



February 2025 Newsletter

Leave no one behind and leave no one where you found them!

BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Meet John Turnbull, the 2025 VP of Midwest Krawlers!

With 15 years in retail management at Hy-Vee, I now serve as a senior procurement buyer for AWG. My off-roading journey began six years ago when I bought my first Jeep and attended events, where the supportive community made me a lifelong member.



Passionate about the outdoors, I enjoy hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, skiing, kayaking, and off-roading. Serving on the club's board lets me help others discover off-roading, use their vehicles for adventure, and build a strong community. While this is my primary club, I stay engaged in outdoor activities year-round and encourage my sons to develop hands-on skills through nature and sports. My vision is for the club to thrive as a space for education, adventure, and camaraderie, ensuring future generations explore the outdoors.



TECH TIP CORNER

When winching in slippery conditions like mud or snow, position the winch anchor point as directly in front of the vehicle as possible to avoid side loads that could cause the vehicle to shift unpredictably. Use a tree saver strap or snatch block to prevent damage to the winch line and ensure a secure hold. Suction from mud can create additional resistance. Maintain steady tension on the winch line and avoid sudden jerks, which can cause shock load and damage. Wear heavy-duty gloves when handling the winch line, as mud and debris make it slippery and increase injury risk. Lastly, place a recovery damper or weighted object on the winch line to reduce recoil risk in case of cable or strap failure, ensuring a safer recovery.

-Patrick

Camping Corner with Brendon

This month's topic is campsite cooking! What kind of stove or heat source do you use—a high-end Jet Boil, a Walmart or Coleman camp stove, or something else? Cast iron heats evenly but is heavy, while lightweight kits can burn food; I prefer the Stanley kit for its balance of weight and heat distribution. My go-to heat sources are a jet stove for boiling water and a Coleman single burner, though the latter lacks a wind deflector and fine simmer control. Alternative cooking methods include a collapsible Coleman oven, a Can Cooker, and an Omnia Oven, all used with a camp stove. If you prefer cooking over a fire or charcoal, cast iron works best, and you can even heat food in a can—just be sure to open it first! I'll be teaching at the MOORE Expo in April and a local overlanding class this spring/summer. Reach out if you have questions—happy camping!

-Brendon

Have an idea for content or club trips? Message mwk@mwkclub.com with ideas and suggestions!



UPCOMING EVENTS

February

- 22 – Frostbite 2025 @ KS Rocks

March

- 01 – First Aid Training: Gladstone Fire Station #2
- 08- Donut King Run- KCMO
- 12- March Monthly Meeting- Jefferson's Lenexa
- 22- Krawlers & Coffee- Java Garage
- 22- Meet N Greet- Green Acres Offroad

April

- 19 – MWK Exclusive Off-Road 101 @KRocks
- 25 – MOORE Expo

Keep an eye for more events on our Website and Facebook Pages!

PARTNER FEATURE- MIDLAND



A good radio is one of the most important safety tools you can have when off-roading. Midland GMRS radios allow effective communication when no mobile service is available on the road, but they can be life-savers on the trail for spotting, directing, and summoning help in an emergency. The built-ins like the 575 have great range and the external speaker makes it easier to hear when driving with the doors off, but we also always carry a couple of hand-helds in the rig, which come in handy for spotting or loaning out to group members us that do not have a GMRS yet. MWK has a selection of radios in the shop at a discount of 15%. Stop by the swag shop and pick one up; you won't be sorry!

Talkin' with Swag!

Show off your unique style and club pride with our Midwest Krawler logo earrings! These earrings bring a touch of personality and flair to any outfit. Featuring the iconic Midwest Krawler logo, they offer a perfect balance of edgy and chic, making them ideal for those who love to stand out in the crowd. Crafted with attention to detail and built for comfort, these earrings are lightweight and perfect for everyday wear or special occasions. Whether you're hitting the trails or adding an extra touch to your look for the next donut or coffee meetup, the Midwest Krawler logo makes a statement that's all about individuality and style.

Add a pair to your accessory collection and let your style speak for itself. Bold, sleek, and effortlessly cool—these earrings are a must-have for the true Krawler fan!



-Missy

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Meet MWK Member, Michael Gordon!!!

Michael Gordon drives a 2007 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited "Saharicon" called the TrailHunter, which he and his wife, Stephanie, take on adventures with Midwest Krawlers. He joined MWK in 2020 after searching for a Jeep community and was drawn to its active events and charitable efforts, quickly getting involved in trips to SMORR, Hot Springs, Kansas Rocks, and Colorado. Over the years, he has built the TrailHunter from a stock Sahara into a capable off-road machine featuring a Rubicon drivetrain, 37" Mickey Thompson tires, upgraded axles, hydro-assist steering, and a Metalcloak lift. One of his most memorable experiences was conquering Red Cone, Wheeler Lake, and Holy Cross in Colorado with MWK friends. He also put MWK's "No one left behind" motto into action in 2023, helping recover a flipped rig on Rubicon Ridge in Hot Springs. Whether tackling tough trails or building friendships, Michael is always ready for the next off-road adventure—so if you see the TrailHunter out there, stop by and say hi!



MEET OUR PARTNERS

PLATINUM PARTNERS



GOLD PARTNERS



SILVER PARTNERS



Interested in becoming a Club Partner for 2025? Reach out to Mike Malone at mmalone@mwkclub.com for options!

The Midwest Krawlers Off-Road Club strives to provide social and educational opportunities, advocate preservation of our public/private lands and parks, and charitably support our local and greater communities.