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# MOUNTAIN-EARS

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## LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

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### September Club Trip

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We will be traveling to the Snowy Range in the Medicine Bow National Forest west of Laramie and Centennial, Wyoming to do the Libby Flats Trail #336.

The mountaineers have not done this trail in over 20 years. Difficulty is similar to 7 mile. A MVUM is available at the forest service.

We will be meeting at 10:30 am Sunday September 23 at the Shell gas station (2471 W Jackson) at the intersection of Wyo HWY 130 and 230. Park on the west side residential street. This is a great area for camping and exploring with lots of connecting roads around Albany, Rob Roy Reservoir, French Creek, and Fox Park. Other than prime camping areas, the UTVs, side by sides, fishermen are rarely encountered.



Photo by Michael Luiz

## August Trip Report

### *Middle Saint Vrain / Coney Flats*

Mountaineers and guests started arriving at the Longmont Walmart at 8:30. Some of us had to scramble to find lunch and snacks elsewhere as Walmart was closed due to weather damage the previous night's storm. A little before 9:00 one of Longmont's finest pulled up to find out where we were going. When we told him Middle St. Vrain and Coney Flats, he really wanted to go along but thought the city fathers wouldn't like him taking the cop car on those trails. About that time Bob and Michelle O.

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pulled up with their rig on the trailer. The officer took one look and told Bob that his “man card” should be revoked for taking that Toyota on the trail with all of those good looking Jeeps which brought a laugh from the crowd.

Off we went to the mountains, like a moth to a candle and we didn’t stop until we got to the trail head at Camp Dick.

About half of our group had never been on these trails before. They anticipated a great new adventure on this day. We were told that if we couldn’t



Photo by Brady Cramer

make over the “guardian rocks” at the Middle St Vrain trail entrance, we shouldn’t go on this trip. All eighteen of us made the trip over the rocks unscathed and we stopped to air down which is almost mandatory for the bumpy ride ahead of us. This trail has more rocks to run over than almost any other trail that we run during the year. We followed the river up the

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valley dodging the bigger rocks all the way. Occasionally we would come to water crossings, some being 20 to 30 feet across. The water was always murky so we had no idea where the hidden rocks were and at times we had to thread our way between large boulders in the water. The scenery along this valley is very spectacular.

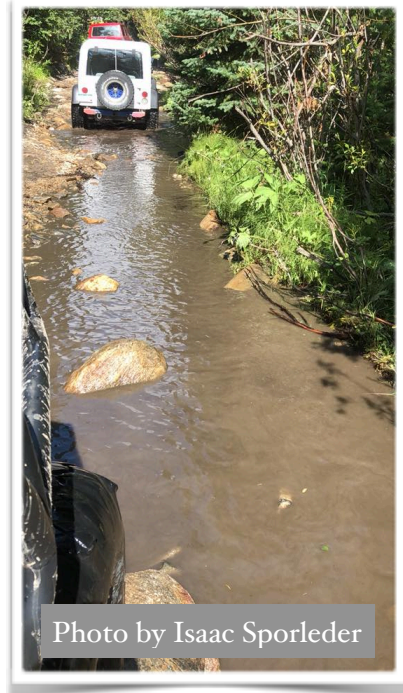


Photo by Isaac Sporleder

We came to the intersection of the Coney Flats trail, made a sharp left turn and started up the steep climb out of the valley and up the mountain. Along the way we encountered a couple of sidelings' that would almost put your top into the trees. After a bumpy ride we ended our steep climb at the "rock garden". Everyone picked a line and started to tiptoe through the long pile of rocks. This area is where those without lockers wished they had them. The trail leveled out and we eventually came to a wide open area next to Coney Creek. It is a perfect place to have lunch and let the kids out to run around and throw rocks into the water.

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After taking our time to eat a picnic lunch and to somewhat recuperate from our rocky ride, it was time to ford Coney Creek and go down the hill.

This part of the trail is more of the same. Rocks, rocks

and even more rocks thrown in for good measure. There were only a couple of rock challenges left to go. The downhill end of the trip always seems to take more time than it should. By the time we had Beaver Reservoir in our sights we were ready to get on to smooth ground again. We stopped at the reservoir concrete spillway to air up our tires for the trip back home. On this day we took home some great memories of wheeling with the Mountaineer family of friends.



Photo by Todd Stultz



Photo by Isaac Sporleder



El Guapo

# **Moody Hill Trail Maintenance**

Now that we have all the tools, the Moody Hill Trail Maintenance day will be on October 6, meet at the trailhead at 9 am. The main objective will be to clean and repair all the water bars. As an incentive there will be some Rugged Ridge swag to give away.

## **Mountaineers Shirts & Sweatshirts**

Link to PDF:

<http://www.mountaineers4x4.org/newsletter/Mountaineers-shirts%20&%20sweatshirts.pdf>

September 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Cotton Riley	8
9	10 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> Tim Ricklefs	11 Brett Newton	12 Cameron Klein D&K LeDeaux	13 Jennifer Meyers Mark Richards	14 Cory Kinnison	15
16 Alex Stone Eric Treece C&M Smelker	17	18 S&A Stultz	19 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	20 Skylar Payton	21	22 Heidi Crue
23 <b>CLUB TRIP /30</b> Austin Eddy	24 Mina Richards Nathaniel DeWitt Troy White Becky Palmer	25 Harper LeDeaux	26 R&K Kapperman	27	28 D&S Oden	29 Bev Klein

October 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 CJ Stone	2 Mike Golly Byron Nash Ryan Adams	3 Marti Helgeson T&B Palmer	4 Clifton DeWitt	5 Patrick Riley Riley Ann Mikkelson	6 Elaine Allbrandt Sarah Paul
7	8 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> Mike Klaege	9	10 Mark Dombrowski	11	12 Gary Helgeson J&L Schrader	13
14 Alice Kinnison S&S Knapp	15	16	17 <b>CLUB MEETING</b> Juna Schmierer	18 A&L Grubbs	19 Rachelle Washburn Dustin Paben	20 Nick Valente
21 <b>CLUB TRIP</b>	22 Tim Palmer Chuck Graves	23	24	25	26 Melony Dixon Peggy Scheck Kyle Haywood	27 Laura Gibbons Michael Luiz
28 Mike Castell Layla Marooney	29	30 Xavier Bettrey	31 J&L Marooney			

Board Meeting: Oct. 8 7:30pm Tim Palmer  
 Nov. 12 7:30pm Mike Castell  
 Membership Meeting: Sep. 19 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Oct. 17 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Club Trip: Sep. 23 **10:30am HWY 130 & HWY 230 Laramie Wyo.**