
MOUNTAIN-EARS

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

May Club Trip

May's Club Trip will be our annual trail clean-up and camp out. The camp out starts on Friday May 20th at Kelly Flats camp ground. Campground will be locked but available to those who have the gate code by noon on Friday. Please re-lock the gate after you have entered.

Kelly Flats & Seven Mile clean-up will be Saturday & Sunday May 21 & 22. For those that are not going to camp and are going to drive up Saturday and or Sunday morning please be at the



April Trip Report

A group of Mountaineers and guests gathered at the North College King Soopers on a fine Sunday morning for a trip to the Ballard Logging Road. We convoyed up to Masonville to meet the southern contingent. We had thirteen vehicles making our way up the Buckhorn Canyon to the Ballard Road

campground by 8:30 to sign in. We will leave promptly at 9:00.

Please bring some wood for the evening campfires. We have reserved all the spaces in the back loop. The campground is at mile marker 97 in the Poudre Canyon.

New Members

David Moore #86

Troy Mynes #87

Guests at Last Meeting

Dave Martin

Randy Nocenini

Doug Linderink

Kelvin Wiese

Kim Brady-Bahrani

Tracy Riley

Nick Valente

where we stopped to air down. We noticed two large “NO TRESPASSING” signs, one on each side of the entrance to the road and wondered why the Forest Service would allow such signage and not even have one of their own road number signs at the entrance.

We tiptoed past the private houses as not to antagonize the property owners and headed towards the big meadow. During the trip it snowed lightly off and on all day. The Buckhorn was dry for the most part, but as soon as we started up the Ballard Road we got into the snow. Every once in a while one of our vehicles would get sucked out of the ruts and into the giggly weeds. It wasn't anything that a quick snatch with a strap couldn't cure.

The meadow was in pretty good shape



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except for one tank trap that fell off into a large pool of water. We left the meadow and started up the long uphill section. Most everyone could either finesse or power their way to the top. A few had to get assistance to get up the icy spots. Once on top we noticed that everyone before us had turned around as there were no tracks going down the long downhill toboggan run. We sent Shane and Corvette Dave into the virgin snow to see if it was passable for our group to go down and then get back up. They made it to the bottom and made the left hand corner but were soon stopped by a five or six foot tall snow drift. Shane tried to get up on top of the drift to drive across but the snow was too soft so he started to bash it but the snow was too wet. It didn't take too long for him to figure out that he couldn't get through the drift, let alone get our whole group through. Shane did leave a perfect imprint of his Jeeps

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bumper, license plate, winch and hood in that drift. They thought that the better part of valor would be for the whole group to turn around and go back to the meadow for lunch.

During lunch, it was decided to go down to the Greer Road and play in the snow there. No one in our group was familiar with the Greer area so we just went in and started to chase out the different roads. We came across a big clearing that evidently was used as a play area. It had several roads going out of the area and we picked one just to see where it went. We found that most of the roads were very narrow and close to the trees. We did hit a few dead ends but still had fun exploring.

It was another fun day of playing in the snow with the Mountaineer family. It just doesn't get much better!

El Guapo



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Mountaineer Sharon Kapperman

1942 – 2016

It is with great sadness that we report that Mountaineer Sharon Kapperman passed away on April 24th, 2016 due to a stroke. Sharon is survived by her four sons Dean, Don, John, Mountaineer Ron, 4 grandchildren and one great granddaughter. She was born in Fairbury Nebraska and married Gene in 1960. Even after moving to Colorado, Sharon was a lifelong Cornhusker fan. Gene passed away two years ago.



The Kapperman's joined the Mountaineers on August 1st, 1984 and quickly immersed themselves in club activities. We don't know how many rocks Gene had to haul back home after

each trip for Sharon's "rock garden"; it must have been at least a ton. Sharon always had homemade schnapps to pass around the nightly campfire at all the Mountaineer campouts. She held several fun Halloween parties in the shop at her house. Sharon got a big kick out of the time we had to go into the men's restroom at Gene's Tavern to get a clue on a club poker run. The campout at the end of the Mormon Trail was especially memorable as they spent the whole night trying to stop their tent from being blown away. We all have great memories of, and stories to tell, about Sharon and Gene. They will never be forgotten by the Mountaineer family.

Stump Hill Recovery

On Friday April 22 nd we received a call from the Forest Service requesting assistance to retrieve a vehicle that was stuck on top of Stump Hill, and had been there for a couple weeks. With our scheduled Club Run being only a couple days away, it was easy to get a few people together to make the trip to recover the vehicle for the owner and Forest Service. We ended up with three people to make the trip, Bob & Michelle Opdyke, Jim Dixon and Troy Mynes. Shortly after getting to the upper gate of Sevenmile

Lenora showed up and they were only waiting for the vehicle owner to show up. After about 45 minutes of Lenora trying to reach the vehicle owner he finally responded to her numerous messages, he over slept and would not make it that day. So the three Mountaineers decided to make the best of it and stayed in the Swamp Creek area exploring all the different roads in search of some deep snow. While the main parts of the roads were either hard packed or clear they did manage to find a few areas with some good snow to play in.

