



# Western Outdoor Times

**FREE**

## Arizona Boating & Watersports



July - August 2014

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BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | HUNTING | RVING | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

FORGET 'IT'S A DRY HEAT' —

# Get Wet On Our Waterways!



**Tackle &  
Target**

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Wildlife**

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# 'Water, Water Everywhere' And Not A Drop To Waste



### ON THE COVER

## Our Salute To — Water In The Desert

Once again, we thank Bob Brown of Media Directions for the cover photo. His series of "beauties in boats" have been our pleasure to publish.

However, besides boating, there are many other ways to enjoy the waters of the Southwest. You know them: waterskiing, wakeboarding, stand-up paddling, diving, fishing, swimming, just to name a few.

Even if you don't "get wet," being

See **SALUTE**, Page 18

### A THREE-PART TOAST

## They Watch Out For Us On The Water

Whether we enjoy the water from a boat, on skis or boards, or as swimmers, there are three major organizations that deserve our appreciation and respect. They ensure that we have the information needed for safety in and around the water, and they are there in emergencies when and if we get into trouble. (There are others as well, but these three are the focus of this article.)

We at *Western Outdoor Times/Arizona Boating & Watersports* toast them all.



### Arizona Game & Fish Department

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's Boating Safety Education courses include instruction on the basic skills required to safely operate a boat or PWC, trailering your vessel, navigational rules, buoys, anchoring, legal requirements, boating emergencies, watersports and paddling.

Take a boating education course now! Most insurance companies offer a discount on your boat or PWC insurance rate for completing one of our courses.

Courses are offered in three formats: classroom courses, home-study courses and online courses. Becoming a safe and knowledgeable boater is just a click away.

For more information, visit [http://www.azgfd.gov/i\\_c/edits/boating\\_education.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/i_c/edits/boating_education.shtml)

### U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Who We Are —

The Coast Guard's philosophy is to be SEMPER PARATUS (ALWAYS READY) against all threats and all hazards. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is an integral part of that philosophy and the Coast Guard Forces.

We conduct safety patrols on local waterways, assist the Coast Guard with homeland security duties, teach boating-safety classes, conduct free vessel-safety checks for the public, as well as many other activities. The Auxiliary has members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Guam.



Our Vision —

As a component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard, and a servant of the public, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, in its role as the designated National Recreational Boating Safety Coordinator, is a leader in improving the boating experience of the maritime public.

We are an organization noted for working in partnership with all stakeholders within the waterways-activity spectrum and across all modes of transportation to reach consensus solutions. We measure our success by our customer satisfaction, and our customers' needs help define our workload and priorities.

Our Mission —

To minimize the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and environmental impact associated with the use of recreational boats, through preventive means, in order to maximize safe use and enjoyment of U.S. Waterways by the public.

For more information, visit <http://www.uscgaux.info/>

See **WATER**, Page 18

### SWIMMING HOLES

## Hop In; The Water's Fine

It may be a desert state, but Arizona has many great swimming holes.

Nestled here and there near mountain springs and along tributaries of rivers, these natural spas are popular with hikers, picnickers and just about anyone who enjoys time in and around the water.

Some of the following entail a drive; others require a short walk or a bit of a scramble. A few can only be reached after a long, hard hike.

Keep in mind, though, that you are not the only one who wants to cool off in the water; there may be crowds at any of these spots — especially on a summer weekend. Be ready for "company."

### Water Wheel

The Mogollon Rim country north of Payson — laced with many creeks and canyons — is excellent for swimming holes. Some of the most popular ones are just east of the Water Wheel Campground, a recreation area off Forest Road 199.

As you hike east along the creek, you'll discover a series of swimming holes. The first few are wide and shallow; the ones farther east are narrower and fairly deep. The farther upstream you go, the fewer people you'll find.

About a quarter-mile from the road is a series of small waterfalls and pools at the



base of a narrow granite gorge, polished smooth by water and time.

From Phoenix, take Arizona 87 (the Beeline Highway) north to Payson. About 2 miles north of Arizona 260, turn east (right) onto Houston Mesa Road and continue 7.6 miles to a large camping/picnic site on the right. Park here and walk up the creek.

See **SWIMMING**, Page 13

## Our Watersports Ride On Science, History, Innovators

Columnist Bryan Hughes shares some thoughts about the mechanics of watersports and some influential waterskiers he admires.

### It's All Just Science

BY BRYAN HUGHES

Sometimes we take for granted all of the science and engineering that goes into the watersports we love. Whether it's the way our skis or wakeboards are shaped, the variables that affect our boat waves, or even how our boat hull, engine, and instruments come together — we are riding on the backs of years upon years of research and development all dedicated to giving us the best riding experience.

As much as I dislike science classes, there is no doubt in my mind that taking the time to understand the various anatomic makeup of our watersports tools can help us become better riders.

So, next time you are riding in the water, look down at what's under your feet and think about the shape and the contours and all of the variables that came together to put you in your riding position. It's a sobering thought, but the illumination it can provide to your riding skills is limitless.

### The Five Most Important People In Waterskiing History

These are the players who made watersports what they are today.

Waterskiing would not be the sport it is today if it weren't for a few key players contributing to its success. Ever since the sport's inception in 1922, it has continued to evolve and grow and it's all thanks to a few great people who would not settle for status quo. These five people in history have single handedly paved the way for all of us to enjoy this sport the way we do today.

### Ralph Samuelson

It is with Ralph Samuelson where the en-

See **WATERSPORTS**, Page 2



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### Waterways

#### 'London Bridge Is Falling Down'

Havasu Mayor reads false story about Arizona's London Bridge in U.K.'s *The Sun* newspaper/Page 11



### Land Cruising

#### Let Common Sense Prevail

OHVs are great for enjoying trails and backroads, but safety is stressed/Page 14



# DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid July

## CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**PHOENIX:** Aug. 1-30 — Desert Botanical Garden Flashlight Tours 2014, self-paced stroll along the Garden's Desert Discovery Trail, experience the plants, animals, sights and sounds of the desert night, bring a flashlight and wear walking shoes, Thursdays-Saturdays, 7 pm, <http://dbg.org>

**HOLBROOK:** Aug. 1-31 — Postcards from the Iron Camera, Holbrook - Petrified Forest National Park; inspired by their tenure as 2013 Artists in Residence at Petrified Forest National Park. During their two-week stay, artists Kim Garrison and Steve Radosevich captured the landscape with a hand-built cast iron camera. Prints were developed using traditional darkroom techniques and digital editing, then colored with watercolor, ink and pencil. A combination of photography, drawing, painting and collage, depicting a landscape of fantasy and mystery that is the Painted Desert and the Petrified Forest.

