

# The Low Ranger

Club Newsletter

October 2002

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## Elections....

We are taking nominations for club officers at the November meeting. Officers will be selected during the December meeting and begin their service in January. All officers serve a one year term.

- \*President
- \*Vice-President
- \*Treasurer
- \*Secretary
- \*5 additional Board Members.

Be thinking about how you would like to serve the club in 2003.

## Club Events....

October 18 - Club Run

- Mike Hixson - leader
- 7:00 Meet at 1-25 McDonalds
- 7:30 leave
- 8:00 meet at Fosters in Laramie
- Head up to Centennial and play when we find snow (bring your shovel and warm clothes)

November 5 - Club Meeting

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

November 16 - Club Run

- Bob Levenhagen - leader

## Rough Country Promotional Video....

We would like to put together a video that includes clips from several recent trails and events. It would be shown at our Christmas party and during car shows for recruiting. The video would not only bring a crowd but give them a realistic idea of what we do for fun. We want the video to be done by November in time for the Christmas party.

If you would like to put the video together or have material for it, please contact Dewey Williams (307-634-7845) or Dave Hardin (307-638-4979).

## Christmas Party....

Would you be willing to organize the Christmas party this year? We need someone to take charge of this. Parties in recent years have included a pot luck shop party with fried turkey, Bruce's Bar in CO, and Red Lobster. Really it's up to you what we'll do this year.

We generally do some raffles or door prizes and present the awards for the year including Top Dog.

Call Dewey or Dave to volunteer to organize the party or to give them suggestions.



## Top Dog Runs:



|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Ted Atwell     | 4 |
| Jim Carter     | 4 |
| Richard Cisco  | 1 |
| Scott Grimm    | 5 |
| Dave Hardin    | 5 |
| Mike Hixson    | 4 |
| Brian Kubal    | 2 |
| Chris Ladd     | 1 |
| Bob Levenhagen | 1 |
| Dave Meisner   | 3 |
| Rod Pepper     | 4 |
| Matt Romero    | 1 |
| Howard Segal   | 2 |
| John Stone     | 3 |
| Bill Virden    | 5 |
| Jim Webster    | 1 |
| Dewey Williams | 5 |
| Steve Wykoff   | 4 |



# SEPTEMBER 2002 Eventful!

## 25th Anniversary Meet & Greet

Great turn out!!! We met at Sonic on Del Range and enjoyed the evening. This was a great family event. There was lots of talking, eating, laughing, and the usual bragging. The rig lineup really showed the diversity of the club. Several people stopped to admire the vehicles, ask about the club and expressed interest in joining. We cruised over to the Sonic on S. Greeley and enjoyed more of the same talking, eating, laughing, and bragging. We ended the night by going over to the video party at Dewey & Heather Williams' home.



Members enjoying the evening included: Mike Hixson, Dave, Evanna & Ericka Hardin, Howard, Laura, Marissa & Cody Segal, Matt, Gina, & Matt Jr. Romero, Mary, Erin & Jason Levenhagen, Rod Pepper, Scott Grimm, Steve, Carole, Tyler & Taylor Wykoff, Chris, Heather, Tyler & Cody Ladd, Dave Meisner & family, Jim Carter, Marshall, Kelley & Taylor Brown, John Stone, Dewey & Heather Williams.

## LCCC Community Days Car Show

Another great day! LCCC hosted a Community Day to show Cheyenne area residents what LCCC and the local community have to offer. Exhibits were as varied as the area we live in.

The car show did not end up being as large as hoped, because several vehicles/organizations who had committed to attending did not show up. Some of the organizations there were the Corvette club, classic Chevy club, a motorcycle club, a car dealer, race cars and a tuff truck.

Dewey Williams organized RC4W participation. He committed us to 6 slots and gave them on a first come first serve basis. Dave Hardin, Dewey Williams, Howard Segal, Mike Hixson, Jim Carter and Marshall Brown represented us. Dewey, thanks for coordinating this.



# September Club Run! Left-hand Canyon



Another great day of playing. Jim Carter & guest, David & Shannon Kipf, Scott Grimm, Howard Segal, Dave, Evanna & Ericka Hardin, Dewey Williams, and Jim & Jane Webster met in Cheyenne and trekked down to Longmont. Jim & his friend definitely get the award for most dedicated (or should it be committed?), they drove down in Jim's Jimmy with no top and it was chilly! The CO group included Ted Atwell, Bill Virdin, Marlin and family & another guest rig.