Fast forward a couple weeks and we received another call from the Forest Service on Monday 2nd requesting us to try for a second attempt at recovering the stuck vehicle on Stump Hill for the owner. In true Mountaineer fashion, we did even though we were stood up on the first attempt. For this trip we managed to get five Mountaineers together to make the trip; Corvette Dave, Rich Stengarrd, Jim Dixon, Troy Mynes and Steve Claus. Once the group reached the start of the Swamp Creek area they stopped to air down and were greeted by the vehicle owner and Lenora. With all needed for the recovery in tow they made their way down from the topside of Sevenmile and



were surprised at the amount of snow still visible in the area with the recent warm weather we have been getting. The trip was easy as the majority of the snow was packed and frozen into nothing but blocks of ice and the climb up Stump Hill

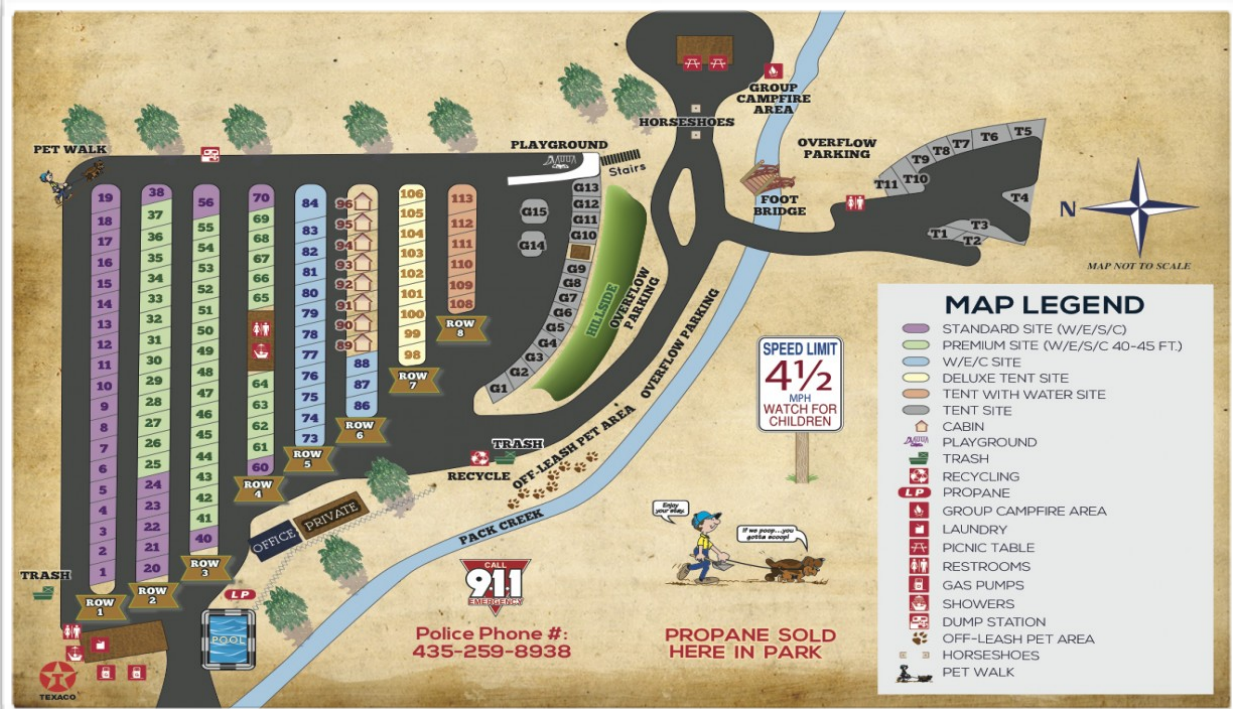


was the easiest any of them have ever seen. Once they reached the stuck vehicle it was decided that Corvette Dave would hook a strap to the front and give him a little tug. The vehicle was recovered easily and the trip

was started back to the top side of Sevenmile. With the recovery behind them and an easy day on the trail, none were disappointed, as any day we are able to spend on the trail is better than any day stuck at work or in town.

Moab 2016

Mountaineers will be spending a week in Moab the first full week of June. June 4-10. First trip will be Saturday morning on the 4th, meet at the City Market parking lot at 9 AM. Most will be staying at Canyonlands RV Resort & Campground in the heart of Moab. To make reservations contact Toll-Free: 800-522-6848



May 2016						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Karlen Mueller	3	4 Nathan Haywood	5	6 Jeff Mueller Stefan Martensson Isaac Taylor	7 M&L Golly
8 Bill Marquardt	9 BOARD MEETING <i>Jim Dixon</i>	10	11	12	13 Ryan Eddy	14 Misty Warner
15 S&J Claus	16	17	18 CLUB MEETING J&C Thoen	19 Bradley Peterson	20	21 CLUB TRIP Corinne Surface
22 CLUB TRIP B&H Crue	23	24	25	26 Shane Payton Alexis Stackhouse	27	28 Tonya Mercer
29 Ben Crue	30 E&B Jakson	31				

June 2016						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Brenda Jackson	3	4 J&L Paben
5 Dave Surface	6 BOARD MEETING <i>Moab</i> Nicole Riley	7 S&S Payton	8	9 D&C Surface	10 Linda Castell	11
12 Jake Schrader	13	14 B&J Paul	15 CLUB MEETING Aaron Paben	16 Dan Venrick	17	18
19 CLUB TRIP Matthew Haywood	20	21 Ryan Castell Tyler Lewis	22	23 Brianna Opdyke	24	25
26 Candice Paben	27 Garrett Mercer Laurie Paben	28 David Moore	29	30 Hannah Eddy Eric Jackson		

Board Meeting: Jun. 6 7:30pm Moab
 Jul. 11 7:30pm Dave LeDeaux
 Membership Meeting: May 18 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Jun. 15 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: May 21-22 9:00am **Kelly Flats Campground**

The following businesses give Mountaineer Members special discounts on parts or specific services. In other words, they save us money... and we are grateful.

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