



Trail Tales

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA LO-RANGERS 4WD CLUB

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and pledge of allegiance by President Marty Boetel at 6:57PM

One guest was in attendance, but I don't seem to have gotten his name. He did have one cherry Cherokee Chief that we all tried to break our necks to see out in the parking lot. Appears that this is a second owner vehicle... the first was the guys dad. Makes ya sick, huh?

A form letter was passed around and was to be filled out and returned by the end of the meeting.

This letter was to get the statement which left a possibility for land swapping in the RMP coming from the Tucson BLM office. The land swap that we fear is the Florence Junction area.

Most everyone filled it out, added a personal statement to make it an individual letter and turned it in for mailing. Thanks to all that helped!

Ted gave ASA Quarterly report. See elsewhere for full story. Highlights are:

Permission was given to release names and addresses of ASA membership to Supporting Members (vendors mainly). This includes only mailing addresses and names, no other personal info. If you do not want your information out there please contact? (Ted, please fill this in as I missed it)

It was verified that no selling of these names was to be done by the recipients.

Contact Sandee McCullen as she needs your help, and empty seats for a field trip for several land offices. This trip will include sites such as riparian areas, tortoise breeding sites, dust problem areas and historical/archaeological sites.

The run will be formatted similar to the spook rally, in that it will have clue sheets to lead participants around to the different areas. This is to make it more fun for all involved.

Ted got a laugh out of us about something, not sure what... I think I laughed, too.

A word from the president:

Many land use officials are in need of our help, or some basic schooling. It would appear that they do not understand, or is that interested, in their own laws. There is an almost constant stream of contradictory statements and actions that only serves to confuse the folks who try to obey these folks.

Also, the president of ASA's ideas are good, but there are flaws to them, and the way they are presented.

It was found out that a certain ASA member (term used loosely) was discovered as the culprit who not only cut down the trees on Brakeline recently, but this person also left those trees behind. Then proceeded to ask a couple of other members to help in cleaning out the trail. Once the other realized what had happened, they did whatever they could to get out of the situation. The problem was only exacerbated by the fact that this person also brought Francisco Mendoza, Tucson BLM manager, along to witness this "responsible" activity.

Personal note... I have heard that the culprit actually is not an ASA member, but seems to act as one. If he is a member, I say refund what is left of dues and ban him for life. How can someone not affiliated, or questionably so, be allowed to head up the Jamboree, especially in light of recent actions? I thought you had to be able to sign ASA checks for that position?

The August club run had an average turn out... 3 vehicles. We really need to find a way to get more folks involved in the wheelin aspect of club life.

Scott Nix, Linda Luik and the Babcock family showed for a day of fun wheelin. They noted that the trail appeared unused, but in great shape. There was even a bit of rest time where folks gathered around the swimming hole (the Babcocks' kiddie pool) to cool off and relax. Charlie Babcock managed to find a rattlesnake, so the pool was a little warmer than it had been. The tons of mosquitoes didn't seem to care about the snake, as they were in abundance. Everyone noted that Scott must stink, as he is the only person who did not get eaten alive by the buggers.

It was decided that the area must be the site of a certain person's next trail clean up... the tree with the big X on it

could not be found. This turnoff leads to a fun part of trail that simply had to be forgotten about since no one knew the way otherwise.

Ted made note that he was not a happy camper at the quarterly, as he spent every break crying because he was inside instead of on this trail.

John Tash's overnigher turned out to be a no-show, but hey... there wasn't any rain!

Jamboree Update: Attempts to contact Bob Carney have proven unsuccessful so far. Lo-RANGERS, as a habit, has agreed to do Tech Inspection. Messages have been left, but it was noted that the message box was full last time someone tried. If you have things to discuss about Jamboree, please try Bob and leave a message... he may get back to you.

The \$25 off for ASA members who work at the jamboree is in effect, so register if you are going to, and make sure to work it off.

Glenn is trying to get more info on this, and a faster way than snail mail to communicate, so contact him at 480-380-9936 (leave message) or at glenn@engenuity.com for more information.

Motion made, seconded and passed to write ASA board with wording to state "members and clubs need to be contacted and heard prior to any board member making commitments or statements of opinion for ASA as a whole.

Motion made, seconded and passed to include paragraph or more that specifically states AZ Lo-RANGERS' opinion and suggestion regarding limitation device for Jawbreaker trail. This opinion/suggestion is that an obstacle as hard or harder than any on the actual trail be built at both the entrance and exit of the trail, along with signage to state why this has been done, and educate folks of what they can do to help.

