

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 Darryl Price

President's Report ~ November 2006

Hello, CLC'ers. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, I'm hoping to get back to being fully involved in the club meetings and runs again by December or January. In the meantime, I hope you will be able to make this Saturday's Pikes Peak area trail run. Norm and I took this trip last year and had an outstanding time. If time allows, a side trip to Bull Park could be taken, which is always a treat and is exciting in the snow.

December 2, 3, 9, and 10 bring the always-exciting Forest Service Christmas tree cutting event. Our club helps the Forest service by patrolling the cutting area backcountry roads and rescuing people who are stuck, lost, or otherwise in trouble. If you can imagine people in cars and ill-prepared trucks with bald tires and bad judgment roaming the snowy backcountry, you can get a picture of how much fun we have pulling people out of snowdrifts, ditches, and areas they have no business being in. My personal record for the massive tow job was a flatbed F-450 last year. Imagine chaining up your rig and pulling a Dodge or Ford 350 series diesel out of a snowy quagmire, then sitting back with a big smirk while the victim unhooks the tow strap. Bring tire chains, all your gear, food and drink and plan on having a good time. As always, thanks to David Hayes for coordinating our effort. Please let David know which days you can be there.

Your Prez,
Vic

Christmas Tree Run ~ December 2/3 & 9/10

Each December members of Colorado Land Cruisers donate their time to assist the Pikes Peak Forest

Service district in their annual Christmas tree cutting event. Our role is to assist stuck motorist. When the masses adventure into the forest to find their Christmas tree, some of them drive a little further than what their vehicle (or driver) are prepared to handle. Every year there is always someone that gets stuck even if there is very little snow. On years with more snow we can get very busy. And it doesn't take much snow to get many people stuck.

The Christmas tree cutting event will be on the first two weekends in December. Sat the 2nd & Sun the 3rd and Sat the 9th & Sun the 10th. We will meet at the Western gas station at 8:00 and leave by 8:15 to drive up to Rampart Range road to meet the forest service. We are usually finished up sometime between 3 pm and sun down, but we have also been there past 11 if someone is stuck. Bring warm clothes, food, tow straps and other recovery gear, and tire chains.

The Christmas tree cutting area is fairly large and it is best if we can get at least 6 rigs available for each day. The forest service also likes to have a list in advance of who is coming. Please send a response to this email so that I can put together the list of who is planning to attend each day. I'll bring the list to the next meeting and send it out in an email after the meeting, to hopefully fill in any days that are still short.

See you at the CLC meeting on November the 21st and hopefully again on the first two weekends of December.

David Hayes
481-9272

Proper care and use of IH8MUD

Provided by Trevor Rich



ih8mud.com – An online Resource

As some of you may know, Ih8mud.com (“Mud” for short) has slowly become the site for all things land cruiser. The [TLCA’s main forums](#) are now located within mud. CLC now also has a section for us to use as a form of communication. Many other TLCA branches are using online forums to conduct much of their business. Rising sun’s uses their forum to conduct much of their club business.

[Getting Registered](#) – in order to create messages you need to register a new username.

From the [Main Page](#) Click on



This will take you to a form where you will enter your E-mail address and chose a Username. Your username is somewhat important; it is what your identity will be while on the forums, you could use your real name, or a nickname. Chose a password that you will remember, and follow the instructions from there; you may need to confirm an e-mail. Now you’re ready to create new messages, Make your first post in the “[Make an introduction](#)” thread.

[Tech Resource](#) – Under the tech section on mud there are Sections for your truck, Everything from FJ40’s to Pickups, and even FJ Cruisers. Many helpful cruiserheads are in each section willing to help with any issue or question you may have about your truck. Firstly Use the FAQ sections at the top of each forum. Most likely your question has already been covered. If you don’t see anything in the FAQ, you can use the search function to try and find information... If all else fails start a new thread on the topic.

[Colorado Land Cruiser section](#) – Under the Clubhouse corner, you will find our section on mud. Within this section you can post new threads or read through old ones. Want to plan an impromptu trip next weekend? Start a new thread and see if anyone else is interested. With this forum we should be able to get things accomplished in quicker. If you don’t have the time to make it to a meeting, you could still give your input, even if you are out of town. Currently we have a thread that looks into a possible

change in the meeting location. Please feel free to login and give your input.

Other Sections – Within mud there are sections for Planning Large trips (such as Cruiser Moab or the Black Hills classic), a Section for [Buying](#) or [selling](#) Parts. And even a section for just [Chit-Chat](#).

Private Messages- (Also Known as “PM”) – If you have a question for a specific person, you can send a private message to them and they can respond the next time they log in.