**SELLS-KITT PEAK:** July 28 — Meteor Mania-Delta Aquarids, Piscis Austrinids, Alpha Capracornids - view a meteor shower under pristine dark skies of Kitt Peak, see one of nature's most spectacular cosmic shows, three meteor showers all peaking at right about the same date, although these showers do not have high Zenith Hourly Rates (ZHR) individually, taken together we should get a plethora of meteors, and we'll have an opportunity to count meteors from three separate radiants at the same time, pre-register, \$25-45, 10 pm - 3 am, 520-318-8726 or <http://www.noao.edu/outreach/kpvc/classes.html>

**FLAGSTAFF:** July 26 — Wildflower Walks - The Arboretum at Flagstaff, a special wildflower walk that will focus on the native species in bloom at this time of year, sign-up upon arrival, 9:30-11:30 am, 928-774-1442 or <http://www.thearb.org>

**PRESCOTT:** July 26, 27 — Hundreds of irises will be for sale in all colors of the rainbow, portions of the proceeds will be used to support the Sharlot Hall Museum, Sat 10 am - 4 pm, Sun noon - 4 pm, 623-980-6627 or 602-300-5791 or <http://www.prescottirissociety.org>

**SUPERIOR:** July 19 — Plants-of-the-Bible Guided Tours - Boyce Thompson Arboretum, learn about botany, history and scripture on a walk alongside volunteer and Bible scholar David Oberpriller, 8 am, \$4.50-9, 520-689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

**PHOENIX:** through July 31 — Self-paced stroll along the Desert Botanical

Garden's Desert Discovery Trail, experience the plants, animals, sights and sounds of the desert night, bring a flashlight and wear walking shoes, Thursdays-Saturdays, 7 pm, <http://dbg.org>

**PRESCOTT'S GREAT OUTDOORS:** Oct. 11 and 12 — Watson Lake Park, Prescott; highlights many outdoor recreational opportunities, organizations, resources, equipment, and businesses in the Quad-Cities and beyond; e-mail [eric.smith@prescott-az.gov](mailto:eric.smith@prescott-az.gov) or [Kelly.tolbert@prescott-az.gov](mailto:Kelly.tolbert@prescott-az.gov).

**KITT PEAK:** July 28 — Meteor Mania-Delta Aquarids, Piscis Austrinids, Alpha Capracornids - view a meteor shower under pristine dark skies of Kitt Peak, see one of nature's most spectacular cosmic shows, three meteor showers all peaking at right about the same date, although these showers do not have high Zenith Hourly Rates (ZHR) individually, taken together we should get a plethora of meteors, and we'll have an opportunity to count meteors from three separate radiants at the same time, pre-register, \$25-45, 10 pm - 3 am, 520-318-8726 or <http://www.noao.edu/outreach/kpvc/classes.html>

**FLAGSTAFF:** July 27 — Summer Soiree - The Arboretum at Flagstaff, catered dinner in the gardens with music, silent and live auctions, fundraising event, \$100 for individual tickets; table sponsor options available, 4:30 pm, 928-774-1442 or <http://www.thearb.org>

**FLAGSTAFF:** July 26 — Wildflower Walks - The Arboretum at Flagstaff, a special wildflower walk that will focus on the native species in bloom at this time of year, sign-up upon arrival, 9:30-11:30 am, 928-774-1442 or <http://www.thearb.org>

## CLASSES/SEMINARS

**AZGFD, CG AUXILIARY, PHOENIX POWER SQUADRON BOATING CLASSES:** Ongoing (See page 3 of this issue.)

## HUNTING/SHOOTING/ ARCHERY

**CALENDAR OF OUTDOOR EVENTS:** Ongoing — [www.azgfd.gov/OutdoorSkills](http://www.azgfd.gov/OutdoorSkills) Google calendar.

## WATERSPORTS

**Diving:**  
**SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS:** Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake Open Water Certification Dives, San Carlos, Mexico; Lake

Pleasant, and more; Saguaro can plan your diving vacation for small groups or just one person. How about Grand Cayman, Curacao, Cozumel, Belize, Roatan, Bonaire, Turks & Caicos Contact Saguaro Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or [sales@saguarosports.com](mailto:sales@saguarosports.com)

### Swimming:

**SNOWFLAKE:** July 25 — Annual Pioneer Day Celebration - arts & crafts fair, parade, car show, BBQ, rodeo, dances, kid's entertainment, theatrical performance, pioneer day run, softball league tournament, **free swimming**, fireworks display, Sweet Wheels Car Show & Swap, 928-536-4331 or <http://www.snowflake-taylorchamber.org>

**CHINO VALEY:** July 20 — 5th Annual Town of Chino Valley Adult & Youth & Relay Sprint Triathlon & Duathlon - Aquatic Center, for all ages and abilities, Adult Mini Triathlon: **150 yd pool swim**, 7.5 mi bike, ½ mi run; Adult Maxi Triathlon: **300 yd heated pool swim**, 22 mi bike, 3mi run; Adult Tri Relay -Maxi distances Maxi Duathlon : ½ mi run, 21mi bike, 3 mi Run; Youth Triathlon: **100 yd. swim**, 3mi bike; 1/2 mi run, 7:30 am, 928-636-9780 or <http://www.trifamilyracing.com>

### Other:

**SPASH PAD AT TEMPE BEACH PARK:** Summer — 80 W Rio Salado Pkwy, Tempe: What's better on a hot summer day than playing the water? Located on the south bank of Tempe Beach Park, this one-acre park features lots of fun interactive play equipment, including a waterfall, slide, dumping buckets, spray cannons, frog spray ring and more. Admission is free. Lifeguards are on duty.

## WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

**TUCSON:** Aug. 13-17 — 4th Annual Tucson Bird and Wildlife Festival - Riverpark Inn, exciting monsoon birding, field trips & workshops with renowned leaders; socials and dinner programs featuring keynoters J. Drew Lanham and Christopher Cokinos (fees vary), free Nature Expo, kids' activities, <http://tucsonaudubon.org/festival>

**SIERRA VISTA:** Aug. 3-31 — Bird Walks - Sierra Vista Environmental Operations Park, also known as the waste water treatment plant, walks are about 2 hours and led by docents from Southeastern Arizona Bird Observatory (SABO), Huachuca Audubon Society (HAS), and the Friends of the San Pedro River (FSPR), free, donations accepted, dress for the weather, bring water, trail shoes, hat and sun screen, Sundays, 7 am, 520-459-2555 or <http://sanpedroriver.org>

**SIERRA VISTA:** July 30-Aug. 2 — 23rd Annual Southwest Wings Birding & Nature Festival - Cochise College, guided tours, field trips, seminars, vendors, displays, lectures, bat stalks, owl prowls, displays, arts & crafts, welcome address by Jessica Lambertson-Mroeno who will talk on Black Bears and Jaguars and Scott Wiendensaul is the keynote speaker on Saturday, <http://www.swwings.org>

