



March Club Trip

This month's trip is TBD.

**Club Dues are due.
\$45**

PayPal on the club website
is set up and ready. Visit

www.mountaineers4x4.org

**Check Out Trails on:
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February Trip Report

Happy Jack, WY

Well it all started off nicely at the North King Sooper's parking lot where 12 of the 13 rigs gathered for the drive on Hwy 287 towards Laramie WY. The Ricklefs (having all the supplies needed for the fire and chili cooking) took I-25 to I-80 in order



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to get there early to get the fire going, so that we all might eat a little sooner. Turns out the weather was less than cooperative for all involved. On Hwy 287 we had more than a few miles of near white-out conditions from the cross wind carrying snow. Progress was slowed from 65mph to 35-40mph, and despite the slower speed, visibility was so poor that our trip leader missed the turn at Pumpkin Vine Rd. We had little choice but to drive on to Laramie and take I-80 East towards Happy Jack Road. Meanwhile the Ricklefs were braving similar conditions while heading West on I-80 with the addition of Black Ice, a wrecker, and a vehicle on its side, treacherous to say the least. The main group didn't get far on



I-80 before encountering the Highway Closed signal and had to turn around and go back to Laramie. After a short stop at the Loaf N Jug on 3rd for a potty break, lots of weighing our options and communication with the Chili crew on I-80, Colleen offered for all of us to gather at her place for the Chili part of the trip. Since the sledding was blatantly denied by mother nature and WYO DOT's road closure, a couple of rigs decided break off to stay in Laramie for lunch before heading back home. Our lone rig on I-80 finally made it to Pumpkin Vine Rd. and managed through it (sometimes as slow as 5mph due to poor visibility) to Hwy 287 and found there way to Colleen's only a few minutes behind the rest of us. Thanks to Colleen's hospitality, the chili, cheese, onions, chips and desert were most welcome as we all visited and ate till our hearts content. Not

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the trip we had planned and expected, but a trip none the less this Sunday in February. Thanks again to Colleen for rising to the occasion and providing a place for us when the need presented itself. Let's hope that the March trip is more cooperative than this one was. Hope to see you all next month.

Luke Manno



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\$45



**KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
DUES**

March 2021

SUN 28	MON Mar 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
Jody Heidersche	First Day of Women's Hi	Patrick Burch	Brian Schmierer	Jeff Paben Laruen McFerran	Briley Zamora Hayden Lenderink Tasha Opdyke	
7 Meyers ia Nothnagel	8	9	10 Arya Graves Kent Schmidt	11 Steven Donahoe Travis Golly	12 Antonia Saavedra	13
14 ight Saving Time st	15 Darren Finger	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Josh Lietz Kelly Kapperman	20
21 Manno	22 Bryce Delaney Lindsay Weegans Tammy Peterson	23	24 Allen Peterson	25	26 Lori Golly	27 Hannah Anders Sheila Mueller
28 er McFerran e Robinson	29 Robin Noehl	30 Craig Stumbough	31	Apr 1	2	3

The Ames Monument

At an elevation of 8,247 feet, this monument stands at what once was the highest point on the route of the Union Pacific Railroad. The tracks were rerouted a few miles to the south in 1901, but the monument still looms over the surrounding plains and can be easily accessed from Interstate 80.

Completed in 1882 at a cost of \$64,000, the structure honors Oakes and Oliver Ames, financiers and politicians whose business skills were largely responsible for the completion of the transcontinental railroad. The Ames brothers took control of the management and financing of the Union Pacific portion of the railroad at President Abraham Lincoln's request. Prior to their

involvement with the railroad, only 12 miles of track had been completed. Not long after the railroad's completion in 1869, however, Oakes Ames found himself at the center of a massive scandal concerning the railroad's financing.

The monument was designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, famed architect of Trinity Church in Boston, and was Richardson's only commission west of St. Louis. The monument also features two bas-relief sculptures of the Ames brothers—Oakes on the east side, Oliver on the west—crafted by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, renowned sculptor whose creations include the Robert Gould Shaw memorial on Boston Common, the Parnell Memorial in Dublin, and a \$20 double eagle gold piece for the U.S. Mint. **Courtesy of www.WYOHISTORY.ORG