Adjournment at 7:59

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn E. McConnell

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Calendar of Events

Sept 14	Dedication of the GWT	Williams
Sept 21	Log Corral trail	Sycamore Creek area
Sept 25	Club meeting	Round Table Pizza
October 25-27: Arizona Rough Rider's Spook Rally		

Upcoming Events/Runs:

Sept 14: Dedication of a good chunk of AZ portion of the Great Western Trail. They are looking for RSVPs so please contact Sandee for more information. The trail will be open for folks to go have some fun, so be sure and get up to the high country for some cool wheelin. Most of it is rated 2.5-3 on a scale of 5.

Sept 21. Club Run to Log Corral Meet: 8:30 at Bush Hwy and Beeline. Rated as a 3.5 for narrow vehicles, a little harder for fullsizes Should be a good time for all who attend.

October 25-27: Arizona Rough Rider's Spook Rally. Cost is \$46/vehicle (two mouths worth of food and a couple of raffle tickets) Entries due by Oct 4. Limited to 100 Vehicles, to be chosen in a lottery on Oct 5 at Desert Breeze Park in Chandler (between Ray and Chandler, East of McClintock) Contact: Steve & Linda Pufpaff 3742 W. Linda Lane Chandler, AZ 85226

Trip Reports

Location: Dupont Cabin:
 Attendees: Me : Dodge Ram, Babcock family : Blazer, Linda Luik : Jeep Grand Cherokee

By the time I got to the meeting spot it was already getting warm. We waited till 8:30 and took off. Traffic was flowing fast headed north, and we made good time up to 188. After a quick stop for gas, we backtracked a bit to Punkin Center and started down the dirt road that

heads up into the mountains. Deciding to air down when the road got rough, I pressed down the accelerator in a desperate search for altitude. The road grader had been back through this area very recently, it was smoother than some paved roads I've been on.

A half hour or so of 40MPH plus dust generation lead us to the start of the 4wd portion. Everyone aired down and had a quick snack in the shade of some mesquite trees. It wasn't getting any cooler though, so on we went. The trail climbs pretty quickly after this point. A mile or so up we stopped to enjoy the view. Linda noticed dripping from her Jeep; it turned out to be tranny fluid from a worn out cooler line. She topped it off with a quart of fluid and off we went.

The only difficult section of the trail was next, a series of rock ledges separated by loose, rocky climbs. Everyone made it up fine, and we soon reached the top after the last ledge. With a tarp tied between the Blazer and Ram and a couple of trees, we sat down for lunch. The shade and a nice breeze made for a pleasant lunch, but we weren't to the cabin yet. We loaded up and pressed on. A mile or two of pine trees and we pulled up to the cabin.

Once everybody had their camps set up, the Babcock girls went for a quick swim (!) in a kiddie pool. Linda, Charlie, Haley and I then headed out for a hike. Linda went left down a side road to see where it went, while the rest of us headed down towards JR Ranch and the scenic view into DuPont Canyon. Despite an attack by killer pinecones we made it to the overlook and enjoyed the view. Looking out over the edge I was surprised to see Linda off in the distance. We exchanged waves and then headed back to camp.

After dinner we explored the cabin for bit till Charlie noticed the large rattler sleeping in the corner. Back outside we became dinner for the swarms of mosquitos. A couple of bats did their best to help, but we eventually had to resort to chemical warfare. On every other trip I've been on up to this area, as soon as the sun went down you had to pull out a sweatshirt. Several years ago we even had a camp fire in August. Not this year though. It was shorts and shirt sleeves right up until bed time. The tents were a bit stuffy, but I was fine in the bed of my truck; at least until sunrise when the mosquitos came looking for breakfast. I soon found out which body parts had been missed during my last application of bug spray.

Once we were all packed up, we headed on down the trail. Although I was finally seeing tire tracks in the trail, there were quite a few downed trees to navigate around. I even had to get out and nudge one over a bit. The road was easy but bumpy, so much so that Charlie had to stop to re-attach one of his rear shocks.

Making a left on a smoother forest service road, we headed for the Indian Cave. It had been several years since I had been out this way, but figured there was no way I could miss the clearing or the tree with the big white "X" on it. Somehow though, I did. After bumping along the trail for a while it became apparent we were starting our descent back into the Roosevelt lake basin. Grabbing the last spot of shade we ate lunch and headed down.

The road dropped quickly, switching back and forth as it dropped through a beautiful canyon. Charlie was having some problems as his transmission linkage yanked itself into neutral every time the body flexed. Linda was having tranny problems too, probably related to low fluid. Once back to the river, we decided to limp along the highway to the next gas station. Once we filled up our tires and topped off a few transmissions, we all made the uneventful trip home.

