

CRUISSIN' COLORADO

Monthly publication for Colorado Land Cruisers

Edited and Published by Charlie Terrell

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Colorado Land Cruisers is a four wheel drive club based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and sanctioned by [Toyota Land Cruiser Association](#). We are organized to bring together Toyota owning families and individuals interested in exploring Colorado's four wheel drive trails.

From the President

President's thoughts:

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve the Colorado Land Cruisers as President. Sounds kinda political huh. Anyway, I was thinking about what I could write about, and I thought of Trail Etiquette and what it means as to us as a club. As a responsible club, it is important to remember to use Trail Etiquette for our benefit and the benefit and example to others.

- The trail ride begins at home. When you are getting ready, be prepared for the trail and circumstances that you may encounter. Don't rely on others to bring it for you, unless you have made prior arrangements.
- Be at the meeting place on time.
- Know who your trip leader is and who will be the tail gunner.
- Know the trail rating for the trail you will be going on. Make sure your vehicle is capable for that trail rating. There are usually empty seats if you want to ride along.



- **Keep others with you.** When the group gets split up in traffic, or there is a turn to make, wait there for the next person in the group to arrive so they know where to turn. There may be people that are visiting our club that don't know the area or don't have a CB to communicate. Keep the one behind you in your rear view mirror. If the one behind you falls back due to some breakdown or other problem you will know sooner, rather than a half hour down the road when you are out of CB range.
- **Make sure everyone gets there and home.**

These are some basic examples of Trail Etiquette. When we go out on trails, and know where to go and where to turn we will all have a great time. It is a part of our sport to enjoy the trail rides and just as much to make sure everyone else along has an opportunity to have a good time. That will be accomplished by good Trail Etiquette.

Happy Trails,
Kendall Carlton
President CLC



Notes from the Editor

Congratulations!!

Howdy Everyone!!

I would like to both thank and congratulate all of the new Board Of Directors members. Thank you for stepping up to the plate and helping make a great 4X4 club even better. I, for one am glad to be an integral part of Colorado Land Cruisers. This being my first time on the BOD, I am, looking forward to seeing the inner workings of our club, and learning from the "Old Guys". In case you weren't there, here's the new BOD line-up: Kendall is our new president, Andy remains vice president, John is our new secretary, Jerry is our new TLCA delegate, and I, Charlie, am the new treasurer/membership person.

Congratulations to all!!!!

Happy Wheelin' :-)

This Month's Rig

This month's rig belongs to Norm Opperman. Norm has been a part of this club since it's inception, and drives a very capable 1970 FJ40. This cruiser is no grocery getter! A TBI stroked 388 sends power through the dual tyrannies and t-case to his ARB loaded FJ60 axles with 4:56 gears, and on to a set of 35/12.50/15 BFG Mudders. The wheelbase has been stretched 14&1/2 inches and the lift is gained by 1" Alcan springs, and a spring over conversion. Stopping this 400 hp beast when it's in 16th gear is no small feat, but is accomplished by the 4 wheel disc brake setup. Note to self" See Norm about future mods!!!!"



Norm's 1970 FJ40



Upcoming Events

Our next meeting is Feb 19th at the Western Sizzlin on the corner of 8th street and Hwy 24, Meeting times are 7:30-9pm. See ya there!!

Next trail run is China Wall on Feb 16th. I love this trail! Meet at the Western on Hwy 24 at 7:30 leave at 8:00 Expect Snow!!

Are you planning to run the Black Hills Cruiser Classic? If so, contact Charlie Steven before you send off you registration. If we all send the reg in at the same time, we will be able to camp, and run trails together. Charlie S. has volunteered to collect money and mail all the reg's at the same time for this event. Call him at 522-1267.

Schubarth Road Is A Gas

- Trail Report by Charlie Steven

Colorado Land Cruisers met January 19th to cruise the scheduled Rainbow Falls, but we opted for the more attractive Schubarth Road. After a drivers chat all were in favor of exploring the snowy unknowns high above the Air Force Academy. While this is the same Schubarth trail that harassed and denied many of us last year it is not a particularly difficult trail system. I'd say easy to moderate on a clear summer day, however more than a foot of snow; we were now in for a very exciting adventure. Six CLC members and two guests joined us for fun in the sun, the vehicles were as diverse as the personalities: Norm Opperman, Vic Ramsey, and Sam Grivey driving FJ40's ; Andy Johnson, Kendall and my friend David Green sporting Minis'; Vic's friend David Prist in the token two week old Jeep TJ; and I in the FJ80.

The trip started with Andy breaking trail. The stock vehicle's snowplowed the deep snow, slowing the progress, as did a wrong turn by half the group. After much chattering on the CB's the lost boys got turned around and again we're moving in the right direction. About two hours into the trail we heaved through a grove of some very tight trees and found ourselves in a basin looking at the first really challenging hill climb preceded by a four foot dip into relatively deep snow. Vic, David and David stopped while Andy, Norm, and myself, pulling Kendall, followed by Sam with chains launched our vehicles up the steep left turn hill where we were surprised by an off camber section of the trail. Afterward Norm and I laughed about our fishtailing progress on that portion of the trail - to stop could have proved disastrous. The trail leveled for a moment before another very steep, long hill climb ending at a lookout, which marked the end of the trail. And before I knew it Norm was off breaking glass, tires roosting the driest powder snow I have ever seen. It was so dry, tire tracks were invisible in the snow, and if it were not for the dust churned up in the snow you would not have thought Norm was up there on the mountain somewhere. Andy gassed it next, and then "BANG", the sickening sound of stripping gears and exploding steel belched from the bobbed mini. In short order it was determined the rear pinion gear had bought it. After lunch and a little fiddle'n, the rear driveline was removed and we were on the move again, going back the way we came. I think Andy experienced his best action of the day, driving a crippled rig through the mountains with only front wheel drive. The entire group met up again at the trailhead where we told war stories over soda pop and a dogfight. We all said good-bye with a big smile today!

All in all, I think everyone had a grand time and would like to revisit this area. Schubarth Roads proximity to Colorado Springs, with its many spurs and secondary routes leading to Mt. Herman and Rampart Roads, and lookouts to the Air Force Academy, deserves a return trip on one warm summer day. Maybe I'll see you up there sometime.

Items For Sale

Jason has a Chevy SM465 4sp tranny, an Advanced Adapters SM465 to Toy t-case adapter, and a set of chrome Toyota SR5 Truck rims for sale. He also is planning to sell his 1980 FJ40 as soon as the body damage from Reynolds Wrap is taken care of. Contact Jason at 719-566-7824

FREE FIREWOOD - Cut your own. Located 3 miles up Old Stage Road. No Permit required. Mostly dead standing and down pine, small amounts of Aspen. Contact Pete at 719.492.1400



Looks Like Fun!!



CLC at Spring Creek

www.coloradolandcruisers.org

Don't forget to shop at Liberty Toyota North and ask for Charlie
for a good deal on all your parts!!

