

August 2006



Trail Tales

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA LO-RANGERS 4WD CLUB

Cover Picture

This is as exciting a picture that I got this month. Steve Smith got a couple diamond plate corners installed on the Jeep to protect the sheet metal. He put a big dent in and broke the tail light on the passenger side corner maneuvering on the Martinez Canyon trail.

Meeting Minutes

Members in attendance:

Steven Smith (Gas)
Steve Graham (Diesel)
Linda Luik (Diesel)
Ed Lyons (Gas)
Matt Parkes (Diesel)
Marty Boetel (Diesel)
Scott Nixon (Diesel)

Meeting called to order at 7:03. Due to the extreme temperature in the meeting room we met out in the restaurant. Received a few strange looks as we recited the pledge. Ed gave a treasures report; \$6 for decals brings our bank account up to \$3904.51. Marty discussed a new camping spot he found in Flagstaff on Wing Mountain. Temperature was 70 degrees; the ice cave as always was 32 degrees. There was a lot of mud in the area.

Steve Smith ran the Young Highway. Scott discussed a stock Chevy ¾ ton he saw stranded on the play hill at Table Mesa. Attempting to turn around half way down the hill he snapped both pencil thin tie rods. Linda and Steve took a trip down to Jack's Government Surplus to get a set of 39" Michelin XL's for her Dodge. A 2 inch lift and a date with the sawzall are being planned. A discussion of the weight rating of these tires led to the suggestion of a Cummin's powered unicycle.

The club discussed membership in Tread Lightly. A club membership can be had for \$100 a year. No one was sure if we were still members through ASA or United, or if we were still members of United, or if we really wanted to be members of ASA. Membership in Blue Ribbon Coalition was also mentioned. Issue was tabled until we could find out what clubs we're actually in.

August trip is Mingus Mountain. Steve and Linda are headed up Friday morning.

Marty will be in Moab the week of October 16th. He may go the up the weekend before or after depending on club interest.

Scott will be leading a trip to Log Coral September 16th. Matt, Marty, Steve and Linda warmly reminisced about all the damage done to Matt's truck on this trail.

The first week of October Steve and Linda will be joining the Tucson Rough Riders for Trail Dust days.

Scott will be leading a trip to Mud Springs sometime in October (unless someone else volunteers). This is our club adopt-a-trail and needs to be run at least once a year.

A discussion on diesel prices ensued. Scott and Matt both tried to bend the needle to make it to their favorite cheap station; Matt ended up coasting into a station a few blocks closer.

Scott coasted to a stop a mile away and had to pull out the jerry can. Bio-diesel versus straight veggies oil was debated. Steven Graham indicated a truck stop south of I10/202 intersection advertises diesel for \$2.89, but that is the big-rig (high road tax) price. Light duty vehicles only pay \$2.81!

Matt hasn't made it out to Firebird yet, but street (ahem) testing of his new Edge programmer and Methanol injection system has resulted in 90mhp ¼ mile passes; truck will chirp the tires into 2nd gear.

Next weekend Marty is camping in Flagstaff on Wing Mountain.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41.

Respectfully submitted by Scott Nixon

Calendar of Events

August 25-27– Club camp out on Mingus call Linda @ 480-834-1171

August 30 – Meeting at 7pm location La Belle Pizza

September 16 – Club run on Log Corral call Scott @602-361-1517

September 27 – Meeting at 7pm location La Belle Pizza

Trip Reports

No runs. ☹

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.

Joke submitted by Jerome

The Pope took a couple of days off to visit the mountains of Alaska for some sight-seeing. He was cruising along the campground in the Pope mobile when there was a frantic commotion just at the edge of the woods. A helpless Democrat, wearing sandals, shorts, a "Save the Whales" hat, and a "To Hell with Bush" T-shirt, was screaming while struggling frantically, thrashing around trying to free himself from the grasp of a 10 foot grizzly.

As the Pope watched horrified, a group of Republican loggers came racing up. One quickly fired a .44 magnum into the bear's chest... The other two reached up and pulled the bleeding, semiconscious Democrat from the bear's grasp. Then using long clubs, the three loggers finished off the bear and two of them threw it onto the bed of their truck while the other tenderly placed the injured Democrat in the back seat.

As they prepared to leave, the Pope summoned them to come over. "I give you my blessing for your brave actions!" he told them. "I heard there was a bitter hatred between

Republican loggers and Democratic environmental activists but now I've seen with my own eyes that this is not true.."

As the Pope drove off, one of the loggers asked his buddies "Who was that guy?" "It was the Pope," another replied. "He's in direct contact with heaven and has access to all wisdom." "Well," the logger said, "he may have access to all wisdom but he sure doesn't know anything about bear hunting!"

By the way, is the bait holding up, or do we need to go back to Massachusetts and snatch another one?"

August run

The long awaited Mingus Mountain camp out run Friday 25th through Sunday 27th. The Grahams are going up Friday morning, the Babcock's are going Friday late after noon and the Nixons are going up Friday evening. Linda insists we're going to go on a four wheel drive run on Saturday near the camp ground. We have a reserved camp ground with pit toilets all to our selves so come up any time spend the night(s) or come up for the day. Call Linda @ 480-834-1171 for more information and to let her know you're going.

Land Use Issues

Editors Stuff



I finished the 55 Willy's project on July 23rd and sent it back to California. At the moment I'd say I'll never do that again. It was a bunch of work. It drives great but the owner still has a long way to go with the sheet metal, interior, paint, etc.

Things you need but didn't know it

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

"Democracy does not guarantee equality of conditions - it only guarantees equality of opportunity."

Irving Kristol

Created by Charlie Babcock