Submitted by Scott Nixon

Items of Interest

Message from Former Lo-Ranger

Hi Don,

We are doing fine. Penn. is really different. People start complaining about the heat when it gets up to 90 ;^)

It's not easy to find places to 4wheel around here. There is an off-road park about 50 miles north of here called Paragon that has some good wheelen. It's a 23 square mile private park, but it cost \$40 a day to play there. They do provide medical service, recovery, tour guides and park cruisers that are always looking for people in trouble or breaking the rules.

Matthew is planing on moving back to Phoenix the first of the year and plans on hooking back up with the club.

Sending a pic of Penn. rockcrawling

Tell every one I said Hi.

Gordon



Spook Rally

Attached at the end of the newsletter is the registration for Spook Rally.

Steve Pufpaff was not too willing to freely distribute his email address as far as I could tell.

So..if folks want to register via email, have them send it to me and I will forward. But they MUST realize... they are not officially registered for the drawing until the check CLEARS the bank.

Glenn E. McConnell

NOHVCC Land Managers Conference

October 21 - 25

Field Trip, October 25 at Table Mesa
NEED DRIVERS/VEHICLES/SEATS

Will need approx. 50 "SEATS"...

Information needed:

Name:

Vehicle: #Seats:

Club Affiliation:

Phone #:

Email:

CB will be mandatory.

Everyone needs to be at the parking lot at Table Mesa Rd by 7:00 a.m. We will be leaving promptly at 8:00 a.m. but we will be doing a "mock Spook Rally" between stops. Each "Passenger" will be given a clue sheet of which they will converse via CB with each other to determine the "route to take" as per the clue sheets. At each stop the next clue sheet will be available.

The managers/passengers will be asked to "switch seats" at each stop so they can meet a variety of 4-wheelers as well as see the difference in vehicles we all use in our sport.

There will be 5 stops... one each for: erosion/dust; riparian; archaeological; historical; tortoise habitat &

rock crawling OHV. There may be several groups pulling out at 15-minute intervals. Depends on the number of vehicles we end up with.

We will all meet at the last stop for lunch. The plans are to be back at the parking lot by 1:00 p.m.

We do not need to provide transportation from the hotel/meeting to Table Mesa.

Delegate meeting report

Wheeldust

Deadline Sept 1 for content.

Membership

Don Hicks has volunteered to be Chairman in addition to Historian. New roster within 60 days. Needs newsletters and history. There will be a new feature in the Wheeldust.

Awareness

United has printed a new manual. Copies can be ordered from United. ASA has scheduled an awareness class for October 5 in Payson and another during Jamboree. There is a possibility for a clinic for Border Patrol in the Tucson area. A church in Gilbert has asked for a clinic with a possibility of 20 students. Awareness students have to be members of ASA to be covered by ASA insurance or there will be a \$250 per class insurance fee. Typically students receive a six-month membership as part of the class. Official name is now "4X4 Safety Awareness Program" instead of Awareness program.

There are currently eight Chief Instructors, many of who are close to expiring. There will be a class at Ben Avery Range soon for re-certification of chief instruction.

UNITED

Trail Leader guide and Winch manual will be available in the future Membership in United is now about 13k. Duane Groom is the new United president. United is looking for permanent paid director. United wants to release all members' names and address to supporting members, not to be resold to non-supporting members. Supporting members contribute approx. \$7000 per each – approx. \$50,000 total, per year. To have your name and address removed from the list E-mail the office manager of United at UFWD.org. New members will get a welcome letter even the ones joining through clubs.

Awards 1. Certificate of nomination for Bob Nyberg—4 Wheeler of the year

2. Certificate of nomination for Kurt Loga—Environmental 4 Wheeler of the year. ASA is hosting the United convention in Flagstaff, June 25-29, 2003.

Land use conference will be included. Agenda: Wednesday—Land use conference Thursday—Delegate Caucus Friday—Delegate Caucus till noon Friday p.m. and Saturday—Delegate convention. United needs vendors to sponsor food for meetings, asking for \$500 per meal. To be held at Little America, \$69 per night. United/Blue Ribbon key tags made by Gary Keller and bought by United/Blue Ribbon for distribution at events and trade shows. ASA could purchase same key tags at \$1.15 each for 500. September 13-15 United will have a booth and ASA will populate it at the Outdoor Exposition at the Phoenix Civic Center.

POLITICAL ISSUES

Pima county board of supervisors is supporting the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan. Becky has asked for a recall of the Board of Supervisors, which has created a lot of notoriety for Becky. Letters to the Editor—Editors only post one per month per person so having other people write letters increases chances of letters being published. Sierra club lists their activists who have been elected to political office on their web site. Ironwood National Monument meetings—Thanks for the support. There were 75 people, 60 red shirts (red shirts indicate active OHV users) 95% were from the Virtual Jeep club.