**SPRINGERVILLE:** July 26 — 12th Annual High Country Hummers Event - Sipe White Mountain Wildlife Area south of Eagar, observe hummingbird researchers capture and band birds, a program on hummingbird life history, a program on beginning bird-watching and a live wildlife exhibit, free, 8am - noon, 928-367-4281 or <http://www.pinetoplakesidechamber.com>

**SUPERIOR:** July 26 — Butterfly Walk - Boyce Thompson Arboretum, learn to identify them on this guided walk by Education Coordinator Chris Kline and Arizona State Parks volunteer naturalists, a few butterflies are netted for a short while to give kids a close up look, \$4.50-9, 9:30 am, 520-689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

**SIERRA VISTA:** July 30-Aug. 2 — 23rd Annual Southwest Wings Birding & Nature Festival - Cochise College, guided tours, field trips, seminars, vendors, displays, lectures, bat stalks, owl prowls, displays, arts & crafts, welcome address by Jessica Lambertson-Mroeno who will talk on Black Bears and Jaguars and Scott Wiendensaul is the keynote speaker on Saturday, <http://www.swwings.org>

**PINETOP-LAKESIDE:** July 19 — Walk on the Wild Side with the White Mountain Reptile Rescue! - White Mountain Wildlife & Nature Center, family-oriented fun with a discovery focus on increasing awareness, understanding and responsible action towards nature, experience giant tortoises and large snakes up close and hands on (if you dare) by the W.M. Reptile and Amphibian Rescue with a trail search and tips on "herping," 10 am, 928-358-3069 or <http://www.wmnature.org>

*Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to [editor@azbw.com](mailto:editor@azbw.com). To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the 10th of the month prior to publication. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but we assume no responsibility for print errors or omissions. We also reserve the right to edit each item. Please include the name of the event, the date and time, the location, the organization, and contact information.*

## WATERSPORTS

*Continued from page 1*

tire waterskiing story begins. Samuelson is credited with inventing the sport of waterskiing in 1922. He created the first waterskis with a pair of pine boards and first rode them on Lake Pepin in Lake City, Minn. Then three years later, Samuelson created the first waterski jump.

### Warren Witherell

It didn't take long for waterski jumping to catch on, and the bar quickly kept growing. The first ski jump record clocked in at 49 feet and was set by a man named Chuck Sligh. His record stayed for a while, but it was soon broken.

Then finally in 1954, a man named Warren Witherall broke the ultimate bar by jumping over a hundred feet. Unfortunately, his record was broken by 102 and then 104 feet at the exact same event. However, Warren will still go down in history for being the first person to break the 100-foot barrier.

Unfortunately, Mr. Witherall died on



May 26, 2014.

### Freddy Krueger

No, I'm not talking about the horror-movie villain; I'm talking about the Illinois born Freddy Krueger who holds the

current world record for waterski jumping. Yes, Krueger has set and beat his own record a few times but the bar is currently set at 250 feet. He will continue to push the sport as he still strives to keep beating his own record.

### Andy Mapple

To tell someone about a slalom ski record, it wouldn't sound all that impressive. However, if you were to show someone a slalom ski record being set, their mouths would most certainly drop. Andy Mapple of Great Britain held one of the longest-standing slalom ski records with 3 at 41 off.

His record stood for years until Nate Smith was finally able to break it. Even so, Mapple's long-standing legacy of skiing excellence makes him a worthy person to go down in waterski history. In 2005, Mapple retired from competition skiing for good.

### Herb O'Brien

Herb O'Brien is undoubtedly the godfather of waterskiing. Suffice to say, no

single person has done more to progress the sport than O'Brien. Ralph Samuelson may have invented waterskiing, but O'Brien reinvented it. He completely innovated the shape of modern slalom skis.

In his relentless pursuit of perfection, he started three very influential waterski companies, all of which are still wildly successful and he even inspired one of the greatest wakeboard companies, Ronix, which is currently run by his son. Sadly, O'Brien passed away in 2012 but his impact on the sport will remain forever.

### The Future Of Waterskiing

This list isn't meant to negate all of the other amazing people who have made this sport what it is today. However, these five are the standout players in the history of waterskiing.

As a sport that is less than a century old, waterskiing will still continue to grow and evolve. Perhaps the next greatest waterskiier hasn't even been born yet. Regardless, it's important to remember where we came from, and these five riders remind us where we were and where we are going.





# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## Update your boating safety knowledge

### Arizona Game and Fish: boaters must "Clean, Drain and Dry"

#### Citations issued to stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

PHOENIX – To protect Arizona lakes, rivers and streams from the devastating effects of invasive species, Arizona Game and Fish laws require boaters and anglers to "Clean, Drain and Dry" their boats and pull the boat plug when leaving any affected waterway. Failure to do so may result in a citation for the boat owner and possible fines.

Game and Fish has stepped up enforcement because invasive species such as quagga mussels, New Zealand mudsnails, didymo, giant salvinia, apple snails, whirling disease and Largemouth Bass Virus have found their way into several Arizona lakes and rivers. To help stop their spread, it is illegal for boaters and anglers to transport water, live fish or fish body parts from one body of water to another. Law enforcement officers will cite boaters who fail to wipe down their boat, pull the plug, and drain all water whenever leaving an AIS-affected water.

Clean, Drain and Dry your boat. It's the Law.



### Are you new to boating, or do you need to brush up on your boating skills? Sign up for one of our Statewide Boating Safety Education Classes.

#### July 2014

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Coast Guard Auxiliary	July 19 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Rd. Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076
Arizona Game and Fish Department	July 19 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility 2176 McCulloch Blvd., Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary	July 19 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Cabela's 9380 W. Glendale Ave. Glendale	\$25	(623) 293-1637

#### August 2014

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Coast Guard Auxiliary	August 9 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 E. Broadway Road Tempe	\$20	(602) 550-8655
Arizona Game and Fish Department	August 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility 2176 McCulloch Blvd., Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary	August 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Rd. Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076
Arizona Game and Fish Department	August 23 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Arizona Game and Fish Department 5000 W. Carefree Hwy Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary	August 23 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Cabela's 9380 W. Glendale Ave. Glendale	\$25	(623) 293-1637
City of Chandler	August 23 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Chandler Environmental Education Center 4050 E. Chandler Heights Rd. Chandler	\$3 residents \$5 non-residents	(480) 782-2894 or chandleraz.gov/ registration

### Summer weekend boating means bigger crowds, increased need for safety

If you love being on your boat on summer weekends, you're not alone ... summer weekends are traditionally among the busiest boating days of the year in Arizona, and Arizona Game and Fish Department law enforcement personnel are out in force to keep boaters safe.

