



# December 2025 Newsletter

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

## BOARD SPOTLIGHT

### Thank you for a great 2025!

As we close out 2025, the Midwest Krawlers Board of Directors extends a heartfelt thank you to our incredible members and sponsors. Your passion and commitment have fueled another outstanding year—our membership continues to grow stronger, our sponsor partnerships remain rock-solid, and our signature events once again showcased what makes this club truly special. From trail rides to charity drives, every success started with you. Let's carry that same energy and leadership into 2026—keep stepping up, leading from the front, and showing that no adventure is too far for the Midwest Krawlers.



## The Safety Stop

### ❄️ Winter Wheeling & Snow Driving Tips

Even the most capable rigs handle differently once the white stuff hits. Before you hit the trails — or the highway — keep these quick reminders in mind:

- 1. Air down smartly.**  
Lower tire pressure increases traction, but too low can risk popping a bead in deep cold. Start around 15–18 psi and adjust based on conditions and tire type.
- 2. Gentle is faster.**  
Ease onto the throttle, brakes, and steering. Sudden inputs = lost traction. Slow and steady wins snowy climbs.
- 3. Keep momentum — don't mash it.**  
Maintain a steady roll through deeper sections. If you lose momentum, gently back up a few feet and try again rather than spinning tires.
- 4. Watch your line and terrain.**  
Snow hides rocks, ruts, and ice sheets. Scout your path when possible and spot each other — especially near drop-offs or water crossings.
- 5. Know recovery basics.**  
Carry a strap, shovel, and recovery boards. Keep your winch line warm and clean, and inspect before each pull.
- 6. Mind your gear.**  
Dress in layers, pack gloves that work wet, and keep a blanket or sleeping bag in the rig. Always have extra water and snacks — getting stuck in the cold is no joke.
- 7. Air back up before heading home.**  
Cold air drops tire pressure fast. Bring a compressor or stop at a station before driving highway speeds.
- 8. Communication is key.**  
Run a working radio, share your route, and wheel with a buddy. Snow can change conditions hour by hour.

-Patrick

## Camping Corner

### This Month's Topic: Tires—The Unsung Hero of Overlanding

Why talk about tires in a camping article? Simple—because they're one of the most overlooked yet critical components of your overlanding setup. While there's no shortage of flashy videos and reviews on camping gear, cooking tools, and recovery equipment, tires rarely get the spotlight they deserve.

Many folks opt for bigger or more aggressive tires, which might be perfect for a purpose-built rock crawler. But for an overlanding rig, that choice isn't always ideal. Sure, aggressive tread helps on muddy or rocky trails, but your vehicle needs a balance: off-road capability, highway comfort, solid tread life, and a load rating that matches your setup.

Once you start loading up with camping gear, a roof rack, bed rack, rooftop tent—or towing an off-road trailer—you may need to upgrade to a higher load range tire. On my own rig, I went up one tire size and chose a mildly aggressive mud-terrain tire with a higher load index (about 350 pounds more per tire). Why? Because I knew I'd be tackling long-distance trips, fully loaded or towing my camper.

I also made sure to pick a reputable, widely available brand and always carry a matching full-size spare. After all, you didn't trailer your rig to the campsite—if you damage a tire, you'll need to drive it home. This isn't a sales pitch, but we do have several club sponsors who offer great discounts to members. When it's time to shop for tires, check out our sponsor page and start making calls. They'll help you find the perfect match for your overlanding adventures.

Happy Camping! -Brendon

Have an idea for content or club trips? Message [mwk@mwkclub.com](mailto:mwk@mwkclub.com) with ideas and suggestions!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December

- 10 – [Dec Club Meeting](#)
- 13- [Caravan to Wheelin' 4 Toys @ KRocks](#)
- 13- [Wreaths Across America](#)
- 20- [Coffee Meetup @ Campus Grounds](#)

### February

- 8- [MWK First Aid, CPR, and AED](#)

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

## PARTNER FEATURE- Discount Tire

When it comes to keeping your rig ready for the next adventure, **Discount Tire** has your back — both here in Kansas City and across the country. Known for their unbeatable service, free air checks, and expert tire care, Discount Tire is a trusted name for drivers who demand performance and reliability.