Support efforts by going to meetings and writing letters.

WEB ACTIVITY

ASA's hosting provider has been paid through 2003, approx. \$65 per month, most of the cost is paid by for by banner ads.

REGION 1

October 21-25 NOHVACC and AZ State Parks will sponsor Land Managers conference. ASA will have representation at all meeting. Friday- will need some vehicles to ferry managers to riparian area site visit 30-50 vehicles with open seats. Stock 4x4 vehicles ok. ASA will be funding two attendees. Great Western Trail—Dedication in Williams area September 14, RSVP required. ASA approved donation of \$500 for printing of GWT maps

REGION 2

They will host the February quarterly delegate meeting in Bullhead City February 15, 16 and 17. Presidents day weekend. Runs on Sat and Sun.

REGION 3

Trying to establish a club in Flagstaff. There is going to be camping at Black Barts across from Little America during the United convention.

REGION 4

Trail Dust days October 4-6 Catalina State Park, Oracle area.

JAMBOREE

Bob Carney was not in attendance. Registration-- currently 10 people versus 13 people at same time last year. 25% discount is still in effect for persons working the event. Trip leaders are still needed. Contact Bob Carney. Check the ASA web site for details. The state land permit will not permit vendors to sell goods at the Jamboree and ASA cannot afford the cost for the special use permit to allow sales. BLM permit has been submitted, check has cleared, expect answer by August 31. Two of the new trails that were questionable have been removed from the schedule. Overdose and Breakline. Bad Medicine may be okay after verifying owner permission. JawBreaker is a lingering problem because of the riparian area. ASA has been asked to discourage casual use. BLM is concerned that this trail may be overused. A condition of the permit requests that each user of the trail donates one hour of time to restoring the trail.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominations for November election: VP Ray Jenkins Treasurer Elliot Bartlett Nominations can be made at the November meeting.

INSURANCE

We have a new agent but the same carrier. Policy expires in October, will be renewed with a 15% increase in cost. Annual will be approx. \$2000 per year for \$2 million in liability coverage, plus \$50 per certificate of co-insurance, which is needed, when we partner with State, USFS, etc.

IDEA FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cash reward for information leading to arrest and conviction of people responsible for violation of environmental laws. Example—Trail damage, grave robbery, etc.

“We must support the laws whether or not we agree with them”

Night Of 4-Wheel Terror

22nd Annual Arizona Rough Rider's Spook Rally!

October 25, 26 & 27



“What’s A Spook Rally?” you ask.

The ARR Spook Rally is a weekend of 4-wheelin’ fun in the desert, including a nighttime 4-wheel drive event in which the driver and co-driver(s) attempt to duplicate a specific course by following cryptic clue sheets. Each clue sheet brings you (hopefully) to a checkpoint, where (if you survive) you will receive another clue sheet to get you to the next checkpoint. How many checkpoints are there? Well that would ruin some of the surprise now, wouldn’t it? The Spook Rally is NOT a speed event, nor is it a night run through the desert following ribbons. The object (beyond merely surviving it) is to match the official odometer mileage clocked by our official mileage clocker. (You’ll notice it doesn’t say “accurate”, just “official”.)



costume

trick-or-are



Friday night: When the sun goes down the witches, goblins, and goolies come out! It’s a party around the campfire for kids and adults. Dress up in your best Halloween duds and enjoy socializing with your fellow victims. There’s DJ music, and dancing if you’re so inclined, and treating for the young ones, so bring some goodies (enough for the *big* young ones, too). There prizes awarded to the best adult and best kid’s costumes!

Saturday games

morning: 4-wheel drive games to test your driving skills and sense of humor. There are also for the kids. Hot dogs and soft drinks are available during the games.

Saturday evening: Driver’s meeting to update everyone on any last minute changes, then at sunset, the first vehicle moves out into the darkening desert.



Sunday morning: Most everyone should be back in camp, and the Arizona Rough Riders will put on their legendary morning-after breakfast of coffee, juice, eggs, bacon, sausage, and light and fluffy pancakes! Shoot, some people come from out of state just to have breakfast!!! Immediately following breakfast cleanup, trophies are presented, and then we raffle off more prizes than most people could fit in their vehicles!

Where is all this fun?: It wouldn’t fit inside the B.O.B, that’s for sure! We need the great southwestern desert for *this* much fun! We’ll be out by Lake Pleasant just off the Carefree Highway, about half way to Wickenburg. An accurate map will be included in your registration packet. A large camping area surrounds our base camp. There’s plenty of room for tents, campers, and motor homes.