The Game and Fish Department reminds boaters that wearing their life jackets is especially important when conditions are crowded. Having more people on your boat can make it harder to maneuver, steer and stop, and with more boats on the water, there is less margin for error. Making sure everyone on your boat is wearing a life jacket can help ensure their safety.

"Wearing a life jacket before you end up in the water and knowing what to do in the first few minutes can make the difference between becoming a statistic or a survivor," said Recreational

Boating Safety Specialist Paul Newman of the U.S. Coast Guard Eleventh District, which includes Arizona. "A life jacket can buy you time and increase your chances of survival."

State and federal boating laws require boaters to have a lifejacket for every passenger, a whistle, horn or other signaling device, a fire extinguisher and at least one throwable flotation cushion. Children under 12 on board must wear a life jacket whenever the boat is underway.

"The important thing for summer boaters to remember is to avoid taking unnecessary risks," said AZGFD State Watercraft Investigator Reuben Gonzales. "Operating your boat recklessly on a crowded waterway is a recipe for disaster. Take it easy, use good judgment, obey the laws and get home safely."



### Renew Your Watercraft Registration Online!

The Game and Fish online watercraft registration system allows you to renew your registration and have immediate use of your watercraft. Visit: <https://az.gov/app/watercraft>. (A \$2.50 online service fee applies). You can also renew your registration by mail or in person at any Game and Fish office.

### Follow us on Facebook



Get access to the latest news, the inside stories and the coolest videos on the Arizona Game and Fish Facebook page: [www.Facebook.com/azgafd](http://www.Facebook.com/azgafd)

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623-236-7219 [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)





# Western Outdoor Times

## Arizona Boating & Watersports



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We sincerely thank Capt. Dave Esparza for not only contributing safety articles to our publications but also for volunteering to help our granddaughter celebrate her 18th birthday at Bartlett Lake. We are also grateful to Bryan Church of Bartlett Lake Marina for making this celebration possible.

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## Coast Guard Auxiliary Celebrates 75 Years

The Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrated 75 years on June 21 in Sun Lakes, Ariz., with a formal Birthday Ball. The ball was attended by local auxiliaries, Coast Guard retirees, Arizona Game and Fish officials and Coast Guard leadership from California.

The guest speaker of the night was Commander Desarae Janszen, director of Auxiliary District 11S. Also present was Commander Jeffrey Janzen, deputy director of Sector San Diego.

Two of our local auxiliaries, Dave Esparza and Robert Rodriguez, were presented the Commandant Letter of Commendation for their heroic deeds in saving a life at the National Sportsman Expo in February at Glendale Stadium.

The award was presented by Commander Jeffrey Janzen and signed by Captain Mahoney, Sector San Diego commanding officer.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary has a wide variety of events such as this one as well



**LOCAL HEROES RECOGNIZED** — David Esparza and Robert Rodriguez receive the Commandant Letter of Commendation.

as intense training which enabled Esparza and Rodriguez to successfully perform CPR and save a life.

The Auxiliary has an extensive list of career paths; there is something for everyone, whether you are a boater or not.

For more information feel free to call 602-550-5530 and ask for Dave.

## Lake Powell Rises Significantly

*This is good news for boaters as there are now safe passages for craft of larger sizes.*

Lake Powell is rising a foot per day as abundant snowpack in northern Colorado and Wyoming continues to feed the Colorado and Green Rivers.

Runoff into Lake Powell that began in earnest in the middle of May and at the beginning of June had reached 60,000 cfs leading to a rapid rise in lake level.

That is good news for boaters. The rising water has opened the Castle Rock Cut near Wahweap Marina. There is now safe passage for boats of all sizes including tour boats destined to Rainbow Bridge and Navajo Canyon.

Three concrete launch ramps near Page are also open. The marina launch ramps at Wahweap, State Line and Antelope Point provide boaters with plenty of parking and lake access.

The Bureau of Reclamation projected that lake elevation will have peaked near 3,616 feet in early July and end the water year on Sept. 30 near 3,610 feet. That is an elevation 26 feet below Lake Powell's 50-year average for the date.

The most probable inflow scenario provided by the Bureau projects that Lake Powell could rise an additional 10 feet in 2015 even if water releases downstream to Lake Mead increase to 9 million acre-feet as is being anticipated for water year 2015 beginning on Oct. 1, 2014.

Some additional good news is that there



**ROOM TO PASS** — Because of rising lake levels at Powell, this tour boat can safely travel through the Castle Rock Cut.

are climate indicators that could signal a return to more normal Colorado River runoff patterns following 14 years of extreme drought, said Paul Ostapuk, Friends of Lake Powell spokesperson.

"The eastern Pacific Ocean is beginning to warm significantly and Nature magazine recently reported there are signs of changes in the Atlantic Ocean too. If the Gulf Stream continues to weaken," he said, "it would cool the North Atlantic."

Fluctuations in climate are largely influenced by oceanic currents so changes in one or both oceans could help drive a reversal of the persistent drought conditions across the Southwest U.S. that began abruptly in 2000."

For more information, visit the Friends of Lake Powell on Facebook or at lakepowell.org. The Friends of Lake Powell is a 501.c.3 organization whose mission is the preservation, protection and promotion of Lake Powell.



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# Points Of Interest

## SHIP AHOY!

### A House With A View

A former cargo ship, the *Benson Ford*, now sits hanging over a cliff on Lake Erie and serves as a holiday home.

It originally transported iron and coal for the Ford Motor Company. She was built in 1924, and was decommissioned in 1981 after nearly 50 years of service.

She was left to rust for four years until Frank J. Sullivan bought it, had the ship's forecastle separated from the ship's hull, and had it transported to its present site on an 18-foot cliff jutting above and overlooking Lake Erie, where Sullivan tried to turn it into a hotel, which he was denied permission to do.

He then sold the place to father and



son, Jerry and Bryan Kaspar, who turned it to their impressive four-story, 7,000-square foot holiday home. It includes five bedrooms, a captain's office, and a living



PHOTOS BY CATER NEWS AGENCY

room with a panoramic view of and across Lake Erie; they modernized it by adding a garage, a game room, a bar, a state-of-the-art kitchen, and four bathrooms.



## Pools Are The New Balconies – Literally, It Seems

A skyscraper under construction in Mumbai (previously known as Bombay), India, not only includes more than 200 apartments, three levels of car parking, a

gym and sauna, but it also features pools on the edges of several balconies.

Called the Aquaria Grande, the two 37-story towers were designed by architect

James Law and the real estate company Wadhwa Group.

It's just the latest building to push the boundaries of conventional homes in India.