Ted led us up to the trailhead and after airing down we were off. The trail is great driver's choice trail, as it can be driven by a stock 4WD or can be driven as a challenging trail with several places to play. We had no breakage, only a bit of body damage.

About half way through Steve Wykoff & boys, Ronnie Spencer and his son and John Stone caught up with us on dirt bikes and four wheelers. We ate lunch at the trail end and then split up to go home in the early afternoon.



Thanks For Coming Out To Play This Month.....the Board.

# Blasts From The Past!

Excerpt from RC4W Newsletter March 1998

## ROUGH COUNTRY 4-WHEELERS 1977-1997 "TWENTY YEARS OF DIRT"

As the club's 20<sup>th</sup> year of existence comes to a close and we embark on our third decade, I'm compelled to reflect back on 20 years of the mud, the blood and the beer! This may not mean much to most people but for those of you who maybe wondered how and where this all started, you might get a kick out of it!

1974-Gerald Ford was President, Nixon had just resigned and a new Jeep CJ could be had for less than \$4,500 loaded. In the fall of that year, Tom Williams (Dewey's uncle) and I joined a club in Laramie called "Four for the Road," a small but very active club started by Kenny Erickson and Kelly Everett. We eventually recruited two more people from Cheyenne for that club, Larry Jackson and Joe Bryant. This was our first exposure to the sand hills at Walden. We frequented Snowy Range, Muddy Creek, the sand dunes at Rock Springs, and the Pole Mountain area. That club was disbanded in May of '76 with one last big blow-out at the North 40, a very large mud hole we used to play in in the Pole Mountain area. An entire book could be written about that party! After that, a small group of us from Cheyenne and Laramie continued to 4-wheel together.

In June of '76, Tom Williams and I went to Ft. Collins to one of the Mountaineer's meetings to get some ideas on how to start a club in Cheyenne. Shortly after that, Ron Meis moved to Cheyenne from Colorado and opened Wyoming Performance and 4WD at 1418 Campbell Avenue. He and I became friends and decided to try and start a 4WD club. We recruited the help of Tom Williams and Dick Royce, my roommate at the time, and set out doing a lot of talking to people with 4-wheel drives. We had our first meeting in the back of Ron's shop on Campbell in September of '76. We only had about 6 or 7 people there. By October, we had enough people that we needed a larger place so we had the meeting in the basement of the house Dick and I were renting at 3036 Forest Drive.

By the next month, things really started to roll, so we moved the meeting to the VFW on South Greeley Highway. It was at that meeting that we tried to decide on a name and a logo for the club. The logo was the hardest because everyone wanted something different, usually based on whatever vehicle they drove. Everyone was told to come to the next meeting with an idea on a name and logo. Cheryl Matheson, who had recently moved from New York with her husband Neil, was an artist of sorts, and she had drawn the covered wagon free hand with the winch, lights, gas can, flag, and spare tire. It not only represented Wyoming and it's western heritage but also did not represent any one particular vehi-

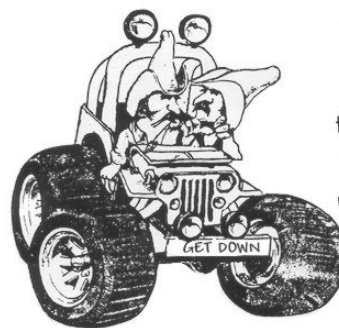
cle. It was voted on unanimously! The name "Rough Country" came to be a little more humorously. George Williams, who was Ron's roommate at the time, came up with the name and said that it sounded more like the night-life that was kept by many of the members at the time. It was also voted on unanimously! Tragically, George was killed in a tornado in Illinois in 1983 at the age of 35 and ironically is buried less than 20 yards from Wayne Miller, another club member who along with his girlfriend was killed in 1986 in a Jeep rollover coming back from the Labor Day weekend at Walden. Wayne was 22.

