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From: mschulz@frontier.net

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To: Beverly Dittmer <Mokibev@frontier.net>

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Cc: Marlo and Gail Schulz <mschulz@frontier.net>

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Subject: Tombstone Trip Report for Moki

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Hi Bev,

We hope you got home safely from your AZ trip and have had time to recover. Here is the trip report for the Moki.

Gail

March 4 through March 8, 2010, 11 SJBAS members escaped deep Durango snows to visit Cochise County AZ to learn a bit about this fascinating corner of Arizona. Gail and Marlo Schulz led this trip which began in Sierra Vista AZ near the Mexican border. Friday March 5 the first stop was the Murray Springs Clovis Site in the San Pedro river valley where the mammoth Big Eloise was found along with Clovis points and tools used to process this kill. This valley contains the largest number of documented Clovis sites in North America. Next the group visited the San Pedro House to view reproductions of some of the Clovis artifacts and to learn about the rich bird and animal life along the river. The next stop was the Coronado National Memorial to learn about Coronado's 1540 - 1542 trip from Mexico City as far as the Kansas plains. Coronado's expedition followed the San Pedro river which flows just east of the Memorial. Most of the group ascended Coronado Peak from the Montezuma Pass Overlook to view the beginning point of the Arizona Trail on the border and to enjoy views over long distances into Sonora MX. We learned a bit about the border fence and Border Patrol surveillance as well. Then it was on to Bisbee to briefly view the Lavender Pit left from large scale open pit copper mining. The group drove on to Whitewater Draw in the Sulphur Springs valley to view some of the estimated 44,499 sandhill cranes, the largest number ever recorded, wintering there.

Sat March 6 the group hiked to the Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate on the San Pedro river. The fort was begun in 1775 by the Spanish to stake their claim to the land and establish settlements in the area. The fort was abandoned in 1778 because of heavy losses to the Apaches who were able to freely raid the soldiers and civilians whenever they left the safety of the large, high-walled adobe fort. We also learned a bit about the Sobaipuri who occupied the area before, and for a time after the Spanish occupation, before they were driven to the Santa Cruz valley by the Apaches. The group visited Fairbank, a ghost town a couple of miles south of the fort, to learn the history of this town with crucial rail connections, and the seven stamp mills along the river than processed the silver ore from Tombstone. Focus shifted to the Apache culture when the group drove into the Dragoon Mountains to the West Cochise Stronghold where the Apaches were easily able to elude the Army and watch their every move. This is also the Council Rocks area where peace talks were supposedly held with Cochise. This area also contains pictographs approximately 1000 years old possibly attributed to the Mogollon culture.

Sun Mar 7 some of the group toured the Big Room of Kartchner Caverns and the wonderful Amerind Museum while others toured the Tombstone Courthouse Museum, which is an Arizona State Park slated to close along with many other AZ state parks on March 29 due to lack of funding. This group also toured the Bird Cage Theatre in Tombstone, a

theatre, bar, brothel and gambling den preserved in close to original condition from the 1880s. This group then toured the Buffalo Soldier Museum and the Intelligence Museum on historic Fort Huachuca. Mon Mar 8 several members toured the Bisbee Mining Museum and the public areas of the Copper Queen Hotel.

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