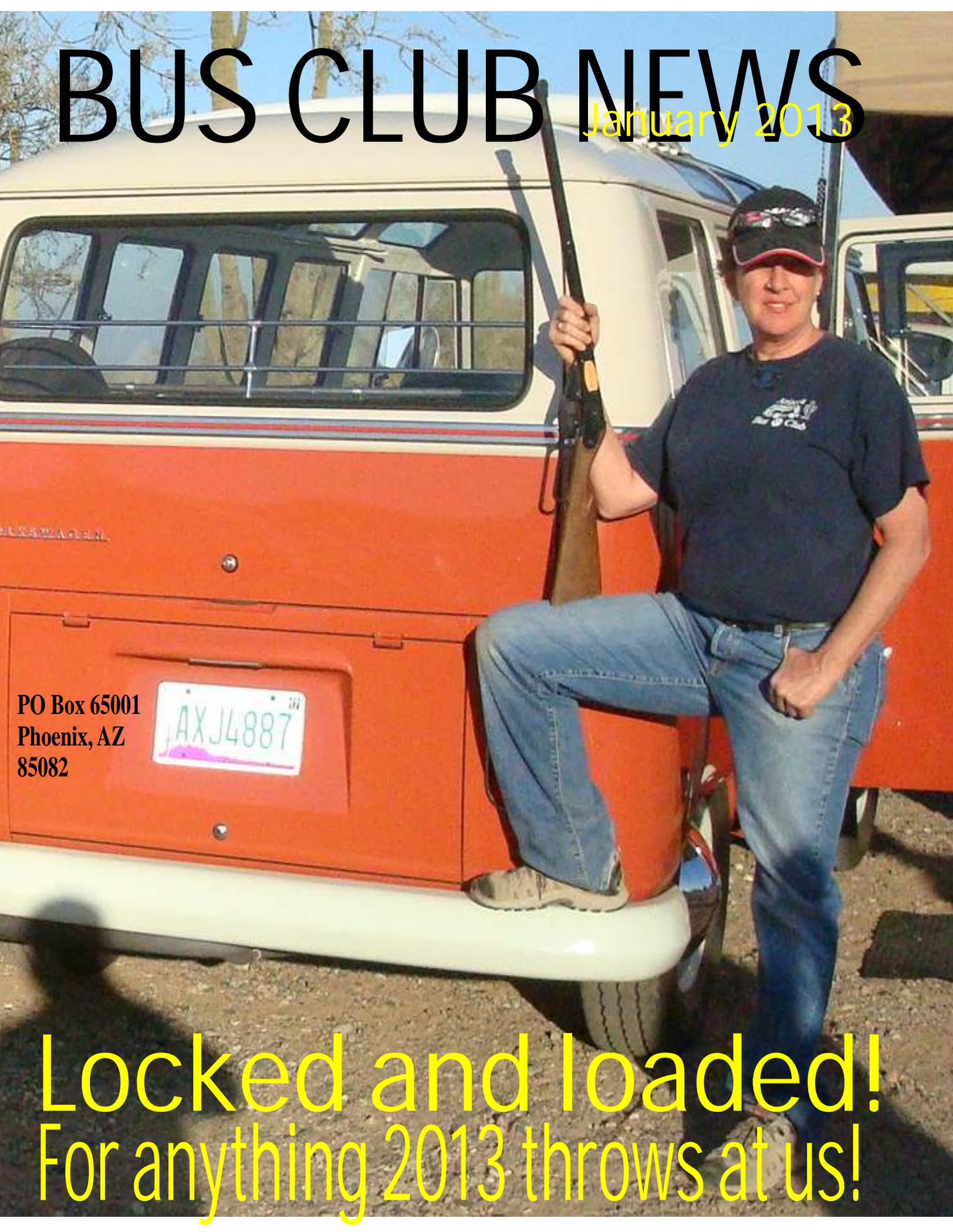


BUS CLUB NEWS

January 2013



PO Box 65001
Phoenix, AZ
85082

Locked and loaded!
For anything 2013 throws at us!

Behind the Wheel



Election Results
spoiler alert: her
name is
Caravan!

Buying Guide

2013 Event Planner

Chupacabra Alert!

Wish List!

and Much More!