[Creating a Subscription](#) – Some people would rather not have to log in to IH8mud to read the threads; you can create a subscription and have an e-mail dispatched weekly, or daily with any updates. [Click here](#) for more information on creating a subscription

I look back in the photos of when the club first started; I’d love to see the club grow back to the point when we have 10+ Trucks on each trail run. I know that with some effort, and the use of the forum, we will be able to make this a reality. So do your part and login to IH8mud and create a free username. Start posting, and you will quickly see how the forums are not only a great resource for tech info, but it’s also an easy and efficient way of communicating for our CLC.

Having issues Setting up your account, or using Mud? The [Help Section](#) at the bottom may be of help, or Contact me at isotel@hotmail.com, or [PM me](#) at username “isotel”

Trevor

Happy Cruising ,

CLC & Where We Are and Where We’re Going..
I hope you are planning to go on the run Saturday. It should be a fun time and good weather. And did you notice that Vic is just a little proud of pulling out a F450 with his FJ40 last year? Wish I could have seen him do it, but I was off helping others get on their way. This is definitely a good positive event for our club. We interface directly with the motoring public with all their various states of preparedness or unpreparedness depending on your viewpoint. CLC has been doing this even for the past 10 years now and it is one of the things that we do and do quite well. David has done the initial planning and now needs the membership to step up and give him a call

and let him know which dates he can expect you to come up and help.

I took a little time and scanned the CLC page on mud the other night. I noticed a lot of interesting stuff and a lot of discussion about a different meeting place. Let me share a little history on meeting places CLC has tried in the past. First of all I do not believe that a meeting place is the make or break item for a club. Members and prospective members interested in becoming a part of the club will be there no matter what. The essential requirements for a meeting place have to do with location, accommodations and available parking. Location is important in that in the ideal case it is central to the membership. We have members coming from the South Denver and Monument areas to the North and from Pueblo to the South. On the accommodations requirements, we need a meeting room that can accommodate the members and visitors comfortable, and allow the club president and BOD to conduct the meeting with the membership and visitors able to hear and take part in the proceedings. And for parking, a lot be available to accommodate all the members and visitors vehicles. We started meeting in a basement meeting room in a bank located on South Nevada. This worked quite well, although the location was far for members coming from the Monument area. We then tried several restraints, and while they may have worked for those attending, it was difficult for those presiding over the meeting to have the attention for the meeting and difficult for the membership to hear well enough to participate. On this topic, as a past president, I found it difficult to have the attention of those present to conduct club business. These locations were generally towards the south of the city. We then settled into our present location, Liberty Toyota. This meeting location satisfies all of the criteria pretty well. We changed the meeting time to 7pm to allow for their winter closing time of 8pm. We are given a nice parts discount by their parts manager, Charlie Lowe. We have opportunities which we have yet to tap into to create a symbiotic relationship. We could become a catalyst for all those owners of new Toyota FJC's to get them out and teach them how to 4WD, enjoy the outdoors, and to tread lightly. The meeting room works quite well and until recently we have generally filled it. Parking is nice too, in fact in the past during the summer we have parked on the front lawn to act as advertising. I view Liberty Toyota as an untapped resource for CLC. I did read one comment on mud written by Andy, in which he outlined very well why an automotive family

oriented club will not allow itself have meetings held in a place that serves beer. (It's the alcohol and driving, stupid) At the conclusion of the meeting, those wanting to go out and eat generally do and cruiser talk continues at that location. In my book our present meeting place satisfies all 3 meeting place criteria quite well. With that said, the club business agenda at the next meeting will be centered on our state of readiness for the Christmas tree run, a possible Christmas party at the December meeting and the up coming leadership elections held in January. We will also have a trip report from those who went on the previous Saturday run. And time allowing other topics the membership may have.

Thanks to David Hayes and Trevor Rich for their well written contributions. Trevor's article on how to utilize the power of ih8mud.com is really good. But, you will only realize the power of it when you read it on line, as all the links take you to the page in the mud site he has explained. I would also like to note that Jeff Shapiro has set up a yahoo group to allow communication on that venue. Go to yahoo, groups and enter coloradolandcruisers to have a look-see. Thanks, Jeff!

See you at the meeting at Liberty Toyota on the 21st.

Darryl
Keep the rubber side down

Next Run: S. Pikes Peak Trails ~ November 18th
This is a fun run, and looks like there will be some snow, as well as warm weather. Meet at the Safeway, on S. Nevada and Cheyenne Mtn road. We are usually in the east part of the parking lot close to Nevada, and a short walk to Mac-a-Dees if you a breakfast Mac or whatever.. Time to meet is 8:30am, with a leave time of 9am. Lunch, soft drinks, water, warm clothes, recovery gear, chains, and maybe a shovel. Water for the dog & etc.

Next CLC Meeting ~ November 21, 2006 7:00PM
Mark your calendar for CLC's next meeting, Liberty Toyota, North. See you there!

Christmas Tree Run ~ December 1st 2 weekends
Go back and re-read David's paragraph. This is a fun trail run – its work, especially if we have snow.

Your input for Trip Planning
CLCtrip@ColoradoLandCruisers.org