

# The Rising Sun News

Official Newsletter of the Rising Sun Four Wheel Drive Club of Colorado, Inc.

web site: <http://www.risingsun4x4club.org>

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June 2002

## Upcoming Events

**Deadman's Gulch Adopt-a-Trail** June 7-9. Trail Leader Steve Crase

**2nd Annual Father's Day Four Wheeling, Spring Creek Trail** June 16th. Trail Leader Jeff Zepp

**Kremmling Crawl** June 22-23, Kremmling CO, CA4WDCI

**Wheeler Lake\Mt. Cross** July 6th. Trail Leader Rob Meredith

**Middle St. Vrain\ Cony Flats** July 28th. Trail Leader Mike Aaron

**Spring Creek Trail** August 10th. Trail Leader Neil Quigley

**Slaughterhouse Gulch** August 14th. Trail Leader Matt Farr

**Chinaman's Gulch** October 5th. Trail Leader Rob Meredith

**Crystal Mountain** November 10th. Trail Leader Bruce Westlund

Note that there are a number of other events which are tentatively planned but do not yet have trail leaders who have committed or firm dates. Check the calendar on the web site and the Rising Sun mailing list for updates.

## Red Elephant Hill Run 2002-Trail Report by Scott Yoder

What a fun run this is. This was my third trip up this road and it keeps getting better. We had a good turnout with 8 Toyotas. Rob, Al, Bruce Lawson, Chris and Mary, Cheesman, three 3rd Gen 4runners (including myself) and a mini truck. I understand we got some great video of some of us.

The first difficult section took us much more effort and time than in the past. We didn't complete this section till 1pm. Matt in his Mini found a lot of rocks square in the middle front of his IFS that day. He got wedged between rocks in one of the first obstacles and was promptly strapped out. I was just delighted with my new suspension lift. I had no real issues all day and gently completed the most difficult obstacle with a nice wheel stand. The other 4Runners took the same line with the similar results. I felt my Runner passed my self imposed trail test with flying colors. It's amazing the improvement I got out of just 3" of lift and a aftermarket suspension. No more bouncing around and hammering my undercarriage.

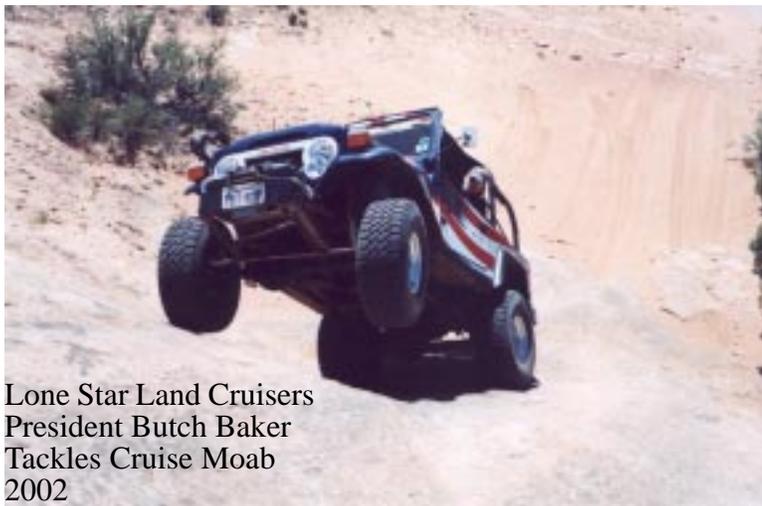


We ended up winning the Mini and strapping Bruce in his FJ60 in this obstacle. Bruce suffered some body damage on this (now infamous) rock. Al with his FJ40 and new Chevy V8 motored and bounce straight through

the middle of it. Rob and Cheesman crept over the largest rocks. Neil got hung up on a difficult line, engaged his front locker and then crept out. Shortly after that Chris in his Taco slipped off the road into a precarious position and winched out. Then Matt in his Mini couldn't get his truck started and had to completed some ignition work to get it fixed up.

We started to run into some snow and Mike in his Runner ran into some problems but eventually got out on his own. He and Cheesman then headed down the Bill Moore trail to shorten the day.

We then headed for the upper loop. Rob found some extreme boulders and skillfully put his Cruiser on top of them for a picture. He then inched his way up and over. Mighty impressive. Neil gave it a go but but found the large rocks too unstable and backed out. I wish Cheesman would have been their to try the same obstacle. We continued on, running into quite a bit of snow here and there. Just enough to make it fun. Above the mogul field Rob found a very large snow drift and hammered through it. Everyone had previously been taking a bypass. We all followed Rob through the snow. SportRunner, in his 4Runner had his rear lower shock mount nut come off on him. We removed the shock and he was on his way. We turned around and headed back down, and another excellent run was complete.