Philosophically this club runs from somewhere left of Che Guevara way over to Mao Tse Tung and all points in between. But there's one thing we all agree upon; 2013 is going to be a great year for this club! There is so much going on, and so many fun people to do it with you simply can't go wrong. Let's start with YOU dear reader (and this is aimed at the new members of the club of which there are many.) Being the intelligent person that you are you recognized the inherent beauty of old Volkswagens and gravitated to those who feel like wis (that's US.) Excellent choice! You've come to a few ABC meetings and met some members and didn't gag when you drank the kool aid so now it's time to get serious and acquire your first VW. What's it going to be? With so many models of sedans, wagons and transporters it's no wonder the world's largest auto manufacturer is German. Let's keep it simple and narrow your search down to buses; what are you planning to do in your bus? If Car Shows are your deal then any model will suffice because people go GaGa over old metal no matter what shape it's in. Maybe you want to incorporate one into your business; buses were originally designed to provide economical transportation for tradesmen rebuilding Europe from the ashes of WWII and still make excellent commercial vehicles. And if camping and exploring is what you like to do then you must feel like you're in heaven climbing into and admiring the camper models your club friends have created. You can make them go Fast if that's what you like, or drive them SLOW. People will smile and wave no matter what. And you know what the best part about owning a Bus is? No matter what model you acquire you can take it to car shows, use it for your business or go camping in it because they are versatile enough to do anything. Now, before you go out and buy the first one you see take some advice from the folks who've been there; come to meetings and ask questions. Invite yourself along to go camping so you can see how that scene works. Attend the shows and get to know people...with careful consideration and a little networking you'll soon learn what suits your personality and then you can spread the word among your new friends about your dream bus and they will help you find it. And isn't that what life's all about? Making your dreams come true? Welcome to life. Welcome to the ABC. Enjoy your January News.

On the cover: Darla Amatsin poses ABC style with her trusty Red Rider and Roy Jonas' 65 Deluxe

Mystery surrounds the origins of this year's bus and we don't mean from whence it came but rather how it got there. Quick recap: Camper makers often purchased panels and kombi shells to use as the basis for their creations. We've heard this bus was a Riviera (a popular camper manufactured in the Pacific Northwest for American consumers.) But before it got to the states it must have come out of Hanover as some sort of model, right? Okay, I look carefully at the pictures of this bus: no original windows behind the cab so it must be a panel, but where is the upper vent that every panel came with? Oh,

it's a walk through you say smartly except this wasn't a walk through it's a bench seat. Now, for those of you who care about this kind of thing it's intriguing and makes the vehicle



more interesting. For the rest of you it's just the Nazis in the club getting all wound up again over ridiculous bus minutia. Anyway, whoever wins this bus is going to have a rare model and one for which they can be very proud!

Your 2013 Board

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On the following pages you'll find our 2013 planner chock full of fun stuff to do; let this be but a guide....this is the BEST time of year to live in the southwest so get outside and enjoy it! Create your own breakfast run, cruise night, campout or party. Heck who cares as long as you get out and have fun!

2013 EVENT PLANNER

Buses by the Bridge Jan 17-20

This is the 1st show of the year and one many of you are familiar with; a beautiful sandy beach on the Eastern Shore of Lake Havasu with verandas, camping on the edge of the grass field and portions of the beach for the early birds. The show spans over 3 days total and is a testament to the hard work of the London Bridge Bullis. Raffles with a grand prize (engine??) Polar Bear Club and sometimes food served on site. Take your heavy coat it gets chili down there by the water!

Mt. Shasta Jan 31-Feb 3

You can't go but Richard does every year so ask him about it. The videos on www.shastasnowtrip.com are a hoot. So are the participants.

Volkstock Sat Feb 23

VolkStock Arizona "a 60's VW Celebration" is presented by Lunde's Peoria Volkswagen and German Toyz. Lunda Peoria VW

OCTO winter meet Sat Feb 23.

Giant split window bus show and swap. The Winter version. Long Beach Veteran's Memorial Stadium (Parking Lot)

New Mexico Overland Snow Adventure
Join Big Bus Mike and his merry band as they explore the high hinterlands through the mountains of New Mexico. See page 6 for more details.

4 Peaks Adventure March 9-10th

Chad's inviting everyone to join him as he attempts to conquer the iconic East Valley Mountains 2 years in a row. You can join the mountain climbers or watch them from the comfort of Apache Lake. Not to be missed!

Bug o rama March 24th

SanTan Volkswagen presents the Phoenix Bugorama. Car show, drags and large swap. \$20 for adults \$5 for kids 6-12. Firebird Raceway near I-10 and Wild Horse Pass.

Colossal Cave April 1st-ish

The ABC's Salute to Spring held each year in the bosom of the Catalinas. Scenic drives are aplenty with this little trek to Tucson. Previous caravans have passed through treacherous and beautiful country to get there. Or you can go down there on I-10. Large group camping site holds about 25 buses so this is small, very friendly bunch. Giant Pot Luck on Saturday night. Get Rich Reeder drunk on Dr. Pepper and make him recite "the ballad of Sam McGee" by the roaring bonfire.

