:30pm Greg Meyers  
 Membership Meeting: Jan. 17 5:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Feb. 21 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Club Trip: Jan. 21 **9:00am North King Soopers N.College and Willox**