With 228 apartments, the Imperial in Mumbai has two 60-story towers featuring high-security systems, outdoor terraces, an entertainment area and pool. A gym is expected to open soon and the largest apartments include lap pools.

And, the world's most expensive home, also located in Mumbai, boasts three helicopter landing pads, floating gardens, six car parks, a theater and a grand ballroom.

Completed last year, the house, called Antilla, cost \$1 billion to build and its 27 stories tower over the city.

Unfortunately, its owner Mukesh Ambani — India's richest man — reportedly refuses to move in because he believes it would be bad luck.



## The Most Expensive Ship Ever

It cost 14 billion and they call it a 'Ford.'

The United States' next generation of aircraft carrier is the FORD-class carriers — the first-in-class *USS Gerald R. Ford* has been being built at Newport News Shipbuilding, Va.

The numbers behind *USS Gerald R. Ford* are impressive: about \$14 billion in total cost, 224 million pounds, about 25 stories high, 1,106 feet long, and 250 feet wide. But, the sheer enormity of the ship and construction operation is hard to grasp until you're nearly face-to-metal with the massive military beast.

### 100 Years Of Carrier Design

At Newport News Shipbuilding, the power of new technology and 100 years of

carrier design are built into every facet of the new ship. The *Ford* will handle up to 220 takeoffs and landings from its deck every day.

Part of that quick turnaround is because, when aircraft like the new F-35 return for maintenance, the plane's network will already have alerted ground crews as to what's needed so they can get the aircraft on its way faster than ever before.

The new FORD-class aircraft carrier will be the largest, most-lethal ship ever when it joins the US fleet in 2016.







Bartlett Lake Boat Club



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### SHIP

Continued from page 5

#### Hard To Fathom

The scope of the ship's construction is hard to fathom, but its chain alone is made up of links weighing 360-pounds each. It's the weight of the chains that immobilize the 224 million pound carrier, not the anchors like those seen on *USS Abraham Lincoln*.

All that weight starts in the "Bulbous Bow" that displaces the ship's center of gravity, allowing her to cruise on just the energy required for a much smaller ship. Her bow alone is more than three stories tall and weighs 116,000 pounds.

Using the largest crane in the Western Hemisphere, which towers 235 feet above the shipyard, "Big Blue" can lift nearly 2.5 million pounds at a time and is essential for

assembling the new class of ship. Ships this big have to be built in dry docks with dimensions that measure twenty-two-hundred-foot long and 250 feet wide.

Replacing the 50-year-old Nimitz-class carrier, engineers at Newport News Shipbuilding designed the *Ford* to accept technology that won't be seen for decades. Some of those advancements are expected, but most are as far-fetched as the Navy's newest drones were in 1963.

#### More Power, More Planes, More Months

Regardless of what the future brings, all of it will require more power, which is why the *Ford* will generate three times the energy of Nimitz-class carriers

Moving the island house (the control tower) back farther on the ship will accom-

modate an increased launch rate for the 75-plus planes that will live aboard the carrier. The *Ford* will be capable of launching and receiving up to 220 planes a day.

That increased rate comes in part from replacing the steam-generated catapult systems like those on *USS Abraham Lincoln* with an electromagnetic system that's more efficient and gentler on the multi-million-dollar jets.

Even with the extra fuel and weapons needed to keep that pace, the *Ford* is equipped to remain at sea without replenishment for months at a time.

#### Time Frame

The *Ford* was launched in November 2013, to remain in Newport News' shipyard at Pier 3 for the following 28 months to undergo additional outfitting and testing.

The US Navy's program CVN 21 for the future generation aircraft carrier program was previously known as the CVN(X). Several years ago the U.S. Navy announced that that the new class would be called the Gerald R Ford Class; the first-in-class is *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) — to be commissioned in 2015. Following will be *USS John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79) — to be commissioned in 2019.

It is projected that further ships of this class will enter service at intervals of five years. A total of 10 Ford-class carriers are planned, with construction continuing to 2058.

For more information, visit <http://www.naval-technology.com/projects/cvn-21/>

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# Tackle & Target



## LAKE POWELL FISHING REPORT

### It Is Time To Take A Kid Fishing

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON  
WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM

Lake Powell has topped out at 3609 MSL after rising 35 feet this year. That means Castle Rock Cut is 27 feet deep and should remain passable for the rest of 2014.

Fish are more concerned about habitat. New green brush went under water at 3603 and will provide bass habitat and shad shelter for much of the summer. The shad crop is a bit above average. Adult shad continue to spawn in July when in some other years they would have finished spawning by now.

That is a positive occurrence. The size of the shad population will be determined with trawl sampling during dark moon phase later in the month.

#### Daily Routine

Blue collar strippers in the southern lake have settled into a daily routine. They go to work at first light and chase shad for an hour or two. Then they take a break until

mid day when the most serious shad chasing occurs.

On calm days, surface feeding action is common in the main channel as small stripper schools are consistently seen from Padre Bay to Rock Creek and Dungeon Canyon. Surface boils settle down again in the afternoon and then are repeated briefly in the evening.

The imminent arrival of full moon will push most feeding activity into late afternoon and evenings with quiet mornings.

Full moon will have less impact in the northern lake where water is clearing as runoff diminishes. Surface feeding is ramping up in the backs of canyons as shad are becoming visible to strippers.

Best stripper fishing will now be in the northern lake with good stripper fishing lakewide. Expect increasing surface feeding activity in Good Hope Bay during July.

Strippers are susceptible to trolling while relaxing at depth between surface excursions. A few fish can be caught while waiting for the next surface explosion. Trolling success is about two to three fish per hour



**LIFETIME MEMORIES** — Weston Gleave from Bountiful, Utah, enjoyed a stripper fishing trip with his father to Lake Powell. Shortly after returning from military service. Memories from successful fishing trips where parents share these experiences with their children will never be forgotten. It is time to take a kid fishing.

in the southern lake compared to 10 fish an hour in the north.

#### Success Increasing

Bass fishing success is increasing lakewide as water level stabilizes. Lots of fish are caught with plastic grubs and tubes but the average bass size is small. Both bass and stripper populations are rebuilding after low water and poor habitat during the past two years.

Catfishing success is increasing as spawning concludes. Catfish are patrolling the beaches in the evening looking for an easy meal. It is easy to invite them to dinner by putting a few table scraps on

a hook which are then cast to the sandy bottom behind the boat.

#### Teaching The Kids

Surface fishing for strippers combined with small bass along the shore and catfish on the beach provide ideal conditions for teaching children how to fish. The key element in fishing instruction is to actually include fish as part of the training. Fish are now available for kids to catch while visiting Lake Powell on a family vacation.

Make sure to bring fishing equipment for another fun activity while at the lake.

At press time, lake elevation was 3609, and water temperature was 75-80F.



