

# Cruisin' Colorado

Located in the Heart of Pikes Peak Country

[www.ColoradoLandCruisers.org](http://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](http://Toyota Land Cruisers Association). We are organized to bring together Toyota owning families and individuals interested in exploring Colorado four-wheel drive trails.

---

Volume VIII Issue VI (rev A)

August 10, 2006

Edited and Published by Darryl Price

---

## President's Report ~ August 2006

Greetings, CLC clubblings. Kendall and Millie have graciously offered to host CLC's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary party at their house on Aug. 19. All members are welcome and I hope that many of you will plan to be there.

Sandy and I spent Sunday at Argentine Pass and had a great time. We checked out some campsites for future trips and toured the old mine building that still has most of the original equipment in it. We then drove to the pass where it was perfectly calm at over 13,000 feet elevation, set up the lawn chairs, and had lunch. The Waldorf side of the pass was completely socked in with clouds and the Keystone side was clear. There must have been just enough breeze to stop the clouds, because they formed a vertical wall right over the pass. We were sitting in the edge of the cloud wall looking west over the valley and about five mountain ranges. It was one of those Colorado high country experiences that we have the privilege of enjoying in our great state. At the old Waldorf town site, we rescued a couple of Jeeps who were hopelessly mired in the mud. We didn't even have to use our winch or get our feet dirty, as they traipsed through the mud to hook their winch cable to the Cruiser which was sitting high and dry. Let me know next summer if anyone wants to go to Argentine Pass, because I will definitely be planning another trip.

Vic

## Next CLC Meeting ~ August 15, 2006 7:00PM

Mark your calendar for CLC's next meeting, Liberty Toyota, North. See you there!

## Next Run ~ Marshall Pass~ Sept 2, 3 & 4, 2006

Make plans now to go on this run Labor Day weekend. Marshall Pass was one of Colorado's early railroad passes, complete with roundhouse and all that went with it located at the summit over 100 years ago.



Marshall Pass area – June 2004



A roundhouse was here over 100 years ago.

We will be evolving the plans Aug 19<sup>th</sup> at CLC's party. We will also have a run on the 3<sup>rd</sup> lead by Dan Remsburg. Dan has a "fun" trail, and he has cautioned me to be sure I take my FJ40, as the Dodge will be too long. We have a couple options for camping, which we will work out as we go along.

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

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

### **Maintenance. The Never Ending "Labor"**

So, your rig ready for the next run? Got all the bearings packed, seals replaced, oil levels checked or linkage adjusted? You answered "No" to any of these? You aren't alone. My 34 year old FJ40 is always in need of continuing maintenance. I like to do the major maintenance items during the summer while it's warm as opposed to winter. I have a couple of "have too's" to take care of before the Marshall Pass run in September. The transfer case linkage has gotten harder and harder to shift over the past couple of years. I need to drop the skid plate and check the linkage and see what could be causing the problem. I hope it's as simple as needing a little lube and that will solve the problem. I should be so lucky if that's all I need to do. The 2<sup>nd</sup> problem is the rear brake shoes need to be adjusted. One of these years, I'd like to go to rear disks, but until then I need to adjust the shoes. This process isn't all that difficult nor is it very messy to do. It only involves jacking up the rear axle and rotating the wheel while turning the star wheel to adjust the brakes. Easy stuff to do. Easy stuff to keep putting off. Even as I put off these tasks, the FJ40 continues doing its tasks pretty much as it was designed to do. All this makes me think about how good my FJ40 would do if I did all the needed maintenance when it was supposed to be done? I'm sure its performance would be close to what it is now, with the only difference being that the overall reliability would go up. Along with all the required maintenance, you need to be tuned into any changes in how your rig is running, both on the highway and in 4WD when off road. I had a new vibration crop up last May when returning from a run. The vibration was at highway speed and totally different from earlier in the day when it was completely smooth. It was like the vibration you get when you rest a drive shaft on a rock with the rock proving to be the stronger, bending the drive shaft. I knew that hadn't happened. I suspected that the u-

joint needed a squirt of grease, as it tends to need it about every 1,000 miles or so. When I got under it to grease the u-joint I was surprised to find that the 4 nuts that secure the u-joint to the output drive flange were all loose. 2 had nearly backed completely off the stud, while the other 2 were well on their way to backing completely off. I found this 2 days later, after I had driven to work down I25 for a couple of days. As I remember, I had the rear drive shaft off last year or so to check the u-joint, and I've never had a problem like this. I made a mental note to the affect that when I notice a change and experience a drive line vibration, I will not use the FJ40 until after I have learned what has caused the vibration. And this will apply to all my vehicles.

Darryl

~ keep the rubber side down, and the greasy parts greasy.

### **Late, Breaking News! From Rod Timby:**

Just a quick note to remind anyone with a FJ55 that the Swine-O-rama will be coming up the weekend of the 18th - 20th and the Rising Suns Rallye is also the 20th. Both can be found on the IH8Mud website.

Swine-O-Rama info:

<http://forum.ih8mud.com/forumdisplay.php?f=85>

Rising Sun Rally:

<http://www.risingsun4x4club.org/rally.asp>