

The Low Ranger

Club Newsletter

March 2002

GOTCHAS.....

Gotchas are what I call those times when you know you should have done something but for whatever reason you didn't and it ends up biting you! Twice this winter I've ran out of gas on a snow-bashing run. Both times I decided to leave my full cans and rack on the trailer deciding that I wouldn't need them or they were too much hassle to put on the Jeep (takes about 3 minutes, duh!).

The February club run came within a gnat's ass of being an all-nighter and it was mostly my fault for not having my extra gas WITH me. At a time when the group could have used my help to pull, I didn't have enough gas to do anything but just sit there in the cold and dark and feel stupid for my gas cans being 8 miles away! As I sat there and began to realize that spending the night was starting to look like a real possibility, I thought about my duffle bag (sleeping bag, wool blankets, dry clothes) and where it was, in the back of the truck that's hooked to the trailer that has the gas that I need, Damn it!



After all these years I had hoped to be a little smarter! The reality of it is this: We're involved in a sport that is just a whole lotta fun and we tend to get caught up in the prospects of just how much fun we're gonna have and we tend to ignore all the inherent risks associated with what we do for fun. Consider just what it is we do... We go to the mountains in the middle of the winter usually without communications with the outside world (no cell service!) and we go as far as we can in the baddest snow we can find and we just hate to have to quit and go home! The potential for chaos has no boundaries! First, the weather in the mountains can change in a heartbeat and can get incredibly brutal. The potential for mechanical failure is almost a given, it WILL happen almost every time out; you just hope it's something fixable. The risk of bodily injury is high and any chance of immediate medical attention is basically zero! Any vehicle that can't be fixed stands the chance of still being there come June!



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February Club Run:

Ted Atwell	2	
Jim Carter	2	
Scott Grimm	2	
Rod Pepper	2	
Bill Virden	2	

Top Dog Qualifying Runs



Being as well prepared as possible is the only leverage we have against the inevitable. I've been doing this for a long time and have experienced every one of the

things I've mentioned AND more than once! You'll never cover every base every time. First is basic survival. If everything goes to hell in a hand basket, you've got to be prepared to spend the night, and in possibly sub-zero temperatures. Sleeping bags, blankets, food, water, etc. Dress for snow-bashing and be serious about it, good boots (no tennis shoes or equivalent, it may be your feet you lose to frostbite!), good gloves, coveralls, hat, etc. Second is mechanical survival. Don't leave home with a problem! It will only make it worse for everyone. It's a gotcha waiting to happen! If your rig has



a chronic problem, don't make it a problem for your fellow club members also, fix it at home or sit out a run or ride with someone.



There's always next month! Drive your rig responsibly; don't do stupid things that risk unfixable breakage, again putting your fellow club members at risk. Wintertime snow-bashing is a great time, by far the most popular activity of this club but there are serious risks that exist in the winter that we don't have to deal with on summertime runs. I challenge everyone to step up, be responsible, show respect and a helping hand for your fellow club members!

And, oh ya, Don't forget your extra gas!
GOTCHA!

Happy Trails,
Rod Pepper

Upcoming Events

March 13—Keeping the Trails Open

- 6:30 meet at LCCC Centennial Rm.

Talk with Forestry Service and other representatives about closing trails.

March 16—Club Run

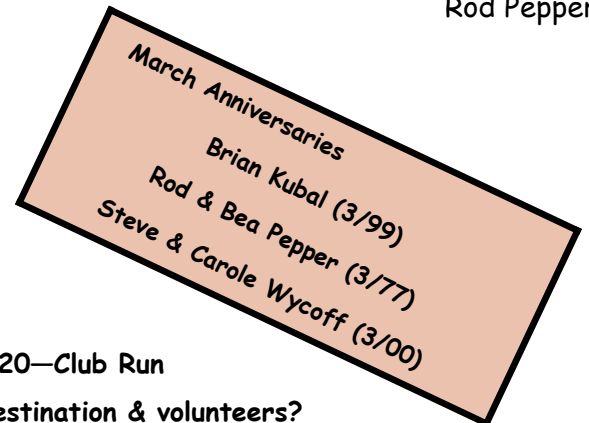
- Bozwell Creek—Mike Hixson leader
- Meet at 7:00 AM at McDonalds (I-25 & College)
Leave at 7:30 AM. Meet CO folks.

March 23rd—March 31st

- Easter Jeep Safari—Moab, UT

April 2—Club Meeting

- 7:45 PM Uncle Charlie's, upstairs meeting room, 6001 Yellowstone Rd., Cheyenne



April 20—Club Run

- Destination & volunteers?

April 21—Crap Creek clean-up

Meet at 7:00 AM at McDonalds (I-25 & College) Leave at 7:15 AM. sharp! Meet at Left-hand Canyon Rd at 8:30 and sign in. Bring rakes, shovels & gloves. Can run the trail after cleaning it up. Bob Leavenhagen will lead.