WAYNE GUSTAVSON

**INTERESTING FISH FACTS** — Adam Jones and Deborah Williams found a trophy striper thrashing on the surface near Warm Creek. They tried to save the fish but it died due to post-spawning stress. It was then turned over to Utah Wildlife resulting in the discovery of many interesting facts about trophy strippers in Lake Powell.

#### A 'WHALE OF A TALE'

### Lessons Learned From A Trophy Striper

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON

Early one Saturday morning, a call came stating a big striper had just been caught at the mouth of Warm Creek. It took about 20 minutes to get there but we soon found a boat at the corner of Warm Creek and the main channel.

Adam Jones and Deborah Williams were right there and when we got in range, Adam held up a huge striper. We got out of the wind and headed to shore where we could get the full story.

#### Death Of A Big Fish

Adam and Deborah were out at dawn fishing along Warm Creek Wall on June 14, when they noticed a surface disturbance. As they got closer, it proved to be a giant striper thrashing on top. They got close enough to net the fish and then tried to resuscitate the fish and release it.

But it was to no avail; the big fish succumbed within minutes of capture. They measured the fish using hand widths and came up with 45 inches. That's when I showed up and began discussing options.

#### Determining The Cause

Adam would like to have had the fish mounted as it was the biggest fish he ever "caught." But, it is entirely possible to make a fiberglass mount by just supplying dimensions and a picture to the taxidermist.

It was determined that I would take the fish, determine exact measurements, and perform a necropsy to determine cause of death. I put the big fish on ice and headed back to the lab.

This fish was 44 inches long and weighed 28.75 pounds (certified scales) with a girth of 25.5 inches. Most striped bass of this length exceed 30 pounds but this one had an empty stomach except for three carp spines.

It had been eating recently but the mostly empty stomach, which was 14 inches long, did not add an extra pound or two which is common when the stomach is full. That also explains why the girth was 2 inches smaller than other strippers of this length.

The cause of death was likely spawning stress. The 10-inch long ovaries were

See **STRIPER**, Page 19



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## Tackle & Target

EXCERPTS FROM AZGFD FISHING REPORT

# Get Rigged, Ready For 'Hot' Fishing

### Tip Of The Week

Try Apache Lake for something different. Here, crappie and walleye are other tasty options. Fish some of Apache's heavy breaks where shallow water quickly becomes deep. It has really become a tremendous largemouth bass fishery. There are also plentiful yellow bass, which are a lot of fun to catch on light tackle.

Apache Lake also has a healthy herd of bighorns. So be sure to take a camera — this is one of our most photogenic lakes.



This should continue through August. As terrestrials such as the cicadas awaken, fish look for cicadas and other surface-dripping terrestrials by shoreline vegetation.

### Nighttime Fishing

Overall, fishing can be tough in July, but with hot daytime temperatures and a weekend full moon, nighttime fishing becomes an even better, and cooler, option.

Plus, fish tend to feed better on the full moon (a universal fishing law, if there ever were one). Although submersible lights

may not be as effective, they'll still help gather small bait fish, and, in turn, the predators you want peeling your line.

Some anglers load up on striped bass even though the moon phases aren't agreeable, especially at Pleasant, Mead and Powell. Not hearing much on the crappie angling right now, but Alamo, Roosevelt and Bartlett should all be decent. Also try fishing near the old river beds of these lakes.

The old summer pattern holds true: Fish are most active at sunrise and sunset, or at night. At sunrise, begin in the coves and switch to main lake points, humps and islands. As the sun sinks into its hammock, try main lake points and secondary points in coves.

### Fire Restrictions

The Coconino and Kaibab National forests have lifted their fire restrictions. Due to significant and widespread rain and rapidly decreasing fire danger, the Coconino and Kaibab National Forests in

See **RIGGED**, Page 19



## Senate Strangles The Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act Of '14

*Senate dashes hopes for sportsmen bill that benefits conservation.*

July 10, the U.S. Senate effectively killed the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2014 when it failed to pass a vote that would have moved the bill forward. After 81 amendments were offered to the bill, many of which were not supported by the sporting community or germane to the original bill, the vote reflected the partisan animosity of the mid-year elections.

The bill had 46 cosponsors and had the strong support of most hunting and angling organizations and many conservation organizations.

### A Disheartening Vote

"Upfront, we wish to thank the bill's sponsors Senators Kay Hagan (D-N.C.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) for working with us to craft a bipartisan bill that we, and others in the sporting community, believe should have passed," said American Sportfishing Association Vice President Gordon Robertson.

"It's very disheartening that the Senate process and partisan politics pulled down, for the second time in two years, a comprehensive sportsmen's package that would have benefited this nation's fish and wildlife resources as well as hunters and anglers.

Robertson further said, "The failure had nothing to do with the merits of the bill and much to do with mid-term elections this year. Neither party wants to give an advantage to the other. Although we understand that this has always been the way of politics, but we also understand that good public policy requires discipline to do what is right for the nation. The former is what killed this legislation and other recent bills in the Senate."

### Bill Could Return

The sportfishing community had expected that germane and bipartisan-supported bills such as the National Fish Habitat Conservation Act, solutions to the

See **SENATE**, Page 19

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## Tackle & Target

# Clay Busters Kick Off Cactus Wren

Ben Avery Clay Busters (BACB) will kick off its Cactus Wren beginning trap league on Thursday, Sept. 4, from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Ben Avery Clay Target Center, located at 5060 W. Skeet Street, PHOENIX, AZ 85086.

A nine-week program, it will be held weekly on Thursday evenings, culminating with an Awards Banquet to celebrate the success of the beginning trap shooters on Wednesday, Nov. 5. This program certifies each participant

in the NRA Trap Shooting Course of Fire for Shotgun, and teaches the rules and etiquette of the sport by providing one-on-one coaching and instruction to develop shooting skills.

The program is open to youth from 10 years old to adults, and enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis as it is limited to 20 new shooters total. For those without a personal shotgun, loaner shotguns are available through the Ben Avery Clay Target Center (CTC), and will be reserved through the Ben Avery Clay Busters.

The league fee is \$40 for adults and \$25 for youth, with additional costs for weekly targets (50 targets each week). Additional information/registration forms may be obtained by contacting Marci Welton, President and Director of Education, at (602) 571-4055 or at [baclaybusters@gmail.com](mailto:baclaybusters@gmail.com).

The foremost goal of this program is to teach new shooters safe handling in the use of firearms and to develop their confidence to participate in Ben Avery Clay Busters leagues and/or competitive Amateur Trap Association (ATA) tournaments.