The first elections were held in January of '77. The club's first officers were: President Rod Pepper; Vice-President Ron Meis; Secretary Dick Royce; and treasurer George Williams. Dues were \$12 a year. The first constitution was adopted in March of '77 and was taken from a 1974 issue of Four Wheeler magazine and modified a little. The original t-shirts and jackets were done by a gal named Jeannie who had a shop in the original Budget Tapes and Records at the corner of 16<sup>th</sup> and Warren. The first t-shirts had Ron's business on the front and the club logo on the back. They cost each member 50 cents. Ron picked up the rest. Current member Kevin McFadden showed up in early 1979 and joined the fray. In those days, Kevin sported a big "afro" hairdo and drove a puke green  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton GMC pickup with a white hood. These first few years of the club were wild times. Our major focus was party and mud, generally combined! The areas we frequented were Snowy Range, Muddy Creek (before we paved it!), Pole Mountain, and Walden and anywhere else we could find a mud hole. We also started going to Kelly Flats in about '76 or '77, although I don't believe it was called Kelly Flats at that

time, we just called it the trail up Poudre Canyon that has the big mud holes! We also frequented the Green Ridge and Bald Mountain areas.

In 1979, mud racing took off big in the Cheyenne and Laramie area and of course that was right up our alley so quite a few club members got involved in that. We raced in Cheyenne and Laramie on alternating weekends. This, of course, took it's toll on club runs. Throughout 1980 and early 1981, there was growing dissention within the club. Two completely different factions had arisen. There were the rowdy party hounds who were in the majority and there was the smaller but more responsible group who mostly ended up going their separate ways. Guess which side of the fence Kevin and I were on? By mid 1981, the split, a divorce or two, and dwindling numbers had just about killed the club. I moved to Casper and joined a club up there called Mountain Shadows. I got some mud racing going in Casper and several of my Cheyenne buddies came up and played. I came back for the big Walden weekends and Kevin and I continued that tradition. And so it was, the end of an era, the first chapter in the history of RC4W, the "Rowdy Years" were over. Or were they? Stay tuned...

The "Mad 4-Wheeler" Sez:



"The first rule is... there ain't no rules!"

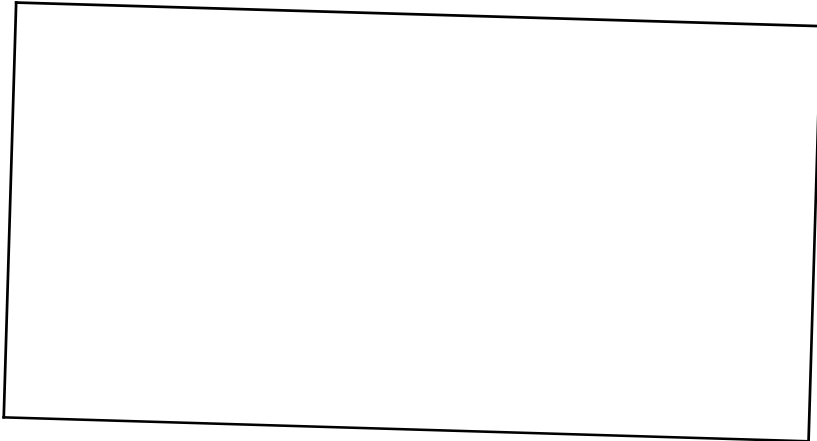
.....TO BE CONTINUED  
..... Rod Pepper

**Rough Country  
4-Wheelers**

PO Box 6293  
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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.....**

TJ rear springs, Rock Krawler Inc.,  
6" lift, still in box, \$75

Will Fowler 307-421-3346 or  
will@3dillustrate.com

2.5L Jeep engine, 75K miles, runs great, \$400

NP 231 Transfer case, \$100

Marshall Brown 307-634-7244

4 Eagle 589 15x10 5x5.5 rims, \$200

Pair of Dana 60 35 spline drive flanges, \$100

Dana 44 Spicer 5.38 ring & pinion, \$100

2 new Boggers 35x14.5x16.5 tires, \$200

Dave Meisner 303-776-5308

October Anniversaries  
Bob & Mary Levenhagen 10/93  
Howard & Laura Segal 10/95

October 50/50 Raffle winner

Jim Webster

1986 1 Ton Chevy Dana 60 front & rear axels,  
4:56, \$1,200 for set

Mike Hixson 307-631-9421

1983 CJ7 Renegade, AMC 360, 5-speed,  
33x12.50 BFG MTs, Summers Bros. rear  
axels, bikini top, no lockers or top  
\$4,000 OBO

Mike Cisco 307-220-6884

4 - eight hole factory wheels with balanced  
BFG- AT tires 1/2 - 1/3 tread  
\$100 each or all 4 for \$300.

4 - Chev- GMC wheels 15x8 Factory Beauty  
rings and center 4x4 caps-\$100

Jim Webster 307-632-9759