Entry fee: You’re probably wondering what a splendid weekend of fun in the sun (and under the moon) like this will cost you. Just \$46.00, and that includes the Spook Rally, \$4.00 BLM vehicle fee, 2 breakfasts, 2 raffle tickets, a dash plaque, a goody bag, dancing, trick-or-treating, entry into the games, and help carrying your raffle loot to your vehicle!

Registration: Since we have to limit the number of vehicles that can go on the Spook Rally to 100, we will use a lottery system to select the participants and their vehicle position. We will accept entries from now until the mail comes on October 4th. Then on October 5th, at 10:00AM, we will hold our lottery at the Desert Breeze Park in Chandler (between Ray and Chandler Blvd, east of McClintock). Each entry envelope may contain up to three registration forms. The order in which the entries are draw will be the order in which the vehicles start the run. Forms received after October 4th will be tagged onto the far end of the line, on a first in, first out basis. You are welcome to attend the lottery, but everyone will be informed by mail of their position and time-out. Cancellation by Oct. 19 will result in a full refund. After that date the cost of breakfasts will be subtracted from the refund.

Mandatory Equipment: Each vehicle *MUST* pass a safety inspection prior to leaving on the run. Mandatory equipment includes: A 4-wheel drive vehicle with a roll bar, roll cage, or permanent hard top; a working CB radio; seatbelts for each vehicle occupant; headlights; and a working odometer. Highly recommended equipment includes a flashlight; a watch; a pen or pencil; and a sense of humor. Completely optional equipment includes a sewing kit with mixed buttons; dental floss; floatation devices; and Jello. Stuff that will be of no use at all includes solar ovens; a snowmobile; and clown makeup (its really hard to drive with those big floppy shoes!).

ITINERARY

Friday, October 25, 2002

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

6:30 PM - ???

Registration & Vehicle Inspection

Costume Party and Dance Under the Stars

Saturday, October 26, 2002

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

4:00 PM

Sundown

Registration & Vehicle Inspection Continues

Kids Games

Jeep Games

Mandatory Drivers Meeting

Spook Rally

Sunday, October 27, 2002

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

10:00 AM

Noon

Country Breakfast

Winners Announced & Raffle Held

Clean-up

KIDS GAMES

Water balloon catching contest, egg carrying contest, baseball bat spin, run race, and other games to be announced.

JEEP GAMES

Various games and courses to test driver coordination, skill and finesse. Games are conducted in a confined wash area.

SPOOK RALLY

Participants are given a list of clever instructions and clues to find checkpoints where trick or treat prizes are given. The course will be monitored by Club Members to ensure vehicles don't get off the main trail. This is not a timed event nor is this a race.

Questions ?? **Call Steve or Linda Pufpaff (480) 963-5428**

SIGN ME UP for THE 2002 ROUGH RIDER SPOOK RALLY*Please type or print clearly!*

Name	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	
Telephone	
Email Address	
Club Affiliation	

Please check one:

I would like to go on the Spook Rally and if not drawn I will attend as a "standby".

I would like to go on the Spook Rally but if not drawn I would like a full refund.

I will be attending for the fun, but not going on the Spook Rally.

Number of children 12 and under _____

TAKE MY MONEY! What do I owe?

Full Entry Fee: \$ _____ (\$46.00 per vehicle)

Non-Run Entry Fee: \$ _____ (\$32.00 includes everything but the run itself.)

Extra Breakfast Tickets: \$ _____ (\$ 6.00 each for people 13 and over.)

Total Registration Fee: \$ _____ (One check per vehicle please.)

Make checks payable to: **ARR Spook Rally**Please note that all checks *must* clear before Oct. 24th, or we will ask you to pay cash when you register. Mail check with this form to:

Steve & Linda Pufpaff
 3742 W. Linda Lane
 Chandler, AZ 85226

How will I ever remember all the fun I had? Well it probably won't be the *first* weekend you've forgotten, but to help you keep these precious moments alive we're offering one-of-a-kind limited edition souvenir tee shirts. Order now and avoid the rush! We have sold out every year. Don't be disappointed! Sizes included Child (S, M, L), Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, and XXXL

Size _____ Qty _____

Total number of shirts _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____

Please make a separate check out to ARR4WD and include it with this form.

22nd ANNUAL ARIZONA ROUGH RIDER

SPOOK RALLY CAN FOOD DRIVE

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING THE LOCAL FOOD BANKS !

Please bring your donation of any non-perishable food items to the Rally. Collection Boxes will be available at the registration table.

All donations are greatly appreciated.