## Ben Avery Begins Their Fall League

Ben Avery Clay Busters (BACB) will begin its fall league on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 5-7 p.m. at the Ben Avery Clay Target Center, located at 5060 W. Skeet Street, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

Registrations are now open for the organization's eight-week competitions in Trap, Double Trap, International Bunker Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays. Pre-registration will take place on Sept. 3 from 5-7 p.m. at the Ben Avery Clay Target Center, and team assignments can be obtained at this time. The Fall League Awards Banquet is scheduled Nov. 5.

League enrollment is \$40 for adults and \$25 for youth. Optional additional fees are charged for Amateur Trap Association registered targets and National Sporting Clays Association registered targets.

League fees do not include targets, nor ammo; each sport's weekly competition is for 50 targets. Loaner shotguns are available at the Ben Avery Clay Target Center for those who do not own shotguns.

See **LEAGUE**, Page 17

## Izaak Walton League Sponsors National Hunting & Fishing Day

*Sept. 27 celebrates heritage and conservation successes of America's sportsmen and women.*

Simply buying a hunting or fishing license can do big things for conservation. Sportsmen and women across the country want to share that message in their communities, including members of the Izaak Walton League of America, which continues its sponsorship of National Hunting and Fishing Day this year. Their support goes a long way toward fostering growth in outdoor sports.

The Izaak Walton League has long supported NHF Day, which takes place each year on the fourth Saturday in September. This year it falls on Sept. 27.

"The Izaak Walton League of America is proud to sponsor National Hunting and Fishing Day," said Scott Kovarovic, executive director of the Izaak Walton League. "Many of the League's 245 chapters will host NHF Day events to introduce youth and families to hunting, fishing, and

other outdoor activities. These events help Americans understand the essential role hunters and anglers play in supporting and funding conservation and outdoor recreation opportunities nationwide."

Hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts may not even know they are support-

See **HUNTING DAY**, Page 17

## ASRPA Clay Target Tourney celebrates American Freedoms

Phoenix, AZ — Bring your family on Saturday, September 13th, and enjoy a fun morning shooting clay targets at Ben Avery's Clay Target Center, 5060 W. Skeet Street, Phoenix, AZ, 85086. Hosted by Arizona State Rifle & Pistol Association's Shotgun Division, in commemoration of 9/11 and protecting our American freedoms, the event begins with a NRA Day fun shoot for beginners at 8-11 AM, and is a great opportunity to try sporting clays with one-on-one shotgun instruction. At 9 AM, the "100 Big Bangs for Freedom" sporting clays tournament with a 100-target competition starts as a benefit for the Friends of NRA. This is a registered tournament with the National Sporting Clays Association; however, non-registered participants may compete in this annual event. Early registrations for teams, e.g. youth, corporations, and families are invited for an additional competition, and additional fun includes Friends of NRA raffles for unique merchandise inside the club house, including firearms.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to promote gun safety and the future of the shooting sports. To register and obtain more information, call (602) 571-4055 or email [secretary@asrpa.com](mailto:secretary@asrpa.com).



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# Western Wildlife



## Game And Fish Investigating Antelope Poaching In Northern Ariz.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is investigating the poaching of an antelope buck that was left to waste in a field, and the Department needs assistance in finding the individuals responsible.

On July 2, at around 4:30 a.m., gun shots were heard near the Windmill Ranch off Forest Service Road 231, known as Woody Mountain Rd. Also that morning, a person reported seeing two antelope bucks off the road.

In that same area, but not at the same time, the reporting party also saw two people standing near a gold four-door sedan with a firearm that appeared to be a rifle.



"This poaching is a loss of Arizona's wildlife and that of a species that is some-

what fragile due to coyote predation on antelope fawns and habitat fragmentation," said Wildlife Manager Will Lemon. "This case is just another example of how poachers act and how quickly they can illegally shoot wildlife. The department often relies on the public for information in solving these cases."

Anyone with information regarding this case can call the Department's Operation Game Thief Hotline toll free at (800) 352-0700 or use the online form at [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief).

Callers should provide case number 14-001798 when calling. All calls may remain confidential upon request. A reward

of up to \$750 may be available for information leading to the arrest of the violator(s).

Poachers are thieves, not responsible hunters. The latter sportsmen and women are paying for licenses and tags that contribute to wildlife conservation and management in Arizona.

The Game and Fish Department is also investigating an elk poaching that took place at the end of June along the Rim Road on the Coconino National Forest. For more information about this case, go to the Operation Game Thief section of the department website at [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief).

## 2015 Arizona Game And Fish Heritage Fund Grants Cycle Now Open

*More than \$400,000 in Heritage Fund grants available to wildlife conservation projects in Arizona.*

Whether you won or lost when you bought a lottery ticket last year, some of your money benefits Arizona's wildlife and students. [So, overall, you won!]

That's because the Arizona Game and Fish Department uses some of its Heritage Fund monies that come from Arizona Lottery ticket sales to provide grants for wildlife education and research. This year, more than \$410,000 is being awarded to 27 grant projects across Arizona. When combined with matching money from other sources, the projects being funded total nearly \$1 million invested in Arizona.

"By simply buying Arizona Lottery tickets, Arizonans can help conserve wildlife and habitat, and provide schools with outdoor-related opportunities that

can keep kids connected to nature despite the reduced budgets of local schools," says Robyn Beck, the department's Heritage grant coordinator.

### Heritage Fund Created In 1990

Arizona voters created the Heritage Fund back in 1990. The money from lottery ticket sales goes to conservation efforts such as protecting endangered species, educating our children about wildlife, helping urban residents to better coexist with wildlife, and creating new opportunities for outdoor recreation. Over the years, Game and Fish has awarded a total of more than \$14 million in grants to communities across the state.

The application period for the 2015 grant cycle is now open.



### Learn More At The Workshops

To learn more about Heritage grants and how to apply for the more than \$400,000 available, attend one of the department's optional workshops being held at the following times and locations:

- 1. Tuesday, July 22** from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Phoenix Game and Fish office, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix.
- 2. Wednesday, Aug. 6** from 2 to 4 p.m. at Pima County Natural Resources, 1st

Floor Conference Room, 3500 W. River Road, Tucson.

**3. Monday, Aug. 11** from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Flagstaff regional Game and Fish office, 3500 S. Lake Mary Road, Flagstaff.

Those planning to attend the workshops, and those wanting to learn more about eligibility for the grant money, should R.S.V.P. to Robyn Beck at (623) 236-7530. A minimum of three people must sign up for each workshop or the session will be cancelled 48 hours prior to the date.

The fund application deadline is Sept. 30 at 5 p.m. MST.

Potential grant recipients must have a project that is either located in Arizona or involves research in which the wildlife or its habitat is located in Arizona. More information on the grants and current application materials can be found at the department's website at [www.azgfd.gov/heritage](http://www.azgfd.gov/heritage).

