

February 2007



Trail Tales

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA LO-RANGERS 4WD CLUB

Cover Picture

Now that is one happy wheeler, Scott posing the Big Ugly on a small obstacle on the Red Picacho Loop trail.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes for 1/31/07

Members present: Matt Parkes, Andy, Sean and Lynette Murphy, Ed and Nancy Lyons, Steve and Linda Graham, Marty Boetel, Scott Nixon, Charlie Babcock, and guest Lars Ambrose larsambrose@cox.net and Zak his grandson.

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. The guest (Lars) has a CJ-7 and a 4Runner. He wants to join a club that likes to camp and do easier runs. Linda discussed the campsite at Mingus Mountain. Scott gave a trip report on Red Picacho Loop. Scott talked about his Christmas tree run back in December. Elections were held amongst much fan fare. All the 2006 incumbents were reelected. Ron Couch (former member) is coming back to AZ; maybe he'll rejoin the Lo-Rangers. Charlie volunteered to a club run on Feb 17th to Woods Canyon Lake Road for a snow run otherwise an alternative run will be chosen. Marty is going to run Moab the end of the summer. Linda talked about SMA steak and auction April 20th at Papago Park. Lots of cool stuff is auctioned off, like machining equipment.

Calendar of Events

February 17 – Snow run on Woodscanyon Lake Road call Charlie @480-231-4565

February 28 – Meeting at 7pm location La Belle Pizza

March ? – Club run

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Trip Report

Red Picacho Loop 1/20/2007

This trail goes though the Wickenburg Mountains. It's about 20 miles long and can be done in about 4 hours. Not counting stops and getting lost. There are many side trails that can be done from the main trail. This is Gold country, plus many other minerals. The trail can be done by any stock 4x4.

The trail is mainly two washes connected by a narrow road with some shelve sections. The main attractions are the mining sites, both old and several still being worked. Along the trail you can see many claim markers.

I arrived at the meeting point a little before 10am waiting to see if anybody else would show up on a cold and misty morning. You couldn't see the tops of the tall peaks for the low clouds. After waiting a few minutes I hear the sound of tires down the road and then saw The Big Ugly coming (Scott Nixon). Scott and I waited a few minutes to see if any other brave souls would show up.

We took off up Castle hot Spring road and turned off in to the Tribby Wash. After hitting the shelf road we came by the first of the mining sites. The pool of bones. This site has some old concrete truck mixers that were used to process ore. There are some other old equipment there also. The pool of bones is a concrete pool about 10 feet deep that was probably used as a leaching pond. Looks like some cows got in the pond and couldn't get out. So there are some beached bones at the bottom. The rancher who has cattle out here has put a barbed wire fence around the pool to keep his cows out.



Make due with what you got.

After getting down to the San Domingo Wash there is another mining site with a small wooden house with a stove, sink and other kitchen stuff. Down by the wash there is a grave and a well.

Not to far down the wash is a three storied mica mill. This is a contraption you would have to see to believe. There seems to be no planning to the construction. Scott climbed up the mill and all he could do was laugh. They used anything they could get for next to no money and welded it all together.

The last place we stopped was the Morning Star mine a large outcropping of white rock.

After getting back to the pavement I aired up my tires and we left.

Submitted by Steve Smith



Token picture of Steve's Jeep, he's the camera man so I get no pictures or sometimes one of his rig.



If you build it they will come



I guess they mean business

Items of Interest

Remember the club meeting is the last Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm at La Belle Pizza & Pasta, North West corner of Rural and Ray in Tempe.

Remember to re-member dues are due. Bring \$40 to the next meeting or send a check to:
Ed Lyons
936 E Wesleyan Dr
Tempe, AZ 85282
Make sure you tell him what it's for.

February run

We'd like to try to make a snow run, the closest surest place to find snow will probably be on the rim. We're shooting for the road to Woodscanyon Lake off of SR260 on the 2/17/2007. If it doesn't snow again before then we'll cancel the snow run and change to a different trail. I'll let everyone know by email or phone. If the snow run is on we'll meet at 9am at the intersection of Bush and Beeline, there's a dirt lot there. Call me at 480-231-4565 if you're going to attend. I'll let everyone know what's going on Wednesday of next week.

Land Use Issues

Editors Stuff

Scott Nixon's done an excellent job of putting pictures up from our previous runs. Check out the webpage at: <http://www.azlorangers.org/images/index.htm>

Things you need but didn't know it

Warn 9.5ti winch complete except for mount. Used three times
New \$1,050; will take \$800

Back Rat hand winch; 3,500 pounds pull with snatch block.
Never used.
\$400 new; will take \$200

ARB Portable Air Compressor (RDCP) Just rebuilt.
\$200 new; will take \$100

Master Flow Q89 chrome dual piston compressor puts out 150 psi and 72 Liter per Minute.
Two months old.
\$170 new; will take \$120

One Goodyear MTR 245x75r16; less than 1,000 miles.
\$200 new; will take \$80

E-mail stephenssmith@msn.com or call afternoons or evenings 480-838-5394

Free for the taking:

* Non-tilt steering column from a 1980 J20. It has the ignition key and GM-style wiring. The steering wheel is pretty generic. It doesn't say "Jeep" or AMG so it won't be embarrassing to put in any vehicle.

* A flywheel for an AMC 360 engine. Weld some legs on it to make a nice little patio or accent table. Just kidding! It's in good shape. Call Steve or Linda Graham @ 480-834-1171

For Sale 800w generator call Steve Graham @ 480-834-1171

Quote

The average Ph.D. thesis is nothing but a transference of bones from one graveyard to another.

J. Frank Dobie

Created by Charlie Babcock