June 15 & 16—Thermopolis Road Trip

- Saturday—Club Run
- Sunday—car show



ROD & BEA PEPPER

Cheyenne, WY

Rig # 1
Joined 3/77

Vehicle: 1974 CJ5 "Wild Oats"

Color: Panther Pink

Engine: Mopar Performance 340
Aspiration: EFI

Transmission: 727 Torqueflite
Transfer Case: Model 20

Front End: Dana 60 / Detroit locker
Rear End: Dana 60 / Detroit locker

Ring & Pinion: 5.38:1
Suspension: 4-link

Tires & Wheels:
39.5 TSLs
Champion Beadlocks

Warn XD9000i winch

On board welder/
power station

On board air
compressor





BJLL & VJCKJE VJRDEN

Children: Becca & Jessica

Longmont, CO

Rig # 15

Joined 5/99



Vehicle: 1971 Ford Bronco

Color: blue & white

Engine: built 302

Aspiration: 750 Edelbrock
with highrise

Transmission: T-18

Transfer Case: Dana 20

Front End: Dana 44

Rear End: Ford 9" with locker

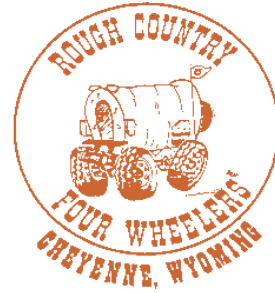


Ring & Pinion: 4.10:1

Suspension: Superlift 3"

Tires & Wheels: 33" BFGs on
15x10 Gunner American
Racing rims





DAVID & EVANNA HARDJN

CHILDREN: ERJKA

Cheyenne, WY

Rig # 18

Joined 12/00

Vehicle: 1981 Jeep CJ-7 "2-TUFF"

Color: blue

Engine: 402 Big Block Chevy
Aspiration: Edelbrock RPM Q-jet



Transmission:

Turbo 400, 2500 stall converter

Transfer Case:

Tera Dana 300, 4:1 low kit,
32 spline output shaft

Front End:

Tera 60, 35 spline shafts, Detroit locker

Rear End:

Tera 60, Curry 35 spline shafts, Detroit
locker

Ring & Pinion: 4.88 : 1

Suspension: 2" Alcan springover

Tires & Wheels: 38.5x14:50 TSLSX,
Rockcrawler black steel wheels

Project



Potent Rodent

9500HI Warn winch
Dual Optima batteries
20 lb power tank
Full roll cage
Lacar bucket seats

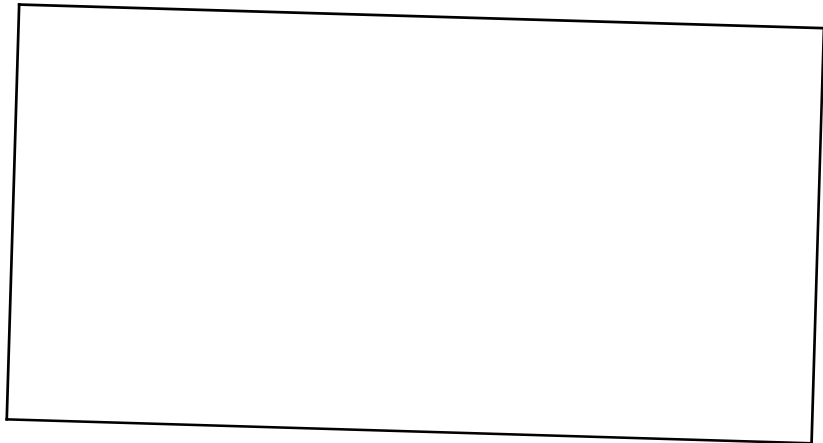


Rough Country 4-Wheelers

PO Box 6293
Cheyenne, WY 82003-6293

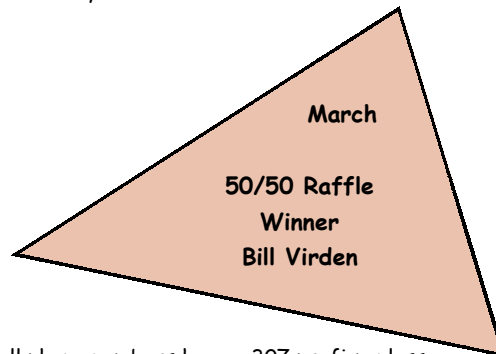
If you have anything you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Dave Hardin.

Phone: 307-638-4979
Email: CJ72TUFF@cs.com



Classifieds: For Sale.....

- (4) 35x12.50x15 BFGs MTRs, less than 500 miles, siped center lugs, (1) 35x12.50x15 Uniroyal MTR spare—new
Dave Hardin 631-7942 cell, 638-4979 hm
- 1996 Ford F350 XLT, 4x4, crew cab, 460, automatic, PW/PL/PM/AM/FM/CD, 83,000 miles, \$17,000 OBO
Dewey Williams 634-7845
- 1997 Ford F250 XLT, 4x4, extended cab, short box, 460, automatic, PW/PL, 56,000 miles, \$18,000 OBO
Dewey Williams 634-7845
- 1987 Jeep Cherokee, 4WD, 2 door, new clutch, brakes, belts, 165,000 on 2.5 cyl engine. Was asking \$1,200, will take \$850.
Bill Virden 638-1319
- Best Top bucket seats, grey, fits CJ and newer, like new, \$200 OBO
Rob Cleveland 638-0527
- CJ-7 Black Diamond springs, 2 1/2" lift, with shackles and bushings. Sway bar disconnects, and more.
Jim Webster 632-9759
- (4) Champion bead locks, 15x10, 5 on 5 1/2, \$600 OBO. Jeep stock gas tank.
Rod Pepper 635-7719
- 1974 Bronco rear seat \$40
Ted Atwell 970-689-2993
- (5) 35x12.5x15 Goodyear MTRs on 589 wheels
Steve Wycoff 970-215-4346
- 1973 T18 Jeep 4 speed transmission, Dana 20 transfer case
Dewey Williams 634-7845



**all phone numbers have a 307 prefix unless noted