Mt. Pinal Campout Ask Dan Welch (the guy with the dented bus) for Dates. The club's "other" Spring trip is 17 miles up an easy road to the top of Mt. Pinal near Globe. You'll be rewarded one of the most stunning views you can see from a bus. Lots of hiking and mountain biking opportunities. When feeling lonely the forest service lookout will invite you join him in the tower (7,600 feet above sea level.) The weather changes without warning so camp under the trees. Expect fog, hail, ferocious winds, insect swarms, rain and thunder that will crack you ear drums. In other words perfect for camping in a bus. Oh, and a few of the

rabble bring along fire arms which they expend at a range at the bottom of the hill in the desert on Saturday afternoon. Ridiculous Saturday night Pot Luck.

300 Trip May?

Forest Road 300. This modest road skirts the rim all the way West to Strawberry (not to mention East past Show Low.) Heading West from 87 you have access to numerous streams and several nice lakes. This road was meant to be explored in a bus and if you're interested in doing it make some noise in Bob's general direction.

Blackstar June 5-9th VTO hosts their annual Pre-Classic campout at Prado National Park in Chino, CA. New Location has Fishing, Horseback Riding, touch water park for the kids, disk golf, paddle boats, also a shooting range.... There will be a raffle Friday night and Saturday night Food will be provided Friday night by VTO Monster caravan to the OCTO show on Saturday Dutch oven cook-off on sat night And lots more....

OCTO Saturday June 8th? The day before the classic everyone pulls out their most correct bus and shows it off at the beautiful summer time swap and show. VTO helps run it.

VW Classic Friday June 9th? The largest air-cooled show in the world; you go and find the adjectives we should use to describe this thing so we can do it justice.

Flagstaff KOA Campout July? Come camp under the trees at the foot of Mt. Eldon.

Jerome Jamboree September XXIII September 20-22. Located at the Gold King Mine in Haynes The ABC's flagship show is more campout / creative space than a show but we do our best to entertain with slow drags, Pet Show, Disco (whoops sorry Marnie!) open mic, kick ass band, chili contest, nude midnight mime contest, engine case burning contest, and more fun

than you can shake a stick at. Oh, and we're raffling a fully-restored 1967 Standard. Ask Earl how he likes the one he won last year. There are some rules but basically it's \$10/vw per night so pack all your hipster friends into your ride and come see what the stories are all about.

Red Barn / Bugtoberfest 18 late October? Come down and stay a couple days and nights camped out in some delightful desert right next to Joe Chirco's shop. The campout is hosted by Tucson Bus Mob which is by all accounts cooler and better run than our club. Have you seen their shirts? If we could get the dude who does their shirts to do ours we'd be SET MAN! Camping with port-O-lets, BBQ and breakfast compliments of Joe's pocket but if you're like us you'll leave the store with enough parts to help make up for it.

VW's by the River XII in beautiful Yuma, Arizona. Come be spoiled and entertained by some of the most good-looking and intelligent people on the face of the earth. The weather is perfect and you'll love the Friday night chick. Saturday car show on expansive, rolling GREEN grass field. Evening camp out at the fairgrounds is always fun especially when the wart hogs and harriers start doing touch and go's next door.

Light parade. Usually the 1st weekend of December. Throw a couple cajillion lights on the bus and parade through Phoenix to the delight of thousands of spectators.

Christmas party usually the 2nd weekend of December. Join us on the East Side at Usury Pass ParkN for camping, hiking and taking turns watching our even-toed ungulate cook under the watchful eye of Emily Burnite. White elephant gift exchange, pig roast, pot luck and wonderful times with your ABC friends some of whom you'll never see again. In 2013.

2nd Annual New Mexico Overland and Snow Adventure (right next door to us!)

You're all invited to the 2nd annual New Mexico Overland Snow adventure. It's 300+ miles through rugged snow-covered terrain in South-Central New Mexico Challenge yourself and your driving ability while simultaneously driving through some of the best scenery our state has to offer. Multiple water crossings, mud holes, snow covered "roads" and more await the fearless traveler. We will be snow camping on the trip, so come prepared. The trip is open to all Stock height (or taller) VW Buses / Vans / Campers. Some decent ground clearance and good driving skill are required. The sense of adventure required to complete this journey is quite high. If you're a complainer, a whiner, or are generally afraid to live life, this trip is not for you. The remoteness of this adventure means that if you encounter trouble, help is a long way off. You participate at your own risk. No one is liable for you driving off a cliff and killing everyone in your bus. Use your brain and good sense at all times. Do you have what it takes to battle mother nature and the loose network of "roads" in the spirit of Man and Machine vs Nature. If your answer was "yes", keep reading. The adventure: The route we're taking includes some rather intense terrain. A stock bus with street tires will make it just fine, but I would recommend a set of all-terrains based off of personal experience. The roads are county roads, indian reservation roads, and forest roads, all maintained infrequently and mostly forgotten about by the state. There are several water crossings in addition to a stretch of road where the road IS the river. Seal up the bottom of your bus as well as you desire, but keep in mind that a dry you is a happy you. It's almost guaranteed that we will encounter snow for a decent portion of the trip (if not the majority). Snow chains are a must-have item. I find it useful to have two spare tires pre-chained on the roof rack, ready to install at a moments notice. Also, painting lug nuts bright orange helps find them when your gloved hands drop them in the snow. Pre-tying a tow rope around the front beam helps to extract your bus without scuba diving when you get stuck in one of the river / mud crossings. It's not IF you will get stuck, it's WHEN The trip covers 300 miles of bumps, washboards, ruts, and snow and ice packed roads. Secure your cargo accordingly. Everything that can rattle WILL rattle. A general route map is posted, but is subject to change as time and driving conditions allow. If you get separated from the group, use your common sense. Don't be a jackass. Jackasses will be sabotaged and left for chupacabra food. March 7-10 in beautiful New Mexico!

