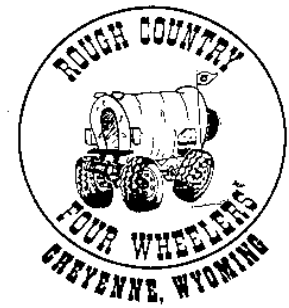


THE RANGER

LOW

January 2009



Rough Country Four Wheelers
P.O. Box 6293
Cheyenne, WY 82003

www.rc4w.com

EVENTS CALENDAR

Mark these dates on your calendar or hang this on the 'fridge

January 17	Club Run: North Sand Hills near Cowdry, CO Trip Leader: John Stone Meet 8:00 am @ Fosters in Laramie. Leave at 8:30 am.
February 5	Club meeting: 7:45 pm at Uncle Charlie's, upstairs meeting room. 6001 Yellowstone Rd, Cheyenne
February 21	Club Run: Bald Mtn. near Red Feathers, CO Trip Leader: Marlon Seals Meet 8:00 am @ The Forks on Hwy. 287. Leave at 8:30 am.
February 28	Awards/video Party: Possibly @ Dewey's house. More details to follow. Bring your own drinks and a dish to share. If you have any videos to watch bring them along. Past awards winners bring the awards to pass on to the new recipients.
August 15	Club Work Trip: This is important so I'm putting it on the calendar now for reference. Details TBA.



RC4W NEWS

Welcome to the New Year, I think this will be an exciting year for the club. A big thanks to all the people who volunteered for officer and board member positions, thanks for putting in the effort. Also a big thanks goes to those who volunteered last year and kept the club going. Great job.

I will be taking over the club newsletter this year; thank you to Stephanie and John for handling this job. The newsletter is important to the club so I am going to try and do my best this year to make it fun and interesting. I used to do the newsletter for the Bronco Registry of Northern Colorado so I have some experience and I hope I can do the club justice and I hope you enjoy the new look. Let me know what you all think and feel free to contribute anything if you'd like.

4-wheel 4-life,
Chris

Feb 28th we are planning an awards and video party. These are always a great time so I hope everyone can make plans to be there. If you have any video of past trips bring it along for everyone to enjoy. No plan is firm on the location yet but it will likely be at Dewey's house or possibly Uncle Charlie's. We should have it ironed out at the next meeting so mark the date on your calendar and help us get the year started out right. Marlon, Dewey, and George will be passing on the awards to the new recipients.



Feb 21st Marlon will lead the trip to Bald Mountain CO. This trip is always a great run and offers a challenge for everyone. Be sure your rig is ready and come on out for a good time.



Memorial Day weekend (May 23rd - 25th) some of the club will be planning on going to the dunes near Cowdry. If you don't have other plans then head on out for the shenanigans that is Memorial Day at the dunes.....but don't plan on much sleep.

The weekend of June 6th some of us will be heading to the dunes for a fun weekend. While this may not be an official club trip, several of us went last year and had some old school fun. We did some sand drags with the Christmas tree light, had a blindfolded driver obstacle course race, and an egg race. These are events that RC4W used to do back in the late 80's and early 90's, and it was fun to be together and laugh at the antics.

We talked about doing a club trip to Buena Vista CO for the weekend of July 18th. There are several trails down there including Chinaman, Iron Chest, and Carnage Canyon. These trails should be passable for all the rigs in the club and would make for a great weekend because we could hit a couple of them during the weekend. Let George Brook know, or let us know at the next club meeting, if you'd be interested in this so we can plan on it. You can read a bit about the trails at <http://www.4x4now.com/trlrpt.htm>

As always, submit your pics to the web site to help keep it up to date and let the world know what we do.

