



Cruisin' Colorado

Located in the Heart of Pikes Peak Country

www.ColoradoLandCruisers.org

Colorado Land Cruisers is a four-wheel drive club based out of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and sanctioned by 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 Jeff Shapiro

President's Ramblings

Ooops! I guess he was too busy out pullin' for people to write about the great things happening with the club.

"Remember we're all in this together, I'm pullin' for ya!"

Andy "Minisrule" Johnson
President – CLC

Next CLC Meeting

When: May 15, 2005 7:00 p.m.
Where: Liberty Toyota, North
5597 North Academy Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO

Mark your calendar for CLC's next meeting, See you there!

Next Run

What: CLC's Memorial Weekend Campout
Where: Reynolds Wrap/379
or TroutCreek pass area
When: May 29 to 30, 2005

The campout part is optional, and pick your number of days—1 day or 3 days! Check the web site or, email CLCTrip@ColoradoLandCruiser.org for complete details. Meet at the Safeway on Hwy 115 at South Gate, or at Western Gas Station east of Woodland Park on Hwy 24 at 7:00 a.m., leave at 7:30 a.m. We'll be listening to CB channel 4.

Also be sure to keep June 17th and 18th open for the annual Brighten the Sangres near Westcliffe and volunteer work to help BLM and Forest Service with road maintenance / clean up.

Send your input for Trip Planning to CLCTrip@ColoradoLandCruisers.org

Trip Report

China Wall – April 16, 2005
by Jeff Shapiro

Saturday turned out to be an ideal day to be on a trail. We had a group of four show up for the trip to China Wall near Tarryall. Charlie was there with his mini-truck to lead the trip. Ken had his FJ. Matt had his RC truck... oops, Samurai to provide some entertainment (more on that later). And I was there with my Tacoma.

Charlie took us into China Wall by using FSR 204 which makes it more a interesting and challenging trip. I hadn't used this way to get into the trail before, and I think that it is the best way. You get to see some great scenery and avoid the crowds (not there were crowds while we where there). While heading back in, Charlie took the wrong line through some rocks and all I saw from where I was his tailgate **way** up in the air. Ken had to run up and pull his bumper back down. He did make it through without any more problems. The next fun came at the hill climb where you have to wind your way around and through big rocks. Everyone had a tight squeeze to make it through a couple of very big rocks. I was watching Matt in his Samurai, and Ken in his FJ have problems make the tight S-turn at the bottom, and thinking "oh, great! and I'm suppose to get my long, long truck through that." Matt provided lots of entertainment with his run up the hill. His truck really did look like one of those RC trucks bouncing around on the rocks. I did manage to squeeze my truck around and through the rocks with Charlie's help and some use of my rock sliders. We played around on the rock pile next to the road and couple of other obstacles on the way back to the Tarryall Creek. When we got to a big rock ledge, we found that we had an audience of 4 Jeeps that were parked atop to have a lunch break. Charlie had some problems finding a correct line to start up the ledge. Actually, I think he was just showing off for the Jeeps. Ken made it up with only very minor tire spinning. Once again, Matt provided some entertainment with spinning tires and flying dirt. Those Samurais really do look like

RC trucks when they start bouncing around. The rock ledge proved that there are times where you want a long wheelbase. I made it up with very little problem. We then had a nice lunch down near the Tarryall Creek. After lunch we drove back out playing on some of the obstacles along the way. The rock pile proved to be a lot of fun again. If you are interested, I've placed my pictures on my web site at <http://trips.nensha.com/20050416/>

So What's with the Newsletter?

by Your Editor

A change in the moon? A new model released by Toyota? A new editor? Yup. That's it. *Cruisin' Colorado* has a new editor. Me, Jeff Shapiro. I'm also a new member of the club. Currently, I drive a 2004 Toyota Tacoma Xtra Cab with lots of fun goodies added. I found out about the club because of its annual Christmas Tree Cutting support effort. After being out with a bunch of different people from the club for a couple of weekends, I thought that CLC was the right group for me to hang out with. So far I've managed to make a couple of runs with the club, which have reinforced my opinion about the club. Everyone I've met has been great. Four-wheeling and the outdoors are a large part of my life. I try to get out in the back country as often as I can—ideally, every weekend. And of course, preserving the beauty and grandeur of nature is important. To me 4-wheeling and preserving the back country aren't mutually exclusive. You just have to pay attention and act responsibly, and I always pack out more than I packed in. For me four-wheeling is the chance to go someplace you haven't been before and to get away from the crowds. I'm not that interested in rock crawling unless the rocks are between me and a place I want to go.

Do you have any suggestions about what you want in the newsletter? You can make my job a lot easier if you submit articles (idle ramblings, rants, tech tips, or whatever), trip reports, or whatever else you think the other members would like to know. About the only thing that I've come up with so far is to bring back the member's rigs feature. I'm sure that you all have done some really interesting things to your rigs. You never know, you may finally find someone with that dooda that you just can't live without on your truck.

Your story here — Chapter 4...

Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, the jeep pilot, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, but because blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, the FJ40 blah, blah, blah, blah, had the right line blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, and easily climbed Mt. Blanca, blah, blah, blah, blah, in two hours, blah, blah, and I looked with awe blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, the FJ40 never skipped a beat, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah <and so on>

Note: Template users are free to substitute FJ45, FJ55, FJ60, FJ62, FJ70, FJ80 or minitruck.

For Sale

1972 FJ40 front axle. Includes housing, both axles, hubs, bearings, and brakes. NO 3rd member. \$125/obo
Darryl ~ (719) 593-9829

Your advertisement could be here.

***Please send in your tech tips, trip reports,
or great stories to
NewsletterEditor@coloradolandcruisers.org.***