

# Cruisin' Colorado

Located in the Heart of Pikes Peak Country

[www.ColoradoLandCruisers.org](http://www.ColoradoLandCruisers.org)

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*Colorado Land Cruisers is a four-wheel drive club based out of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and sanctioned by [Toyota Land Cruisers Association](http://Toyota Land Cruisers Association). We are organized to bring together Toyota owning families and individuals interested in exploring Colorado four-wheel drive trails.*

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**Edited and Published by Darryl Price**

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## **President's Report ~ January 2007**

Hello. It was great to see many of you at the Christmas Party held at Bennett's BBQ. I hope the holidays were refreshing to you and you are excited about the New Year and our club's activities. Please send trip ideas to the email address mentioned in the newsletter or bring them to our meetings.

[CLCTrip@ColoradoLandCruisers.org](mailto:CLCTrip@ColoradoLandCruisers.org)

Elections for our officers' positions will be held at the next meeting on January 16. Please consider volunteering for a position so that you can help the club move forward from the position of a Board of Directors office. I've found it to be fun and rewarding and highly recommend it.

Your Prez,  
Vic

### **It's Cold Out there!!!**

If you live in the Colorado Springs area as most CLC'ers do, you've taken part in the cold and snowy weather we have been having. As I think back, we had our Christmas Party on December 19<sup>th</sup>, and the next day Colorado Springs started into what is now being called the blizzard of December 2006. We have had snow and icy roads throughout the entire area since then. From what the weatherman tells us, this is more like how winters used to be, you know, back in the '50's, '60's, '70's and so on. I have lived in this area for 18 years now, and while it's been cold (like -25f, one morning, when the radiator froze up going to work in the old green F250, which wasn't all that old then, to record heat, followed by rain this last summer.) While the weatherman talks about how we are deviating from "normal" weather, I'm convinced normal doesn't exist. Normal is

whats happening right now. What ever metrics are recorded, IE, for hot, cold, humidity, snow depth, rain amount, wind speed, etc, will be compiled into data which will be averaged, data messaged, interpolated and whatever into some average statistical number, recursive mean, or ???, which we are lead to believe is "normal". Nope, I aina't buyin' it. Normal is right now, this moment in time. And normal right now is ZERO degrees, crisp and clear in Colorado Springs at Darryl's house – outside. Inside is much warmer.

As most of you know, my daily ride, (generally), is a 1972 FJ40. Hot, cold, rain, snow, icy roads or dry roads it doesn't matter. The FJ40 will start no matter what, at least so far. I really should have changed out the 20X50 oil though, and it does turn over a bit slower the colder it gets, but gee, we're on the down hill side of winter now, its only 6 weeks to March, and I don't care what the ground hog sez on February 2<sup>nd</sup>! In all the time I've lived here, I've locked the hubs in and driven out of the neighborhood in 4WD, but once on I25, it's out of 4WD. This year has been different. The FJ40 has had the hubs locked in longer than I can remember, and been in 4WD several times all the way to work. If ever there were a symbol of an FJ40, it would be the EverReady bunny, in all his (or is it her???) pink glory!

Last weekend, while on a grocery getting trip, in the FJ40, my dad and I wound up on the upper part of Rampart Range road, up out of Garden of the Gods. I clicked the '40 in 4WD at the shooting range; when I had to stop the let a snow mobile go ahead of us. Good snow, good time, and you can read all about it on IH8MUD.com. Not many of today's grocery

getters will allow you the confidence to have such a range of travel ability, without worry of, #1, will I get there, but equally important, #2, will I get back? I must say though, that the real reason for this is the tires most SUV's have from the manufacturer. As we went up the road, we encountered several SUV's coming back down the road, and it was easy to see why. The tires were only highway tread. And as we passed the places where they had turned around, it was easy to see that they had made the right decision. Highway tires are just that – made for the highway. If you want to venture off road in the winter conditions we are having now, you need a more aggressive tread pattern – or chain up early.

CLC'ers enjoyed a good Christmas party, which was well attended. I want to thank David Multer for setting up everything at Bennett's BBQ. We had a private room, good time and good fellowship. And as a special gift for those in attendance, and by unamouse vote from the BOD, CLC picked up the tab. Does it get any better than that? Well, it's a new year, and we have new inspired members coming in. Trevor has a business card proposal on IH8MUD.com, which all should take a look at. Since 'MUD is a public forum, and several have weighed in on pros and cons, it is an idea for consideration. If you haven't logged onto 'MUD yet, do so, and if you want to have a voice, refer to the Nov 2006 issue of Crusin' Colorado for a comprehensive how-to provided by Trevor Rich, on the use of this communication tool. Go to: <http://www.coloradolandcruisers.org/> and navigate to Newsletters.

I've rambled on enough. I have to go out and see if the old Dodge 6 cylinder pickup is ready to start. Hope to see you at our next meeting.

Remember, if you go slowly enough, you can stop on ice.

Darryl

### **Next Run ~ January 20, 2007**

We're going to Schubarth. This is a fun close trail off Rampart Range road. Snow makes it a good Winter time trail. Since its close, meet time will be 8:30am, and leave at 9am from the Western Station, just east of Woodland Park. Bring chains, warm cloths and lunch.

**Next CLC Meeting ~ January 16, 2007 7:00PM**  
Mark your calendar for CLC's next meeting, Liberty Toyota, North. See you there!

### **Your input for Trip Planning**

We will be starting the planning for the 2007 trail season. We already have some input, so use this link to email in your suggestions...

[CLCtrip@ColoradoLandCruisers.org](mailto:CLCtrip@ColoradoLandCruisers.org)

### **TLCA Membership – Got yours?**



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