

Arizona Outlaws 4th Annual Bulldog Cliffs Rennen

Globe to Alpine, Arizona • April 15-17 • By Roy Pederson



Dave Wildrick



Susie Mitchell

From top: Arizona Hwy 70 traveling east from Globe. The Morenci Mine is located adjacent to the town of Morenci in southeast Arizona. Starting point for the tour, the Apache Gold Casino, near Globe.

Right: Lone Star guys perform a second starter replacement.

Arizonans, Californians, New Mexicans and Texans met on Friday afternoon at the Apache Gold Casino, 5 miles east of Globe, Arizona, on Arizona Hwy 70. Great weather, about 80 degrees in the afternoon and a pleasant breeze with no clouds. But we were in for more than just a routine event.

On Thursday we got an email from Dave Wildrick of the Lone Star Club out of Houston. He had a starter problem with his '65 C Coupe in Deming, NM. In spite of worrying about facilities in that fair town, they found a shop that could help and they got their spare starter installed. Great! Sort of. By the time they covered the 225 miles to the Apache Gold from Deming Dave needed yet one more starter. The 356 gods were smiling: Joe Almers from Albuquerque had a spare with him so Sat. AM at about 6:00 Dave was in the parking lot with his Lone Star pals Jim Learmonth (also with a red '65 C Coupe) and Jim Hughes ('58 Coupe) and they were ready to go at the 9:45 start time.

We got to Safford, AZ, 70 miles east for a fuel and pit stop only to find Tom Reyman (Arizonan) with a clutch cable issue for his Cab and needing a shop. Big O Tires filled that bill and Tom got back on the road in a couple hours. But while we worried about Tom, Lone Star Jim Hughes discovered his tranny would no longer go into 3rd or 4th gear. The by-this-time well experienced Texas team got that fixed in time to make it for a late dinner in Alpine but missed the wind-down party. More later on this episode.

Most took the Hwy 191 option (Old US 666 & dubbed the Devil's Hwy) instead of the milder alternative on US 180 in western New Mexico. The Devil's Hwy includes the bonus of a fantastic aerial view of one of the world's largest open pit copper mines in addition to about 400 curves (many very tight) in 92 miles. This route also approaches 9,000 ft. elevations in a couple of places (chug chug).

Advance publicity on the event warned of the presence of wildlife and we weren't disappointed: mountain goats at the copper mine and on the Hwy 180 route, a forest fire. The lead group got past the fire as it was just starting, but the Lone Star contingent got there when the fire was blowing high and the road was closed. So they had to backtrack about 80 miles and take 191 to Alpine. They missed the party but got the bonus of taking one of the alternate routes both ways and the other one way. Triple the fun that the rest of us had. Their dinner was late, though.

The après-drive parties topped off both Friday and Saturday. A great spread thanks to Trudy Murch and Mary Jane Oring who hauled all the "stuff" in a Tundra. Devoted ladies I'd say. Great event! Bob Murch designed some cool T shirts. We'll try to top it next year. Hope you can come! 🚗



Mary Jane Oring



Dave Wildrick