Anniversaries

Paul & Brenda Bickerton 01/2007

Chris & Heather Ladd 01/1997

John & Stephanie Stone 01/1997

Tales From the Trails



Arlington 12/20/08

Every once in a while a trail run comes along that reminds you who is hardcore about wheeling and this months run to Arlington was one of those trips. With I-80 being closed on Friday and icy roads for both the Wyoming and Colorado crews, it took some serious dedication to get out and make this run. Five rigs showed up on this cold and windy day: John/Stephanie Stone and family, Steve/Tyler Wykoff, Dewey Williams, Paul Bickerton, and Marlon/Cristina Seals. I rode in Steve's FJ (aka The Toboggan) and Tim Magee



from Crawl magazine hitched a ride with Dewey. The snow was just as amazing as the wind chill was cold, as we were cutting through drifts right from the parking area. The first spur we followed got deep pretty quick and since Tim was

along to get some good pics for the mag we decided to head down a lower spur so we could get more action going on. This route turned

out to be a lot of fun and the smile on Marlin's face was testament to that. He led for a bit here and had an absolute ball flying through several feet of snow with rooster tails flying everywhere. This area made for some great pictures for Tim as everyone got a chance to show off for the camera. There was no lack of loud pedal on this trip!! Once again John proved why his Bronco is one of the best snow rigs ever built as he ate up the trails, going through the deepest snow with hardly any effort and doing it at insane

speeds. Unfortunately Marlin's 630hp and 46" tires could not make up for a broken windshield wiper linkage and Marlin was forced to put the monster Jeep on the trailer. We continued on the trail as Marlon and Cristina got an early start on their trip back home.

The next spur found Steve breaking trail. With 33" tires and a fully skid-plated underbelly Steve skidded and whipped the FJ down the trail narrowly missing trees and barely making the



2008

Marlon Seals	9
John Stone	** 7
Dewey Williams	** 6
Rod Pepper	** 5
George Brook	** 5
Paul Bickerton	** 5
Steve Wykoff	** 4
Howard Segal	4
Joe Huston	** 2
Zach Martin	** 2
Taylor Olson	** 2
Chris Ladd	2
Craig Goble	1
Travis Kolbo	1
* Superday	
** Work trip	



corners as he left the others in his proverbial dust. It was full on rally car mode in the FJ and it was quite a ride. Paul offered a lot of entertainment as well; he couldn't keep his Jeep out of the ditches on the sides of the road. Laughter roared over the CB as Paul fought his way out of one ditch only to shoot across to the other side, only to have it repeat. If you wanted to know where Paul was, you just had to look towards the ditches. On the way back down that spur, Dewey wanted to give Tim a true feeling of the snowbashing experience... His Jeep caught a rut on a corner causing him to shoot off the trail down a 15-foot embankment!

Luckily and amazingly, Dewey aimed the Jeep into an opening in the trees just wide enough for the Jeep, blipped the throttle, and safely brought the rig to a stop with no damage. Six feet to either side and the story would have had a completely different ending. Dewey winched back onto the trail and we headed back down to the fork.

We decided to go back to the trailers to get more fuel and arrived around 4:30 pm. We were going to refuel and head back out but a voice of reason convinced us to load up before it got much darker and colder since the skies were not looking pretty. It was a wise decision as the highways were really icy but we made it to Wingers for some dinner and conversation. After dinner we all parted ways for home, everyone thinking what a great day we had and looking forward to the next one.

4-wheel 4-life,
Chris 'Griz'



Carnage Canyon Closed

The Carnage Canyon trail at Left Hand Canyon in Colorado has been closed for a while now but there is good news. The Forest Service and many volunteers are working to build a new trail system. The new Left Hand Canyon Challenge Route will consist of three trails, one of them being an extremely difficult "buggy" route with winch anchor points. Losing Carnage is sad but thankfully they are replacing it and not just shutting us out. All the more reason to support organizations like United and The Blue Ribbon Coalition, we need to have a voice.

<http://www.ufwda.org/>

<http://staythetrail.org/>

<http://www.sharetrails.org/>

Industry News

King of the Hammers Video

King of the Hammers is a race that happened out in California in February '08 and it garnered the interest of the big names in rock crawling, rock racing, and desert racing. The 50 mile course was set up in the Johnson Valley area consisting of long stretches of wide open desert that lead into hardcore rock trails such as Jackhammer, and Outer Limits. The video is a great documentary on the race, the people, and the vehicles for this unique event. It's done in the style of "Dust to Glory" (another great DVD) and rather than just showing vehicle footage with music, it tells a story like a movie. I thought the video was great and highly recommend it, 4/5 thumbs up. I ordered mine from 4wheelparts.com.



If you have any trip reports, events, announcements, or if you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please let me know.

Editor: Chris Ladd