As a proud sponsor of the **Midwest Krawlers**, Discount Tire goes the extra mile for our members — offering **exclusive discounts on their Better and Best tire lines**. Whether you're gearing up for a weekend on the trails or just need dependable traction for the daily drive, their team knows how to match you with the right setup.

With **over 1,200 stores nationwide**, Discount Tire combines hometown service with national reach, helping off-roaders and everyday drivers alike stay safe, confident, and adventure-ready.



## Notes from the Prez

### Introducing Your 2026 Midwest Krawlers Board of Directors

I am honored and excited to introduce the leadership team that will guide our club through 2026. This year's Board of Directors represents the best of who we are: strong, committed, servant-hearted, and passionate about building a community where every member feels they belong.

Thanks to your votes, we have an incredible team stepping into leadership. Please join me in welcoming your 2026 Board of Directors:

- **President:** Tony Kiley
- **Vice President:** Rusty Arrington
- **Treasurer:** Tracy Skiles
- **Board Administrator:** Tara Loran
- **Overlanding Director:** Jim Velghe
- **Community Outreach Director:** January West
- **Social Director:** Tiffany Hurt
- **Technology Director:** Van Sederburg
- **Club Development Officer:** Elizabeth Naramore
- **Safety & Wheeling Director:** *To be appointed by the 2026 Board*

This board brings a fresh mix of experience, passion, and momentum. They care deeply about our members. They listen. They serve. And they are fully committed to strengthening our mission: **Leave no one behind, and leave no one where you found them.**

I truly believe this team is going to accomplish amazing things in the year ahead, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to support them however I can. The future of MWK is bright, and our club is in excellent hands.

Please help me congratulate and welcome your 2026 Midwest Krawlers Board of Directors!

Brantley Ping  
President, Midwest Krawlers 2025

## Junior Krawler

Check out this month's Jr Krawler Offroad word search! Share your completed word search with the board for a special Junior Krawler drawing!

[Junior Krawlers Word Search Page](#)

## MEET OUR PARTNERS

### MIDWEST KRAWLERS MOTTO

**"Leave No One Behind, and Leave No One Where You Found Them"**

This motto captures the club's essence of community, growth, and responsibility. Here's what it means:

#### "Leave No One Behind"

**Support and Unity:** As a club, we are a family. This means we stick together, whether it's on the trails or in life. No one is left stranded, unheard, or unsupported.

**Collaboration:** When challenges arise, we tackle them as a team. From mechanical breakdowns to personal struggles, we're committed to helping each other through life's obstacles.

#### "Leave No One Where You Found Them"

**Encouraging Growth:** We don't just offer support, we inspire progress. Our goal is not just to help people where they are, but to challenge and equip them to move forward with confidence — on and off the trails.

**Skill Development:** This could mean helping someone become a better driver, teaching trail recovery skills, or even developing as a future MWK leader.

**Empowering Transformation:** Everyone should leave the club stronger, more knowledgeable, and more capable than when they joined.

#### How This Motto Shapes Our Actions:

**On the Trails:** We stay together, ensuring every vehicle and driver completes the trail safely. At the same time, we encourage members to push their limits and try new challenges, growing their confidence and skillset.

**In the Club:** We build a culture of mentorship, sharing knowledge and developing personal relationships.

**In Life:** Midwest Krawlers is more than off-roading — it's about building each other up, so every interaction leaves a positive impact.

This motto calls us to be a club that not only supports its members but also invests in their growth. It's about creating a lasting legacy of camaraderie and transformation, ensuring Midwest Krawlers is a place where everyone feels they belong and where they're encouraged to become their best selves.

Interested in becoming a Club Partner for 2025? Reach out to Mike Malone at [mmalone@mwkclub.com](mailto:mmalone@mwkclub.com) for options!

### PLATINUM SPONSORS



### GOLD SPONSORS



### SILVER SPONSORS



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