

February 2004



Trail Tales

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA LO-RANGERS 4WD CLUB

Cover Picture

The cover picture this month is the club run on Sunflower mine trail. As you can see it was an unusual run for Arizona with snow in the background

January Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members present: Don Munzer, Gary Bennett, Sean and Lynette Murphy, Dan and Jenn Egge, Matt Parkes, Steve Graham, Ron and Brenda Couch, Ted, Loran and Jacob Gersztyn, Roy Conner, Ed Lyons and Glenn McConnell. There were no guests in attendance. Membership dues are due.

Treasurer's report: \$3,692.41

Don Munzer "raffled" off the remaining club hats. Each family in attendance received a hat. Glenn McConnell has set up a web forum for the Lo-Rangers on his personal web.

[Http://www.uselessfurball.com/azlr](http://www.uselessfurball.com/azlr) He can also be reached at glenn@uselessfurball.com

Glenn McConnell needs pictures from the last run to the Sunflower area. Please e-mail or snail-mail them to him. Ted Gersztyn spoke to Brad regarding the AZLR web site hosted by ASA4WDC. Brad can give us directory space and access. Space will also include calendar, discussion group and mail lists. Ted is awaiting passwords and the account to be configured. The ASA4WDC e-mail list is an opt-in list. You must go to the website (ASA4WDC.org) and sign up. The ASA4WDC quarterly is scheduled for February 21. If any has any questions or concerns they would like to have addressed contact Ted Gersztyn at (480) 838-1281 or tedg1@mindspring.com. There was discussion as to why the Jamboree was moved to the Table Mesa area. Reasons being an individual has ownership of some property in the area has offered to allow the ASA4WDC use of the land. Thereby allowing us to control access and provide for vendor sales. Sandy McCullen needs any information on route 177 near Superior. Don Munzer has a map from the Florence Junction area which has the trails marked. He needs for people who have run in that area to have a look at the map and make sure all trails are accounted for.

Trip Reports - Glenn McConnell led a trip on New Years Day to Upper Woodpecker. There were 10 vehicles in attendance.

January 3, Matt Parkes led a trip up Axle Alley in which 4 vehicles participated.

The January Club Trip was led by Marty Boetel to the Sunflower area, Roads 201A, 25 and various others. 13 vehicles participated.

February 1 – Terminator – Meet at Table Mesa parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Calendar of Events

February 21 – Club run to Raw Deal call Ron Couch @ 480-726-8509.

February 25 – Meeting at Round Table Pizza, 7pm NW corner of Rural & Ray

March ? –

March 31 – Meeting at Round Table Pizza, 7pm NW corner of Rural & Ray

Trip Report

Sunflower Mine - 1/24/04

Participants:

Nixon's, Chevy Crew Cab

Spacy's, Jeep

Munzer's, Jeep

Mike Tutor and Guest, Toyota Tacoma

Couch's

Boetel's

Conner's, Jeep

Jason (guest of Roy)

Trip leader: Marty with Jay K as photographer

We met up at Bush/Beeline. Huge turnout! Drove up 87, one wrong turn, Marty hadn't been up this way since they redid the highway. Another wrong turn at the start of the trail, Mike Tutor took the lead.



Aired down and started climbing. Thick, greasy muddy clay made for a fun climb. Had to go into 4wd due to bald rear tires and a Detroit. Took a long bumpy side trip to a mercury mill. Stopped halfway down just before a nasty off-camber section. Ron went ahead and scouted it out, made it no problem. The rest of us followed. Got out and stretched a bit, looked over the mill.

Headed back up to the trail and started getting into snow. By time we stopped for lunch there was enough on the ground for the kids to have a good snowball fight. Mike and Roy tried a nice optional hill climb up to an overlook of the Mazataal wilderness area. Headed on down the trail, at the turnoff to 201A Marty decided to take the long way; didn't think the big ford could handle the muddy hill up without a rear locker.

Trail got pretty muddy. Jason's stock jeep took a bit of spotting to get through one moguled area. Finally found the right line and planted the throttle. A little further down I hit a rock with the front tire. About the time Lynn says "Rock there!" I hit the back tire too. Took out both 16.5 rims. Front threw the tire, rear was leaking pretty bad. Drove to a flat spot totaling the front rim. Jacked it up and swapped it out as the rain began coming down harder and harder. Jay and Roy pitched in and did most the work. Whacked the rear rim with the 3lb sledge, didn't help. Drove a ways till it got too low then Roy aired me up and I tried the 8lb sledge. Then I smashed it back into factory fresh condition. Blew through the rest of the trail and the hill climb up from the old homestead wasn't too bad. Met up with Marty and the Spacy's and drove out to the highway. We chatted a bit while everyone aired up.





The intent of this trip was for Jay to get a typical Arizona wheeling on film. Seeing as we had rain, mud, snow, mud, fog, and some mud it should be a good article if his pictures turn out. Even with the trashed rim I had a blast.

Scott Nixon

Items of Interest

Remember the club meeting is the last Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm at

Round Table Pizza

9920 S Rural Rd

Tempe, AZ

It's located on the northwest corner of Rural and Ray. If you visit

<http://www.roundtablepizza.com/> you can get discount coupons on pizza to use at the next club meeting. Come early and eat with the gang.

February Club Run

Raw Deal on Saturday the 21st, meet at Table Mesa parking lot at 9:00 a.m. This trail is a fun rocky wash with a 3.5-4.5 rating. Call Ron Couch @ 480-726-8509 if you're going.

Land Use Issues

Please send any land use issues that you want included in the next newsletter to the editor at: <mailto:charles.h.babcock@intel.com>.

Editors Corner

Make sure you pay your dues for the New Year!

If you're going to go on a club run make sure to call the trip leader. If the meeting time or location is changed or canceled then he can call everyone that's going and let them know. If you don't call then it's your own fault if you miss the run.

Classifieds

If anyone has anything for sale just type it up and email it to me at <mailto:charles.h.babcock@intel.com> and I'll put it in the newsletter.

For Sale – 1993 Ford PU 4 WD, Powerstroke, automatic, cruise, tilt, 142k miles, 40k on engine, 14 MPG, White, \$7500.00. For details call Marty Boetel @ 480-926-3977.

MAKE SURE YOU PAY THE CLUB DUES.

You can pay at the next meeting or send your \$40 to Ed at:

Ed Lyons

936 E Wesleyan Dr

Tempe, AZ 85282

Make sure you tell him what it's for.

Quote

You're only given a little spark of madness. You mustn't lose it.

Robin Williams

Enthusiastically Created by Charlie Babcock