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# MOUNTAIN-EARS

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## LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

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### January Club Trip

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This month's trip will be to Ballard, we will try to make it all the way to the top. Please meet at the North King Soopers Wilox and North College. We will leave at 9:00 am Sunday January 20th.

For those coming from Loveland and points south, we will see you in Masonville about 9:30am.



## December Trip Report

### *Cherokee Park Road*

It was just two days before Christmas when the Mountaineers started to gather for our trip to the mountains in search of fresh snow to play in. By the time we left Fort Collins there were 14 Mountaineer and 5 guest vehicles in our convoy up to the Cherokee Park road. We stopped to air down so we could have a more comfortable ride before heading up the washboard called County Road 80C. We were surprised that there was no snow on the road all the way to the little canyon separating lower

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## **Last Meeting**

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What a wonderful  
Christmas Party.

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## **Club Sponsors**

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and upper Cherokee Park. In upper Cherokee Park the only snow was in shaded areas along the road.

As soon as we came to Pratt Creek Road (#182), we made a right turn into an area that was currently being logged. Because of the logging, the road was well traveled and in good shape. It took us through several clear cuts and by a bunch of huge slash piles. We followed 182 until we came to a spur on the Green Mountain Road, #315B. We were in luck, fresh snow that nobody had been on. This trail was just what we were looking for. The trees were very close on both sides and there were at least nine trees leaning across the trail that came close to scraping the top of our vehicles. So close that even though you didn't hit them, your instinct was to duck while going under them. It also helped to keep your speed up on this trail. As Zack H. said in his GoPro video on this run "momentum is your friend". Also there were places that trees had fallen across the road and when they were cut out, the space was just barley wide enough to get your rig through the cut. We came out on the Green Mountain Trail (315) and doubled back to Pratt Creek and then down to the Cherokee Park Road. It was noon and we were at a perfect place to bunch together for lunch.

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Our bellies full, we headed west to the start of the Green Mountain Trail (#315). This was pretty much a drive through with very little snow. We then intersected with the McGrevey (#314) trail and had an uneventful drive back down to Cherokee Park. We had done all the trails that were planned for the day and still had a lot of daylight left. We decided to go back to the Prairie Divide Road and run that over to Red Feather Lakes even though we knew there would be little or no snow on the road.

Once we got to Red Feather Lakes, Craig led us a couple of blocks off the main road to Elf Lane or sometimes referred to as Gnome Road. This two block long dirt road runs through huge boulders and tall trees. It started out years ago as just a few backyard gnomes peering out from behind the trees or sitting on top of the boulders. Over the years it has grown to include elves, dwarfs, tommy knockers, leprechauns, goblins, wood nymphs, trolls and a fairy or two. It is a very special place to visit, especially in the

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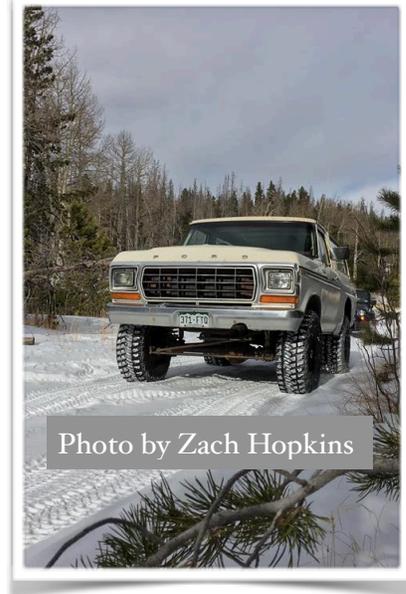
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summer months when you can picnic and explore all the nooks and crannies. On this day, I think we saw a few of Santa's elves getting ready for Christmas Day!

By the time you read this, Christmas and New Years have come and gone. We hope that Santa brought all the 4WD parts or shiny bling on your wish list and in the New Year you get them installed in time for the next Mountaineer family trip.

El Guapo





Congratulations

Mike and Bianca Braskich

“Most Notable Patrons.”



### ***Mountaineers in Moab Week***

The date has been set for our week in Moab. The first trip will leave from the Moab City Market at 9:00 am on June 1st, 2019. We will have an organized trip every day through Friday, June 7th. More about this at the meeting. Be sure to put in for your vacation time at work for this fun time in Moab. A lot of us stay at Canyonlands Campground.

January 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bradley Mikkelson	3	4 Brittany Eddy	5 Haley Derflinger Bobby Conley
6 Wyvonne Stengaard	7 <b>BOARD MEETING</b>	8	9	10	11	12
13 Jessica Stengaard	14	15	16 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	17 Michelle Jansen	18	19
20 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> Misty Eddy Kristen Schmierer	21	22	23 Spencer Payton	24 Taylor Crue Brody Deflinger	25 Samantha Richards Kevin Hansen	26 Justin Rennells
27 Karen Riley	28	29	30	31		

February 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Chris Mercer Kim Luiz	2
3	4	5	6 Morgen Carter Logan Carter	7 Denver Nothnagel	8	9
10	11 <b>BOARD MEETING</b>	12 Travis Kaderka	13	14	15 Cara Thoen	16 Michelle Opdyke
17	18 Amber Yetter	19	20 <b>CLUB MEETING</b>	21	22 Christopher Kapperman	23 Jeremy Zamora
24 <b>CLUB TRIP</b> Lucca Schmierer	25 Colleen Stengaard	26	27	28	Judy Heiderscheidt (29th)	

Board Meeting: Feb 11 7:30pm Craig Stumbough  
 Mar 11 7:30pm Greg Meyers  
 Membership Meeting: Feb 20 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Mar 20 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins  
 Club Trip: Jan 20 **9:00am** **North King Soopers N.College and**