Lone Star Land Cruisers  
President Butch Baker  
Tackles Cruise Moab  
2002

Well be back...

Pictures -

<http://dell.shutterfly.com/osi.jsp?i=67b0de21b303c2074550>

## Stay Connected!

All members of Rising Sun should be subscribed to the Rising Sun mailing list. All you need is an email account, even if you don't have your own computer you can subscribe under one of the free web based ones like yahoo and hotmail. Many times, trips and events come up between meetings, so this is the quickest and easiest way to stay up to the minute on club happenings! To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to: [risingsun-subscribe@topica.com](mailto:risingsun-subscribe@topica.com)

## Rising Sun 4X4 Club Meeting Notice

There will be a meeting Wednesday, July 3rd, 2002 at 7:30 PM at Larry Miller Toyota, located at the northwest corner of I-25 & Boulder Turnpike (US 36). Park on the 3rd level of the parking structure, meetings are held in the conference room on the second level.

## **Minutes of the April 2002 Rising Sun Four Wheel Drive Club Meeting April 3, 2002**

**Commander Rob Meredith** called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

He asked if there were any visitors, and there was no response. Those in attendance introduced themselves and their rigs.

### **Officer Reports:**

**Secretary Jeff Zepp** read the minutes of the March meeting.

There was no **Vice Commander's** report.

**Treasurer Phil Simmons** reported that the club has a balance of \$2547.40 with no items outstanding.

There was no **Land Use Coordinator's** report.

There was no **Webmaster's** report.

There was no **Event Coordinator's** report.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Cruise Moab:**

Due to the fact that Cruise Moab 2002 is now history, the extensive details of this portion of the meeting are omitted. It consisted of trail leader/gunner announcements, task assignments and other organizational details. (Secretary's note: Big thank you to all the members of the Cruise Moab Planning Committee for pulling off another awesome event!)

#### **Off Road Expo:**

The Show and Shine will be on Saturday April 6th starting at 10:00 AM. Judging will be held in the early afternoon. The awards will be presented at 4:00 PM.

#### **TLCA Administrative Vice President:**

Rob reported that James Bingham has withdrawn his nomination for this position. The TLCA AVP oversees all contracts with TLCA and works with the Treasurer to draft the TLCA budget. This is submitted to TLCA annually. The remaining candidates are -

1. Phil Johnson. He is the Mountain Transit Authority Vice President, has 4 years of wheeling experience, is a member of ASQ and is a medical device Quality Engineer.
2. Sarah Menke. She is the Treasurer for Dakota Territory Cruisers. She is a loan officer for a credit union, was a loan officer and auditor for the Bank of Japan, and has extensive background in financial services.
3. Jennifer Lopez. She is the Treasurer and Secretary for Rice on the Rocks and is their TLCA delegate. She is a charter member and wheels a 1985 4Runner. She is an accountant for the American Golf Association and is a Cosmetologist and Makeup Artist.

Chris Hatfield made a motion that Rising Sun should vote for Sarah Menke to be the TLCA Administrative Vice President. Neil Quigley seconded and the motion was carried by a vote of the membership.

#### **Toyota Trails:**

Thousands of back issues are still being stored in Longmont, they weigh about 40,000 pounds and cover the last 3 years or so of the publication. We need to get some out to dealers. TLCA will go to Torrence CA and see if Toyota Motor Corporation will take them. Some Individual Reps will take some. We were printing 7000 copies per issue, it is now 5500 copies per issue. Kevin once again suggested a club field trip to American Web to watch them being printed. There are 20 back issues, there are 100 copies per box.

#### **New Business:**

**Michelle Mullens** is resigning as Advertising Manager of Toyota Trails, so that position is open. It pays about \$1600 per month, plus a percent of sales. The job is to call and try to get advertising. The job needs to be filled as soon as possible.

The club web site host had the wrong email; it is \$300 per year to host the club. Rob paid the fee with his credit card, through December 7th 2002. Matt Farr made a motion for the club to reimburse Rob. Ige Gustavson seconded the motion, and it was carried by a vote of the membership. Matt suggested that he knows of a better deal for hosting the club's web site.

**Bill Van Beek** brought T-shirts for club raffle, Kevin Ehrlick won one and Rob Meredith won the other. Matt Farr brought catalogs, Al won.

**Steve Crase** nominated Al Osthoff for membership.

**Chris Hatfield** nominated Ron Blair for membership.

Both became Rising Sun members.

**Scott Yoder** will lead Slaughterhouse Gulch on Saturday April 20th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.