

October 2008



Trail Tales

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA LO-RANGERS 4WD CLUB

Cover Picture

The Lo-Rangers on their annual Mingus camp out.

Meeting Minutes

Yes we actually had a meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm.

Members in attendance: Ed Lyons, Steve Graham, Steve Smith, Nick Sesma, Sean Murphy, Matt Parkes, and Charlie Babcock.

Old Business: Everyone laughed because they couldn't remember any old business.

New Business: Friday October 10th through the Monday the 13th Charlie and Sean are running Log Corral as a camp out.

Steve asked if we should donate \$500 to some 4wd charity. Ed Lyons spoke up that the money in the account had been accumulated when the club was large and it keeps us from paying fees on the checking account. Most people agreed we shouldn't donate a chunk of money.

Steve S also mentioned that the Mingus trip was the following weekend.

The ASA is going to hold a Jamboree on April 17-20 2009.

Vehicle advisory group with Game and Fish has job openings.

Unlicensed vehicles need a sticker to access State Trust Land.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

Calendar of Events

October 10-13 – Log Corral camp out call Charlie @ 480-231-4565

October 29 – Meeting at 7pm location TC Luigi's

November ? – Club run

November 26 – Meeting at 7pm location TC Luigi's

Trip Report

7th Annual Mingus Mtn. Campout

Sept 26-28, 2008

Attendees:

1980 Scout II – Steve and Linda Graham

1993 Tacoma – Nick and Tara Sesma

2005 Unlimited – Steve Smith

We had a smaller the normal turnout due to the late date and high fuel prices. Steve and I got into camp around 2 pm on Friday and found Stephen Smith already there. On our way up from Prescott Valley we watched rain clouds forming overhead and dumping gray and white stuff on the top of Mingus Mountain, but all we got was a few drops of rain on the windshield. Right after we got into camp the wind picked up and so did the rain. We hid behind the tree trunks and watched as the rain started coming in horizontally. Our little microburst lasted all of 5 minutes and didn't leave enough moisture to keep the dust down. After that we had a beautiful weekend.

Steve and I had the campsite to ourselves on Friday night. Stephen headed down the hill to his deluxe accommodations at the local Motel 6.

Saturday morning Nick Sesma and his daughter Tara showed up ready to camp. Unfortunately no one else showed up with kids so Tara was bored to death, though she did prove to be useful in chopping up firewood and starting the campfire that evening.

Saturday afternoon, Nick and Tara went off to watch the hang gliders for a while. The rest of us hung out in camp. All in all it was a nice, laid back camping trip up in the pines. We all took off for home before noon on Sunday.

In late July, Reserve America, the company you contact to make group site reservations, told me our reservation had been cancelled. The FS was planning on some remodeling work in the Playground Group site. It turned out they 'over cancelled' and our date was still good. When we got into camp we were expecting some changes like new BBQ grills, playground equipment, etc.. Nope! The only modification they did was add another duplex outlet and a 30amp RV plug to the power box.

Trail Damage: There wasn't any actual trail damage since we didn't do any 4-wheeling, but soon after we left home, the Scout became a real handful to control. The steering got really sensitive and Steve had to really concentrate to keep the Scout on the road. I went through this when I drove it up to the Scout Rendezvous back in April, but I thought the problem had been fixed. After we got home, Steve took the front end apart and discovered there was taper on the spindle/outer bearing journal on the right side and the wheel bearings were loose. Steve replaced the spindles and bearings. It looks like that fixed the problem.

Written by Linda Graham

Ed Note. It's a shame the Forrest Service goofed up our annual run. I couldn't attend that weekend due to plans made a year earlier and Sean didn't end up going either so that was 9 more people that could have gone if we could have had a different date. Gas was cheaper than it's been in a while and the Blazer was ready for a scenic drive.



The few Lo-Rangers representatives, the pit toilet in the background is as nice as it looks.



A few good trucks.

Items of Interest

Land Use Issues

It's still there nothing to report

Editors Stuff

Things you need but didn't know it

This stuff is going to set some kind of record for longest running classified ad.

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

Quote

All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us.

[J. R. R. Tolkien](#)

Created by Charlie Babcock