Contact Mike Hansen for more information [bigbusmike@gmail](mailto:bigbusmike@gmail.com)



JEROME JAMBOREE XXII September 20th - 22nd

RAFFLE BUS WISH LIST (so far) 1967 Standard

Interior:

Driver's front seat frame 1/3
Driver and Passenger seat padding
Driver and Passenger seat covers
Door panels
Cab floor mat
cargo floor mat
Steering wheel restoration
2 dome light lens
Visors
Interior Panels
Ash Tray
O. S. Handle
Radio Block off Plate (or radio!)
Exterior, Body, Glass:
Wiper Blades -
Interior rear view mirror
Passenger's mirror
Driver's mirror
Complete Front Bumper (guards, brackets, etc)
Complete Rear Bumper (brackets, etc)
Splash pans
New Tires for 14" rims
Spare 14" rim
Hub caps
Hub cap clips
Gas cap
Rubber gas neck collar
License plate bracket
Paint -
Antenna
Gas Tank Strainer and Gas Tank Seal
E-brake cables and rebuild kit
Windshield squirts
Cargo Door Straps
Vent window kits (rivets, rubber, latches)
Sliding window divider cleat
Electrical:
Front turn signals left & right
Rear turn signals left & right
Head light assembly rebuild kit
License light lens & gasket
Fuel Gauge
Wiring Harness
Fuse box and fuses
Battery, batter cables and strap
Ignition switch with key

Mechanical:

Engine build - Jim Burnite
Front brake cylinders - Bustoration
Rear brake cylinders - Bustoration

Complete brake lines - all wheels
Master Cylinder (1967 only)
Front & rear brake shoes - Bustoration
Brake seal kit
Fuel Line
Shocks
Tranny mounts - front & rear -
Tie rod - passenger side
Drag link
Speedo Cable
Shift coupler front and rear
Clutch cable
Accelerator Cable
Gear oil
Swing lever kit
Bilstein Jack
Rubber: Everything...
Windshield seals -
Rear window seal -
Door handle rubber -
Door bumpers - all doors
Front door rubber kit -
Deck lid seal and hinge kit
Engine tin seal kit
Tail light seals -
Headlight seals -
Headlight bucket seals -
E-brake boot
Shifter boot
Knee knocker
Pedal pads
Door Plugs
Door Hinge Seals
Gas door bumper
Fresh air flap & bumper -
Fresh air rubber -
Wiper w/ grommets -
Front door window seal kit
Cargo door seal kit
Pop out window rubber & rebuild kit
Turn signal seal kit

road trip of the month

Our January Trip takes us up the Camp Creek Road from Carefree over to Bloody Basin. To get there just head up Cave Creek road and keep left at the turnoff to Bartlett Lake. You'll leave the black top and enjoy a well-graded road that stretches almost 30 miles until it meets up with the Bloody Basin road. You'll have the opportunity to visit the Sears-Kay ruins, Seven Springs recreation site and numerous back country trails. The Ruins are located near the beginning of this route and are open during the day; expect to spend an hour or two wandering the interpretive trail around the 5 excavated compounds. Further up the road you'll encounter the lovely and shady Seven Springs Recreation Area; a great place to camp and enjoy the perennial stream which supports all sorts of flora and fauna. Most of this area is Tonto National Forest so camping in your Bus is both legal and encouraged. Bring along your GPS or topo map if you decide to explore a side road; lesser-prepared folks have been known to get lost and we need all the members we can get. Continuing North on the road are exciting spots like Roundtree Creek and Cougar Canyon plus numerous mines and Indian ruins to plunder. Someone recently suggested driving out to these places on street tires and taking a set of all-terrains if you should wander off into rougher stretches of road. Eventually you'll meet up with Bloody Basin Road which we'll cover next month. Happy Exploring!



Sources: *Backcountry Adventures Arizona*, *DeLorme Gazetteer Arizona*

Got a trip to share with us? Send it to dclehan@gmail.com