## Voluntary Programs More Successful Than Mandatory Bans

*Arizona Game and Fish believes voluntary non-lead ammo program more effective than a regulated ban for endangered condors.*

The Arizona Game and Fish Department disagrees with a recent appeal filed by environmental litigants to regulate lead ammunition on the Kaibab National Forest as the solution to lead poisoning in endangered California condors.

Three groups that want the U.S. Forest Service to place a mandatory ban on hunting with lead ammunition in northern Arizona lost their original lawsuit against the Kaibab National Forest filed in 2012.

Game and Fish intervened in the original lawsuit by the Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council and Center for

Biological Diversity. The appeal challenges the Kaibab National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan that was recently finalized and its associated Environmental Impact Statement.

### Conservation Through Partnerships

"Arizona Game and Fish has purposefully chosen wildlife conservation through partnerships, and education of its hunting constituents, not regulations," says Assistant Director of Wildlife Management Jim deVos. "The appellants falsely argue that



condor's core range."

California banned lead ammunition in condor range in 2008, but a recent study by the University of California/Davis concluded that condor lead poisoning has not been significantly reduced in that condor population.

"Lasting change takes time and partnerships, but results in lasting cooperation. It is naive to think a regulation or lawsuit will fix the problem of ingested lead in condors," said deVos. "Even with a complete ban on the use of lead bullets in the condors' California range, birds continue to die from ingesting lead, demonstrating the ineffectiveness of a mandatory ban of lead ammunition in condor range."

### Voluntary Program Began in 2003

Arizona Game and Fish began its voluntary, hunter-supported non-lead program in 2003 to reduce the amount of lead available to condors. Before the depart-

California's mandatory ban is the answer, but we've had tremendous success with a voluntary lead-reduction approach that consistently garners 80 to 90 percent volunteer participation from hunters in the



## Explore The Night With Black Light

*Explore the desert's nocturnal wildlife with Arizona Game and Fish biologists.*

FROM AZGFD

Did you know that Arizona is home to over 60 species of scorpions, including the most dangerous species in the United States, the bark scorpion? Join Arizona Game and Fish Department biologists for an easy evening hike to explore the hidden lives of nocturnal animals at the Hirsch Conservation Education Area, located at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility.

The Ben Avery Shooting Facility is home to a variety of wildlife including coyotes, bobcats, mule deer, owls, mice, snakes, scorpions, and an abundance of other small animals. Biologists will use blacklights to look for scorpions, call for owls, and search for other wildlife such as snakes and mice that may be active.

A blacklight will also be set up near the water of Biscuit Tank to attract moths and beetles for participants to view at the conclusion of the hike.

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# RV Land Cruising



## Searching For Weekend Get-Aways? Place Your Call To 'Vacation & Camping Central'

If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen, bedroom and the living room and head for your favorite family retreat, the State Parks! Rural State Parks in Northern Arizona can be five to 20 degrees cooler than Phoenix or Tucson. Adventures include camping, fishing, swimming, boating, hiking, wildlife watching and learning about Arizona's history.

The number to call for all this is (602) 542-4174.

"Vacation & Camping Central" is located at the State Parks headquarters at 1300 W. Washington in Phoenix. Just stop by the office in Phoenix for a free State highway map, park brochures, and information about all of Arizona's campgrounds.

### Take The Sizzle Out Of Summer

Find out where to hike, fish, hold reunions, weddings, special events and business retreats. In the State Parks alone there are 1,450 campsites. So, whether you are a tent camper, RV camper, or need a nice cozy camping cabin, your State Parks will take the sizzle out of your summer.

Few people think of the wonderful vacation spots they already own at the State Parks when they are making weekend plans. Camping in high elevation cool country, just hours from the hot valley, is an economical solution for families.

When you decide on a location, reservations for camping can be made 24-hours-a-day at AZStateParks.com or by calling (520) 586-2283 between 8 a.m. and

5 p.m. seven days a week. Commercial tour group rates are available and reduced for Slide Rock this year to \$2 per person.

### On The Colorado River

Lake Havasu, Buckskin Mountain, River Island, and Cattail Cove are four State Parks on the Colorado River where visitors can swim, boat, fish, go tubing, lounge, or play on the white sand beaches. On the Colorado River, the air temperature is usually 100 degrees but the water is 80 degrees, so spending the day swimming in the river is the trick to staying cool.

### In Eastern Arizona

Four State Parks in Eastern Arizona include Roper Lake, Lyman Lake, Homolovi



Lyman Lake

and Fool Hollow Recreation Area. Roper Lake State Park is warm at night, but the top of Mount Graham is only 45 minutes away with an alpine climate and trout fishing.

Lyman Lake in northeastern Arizona has beach camping, fishing or waterskiing and a slalom course on a quiet reservoir. If you are not a camper, stay in a cabin or a local motel and spend the day on the

See **GET-AWAYS**, Page 15

## Lake Havasu City Fights British Attack On London Bridge

Visitors Bureau demands immediate retraction from U.K.'s *The Sun* newspaper and seeks volunteers to counter false story.

Imagine being the mayor of Lake Havasu City, Ariz., and coming to work one day to learn that your city's iconic bridge, shipped to this desert oasis and painstakingly reconstructed stone-by-stone in the late 1960s to become Arizona's number-two tourist attraction and reading in a London newspaper that it was, in fact, falling down — just like the nursery rhyme.

Such was the case when a concerned citizen returning from a visit to London gave Mayor Mark Nexsen a story in the U.K.'s *The Sun* that said the famed bridge is scheduled to be "bulldozed."

While the English Village built beneath London Bridge has seen higher visitation in the 1970s and 1980s and is currently being revitalized, the bridge itself is as solid as ever, save for a few ghosts said to have been transported within the stonework in 1969.

### Apology Demanded

To counter the story, the city's Visitors Bureau demanded that *The Sun* print a front-page apology and retraction for having published a complete fabrication.

"An article like this is a stain upon our honor," says Doug Traub, president and CEO of the Lake Havasu City Convention & Visitors Bureau. "For over four decades we have been dedicated custodians of British history.

"We stand to lose millions of dollars in tourism revenue if our friends in the United Kingdom stay away out of spite.

"*The Sun* claimed bridge maintenance stopped," Traub continues. "We invite them to return to write another article — on top of their retraction — as we invest \$624,000 more this year in bridge maintenance, in addition to the \$2.5 million in bridge maintenance we've invested over the past 10 years.

"We are a small town and our hard-earned taxes pay for all of this upkeep. We can't afford a hit like this. It's just awful to us, a slap in the face."

### Volunteers Can Help

The Bureau is not stopping with just a strong demand for a retraction. It has begun reaching out to volunteers for help in spreading the word that the London Bridge is well maintained.

Starting June 29, the plan was that any-

one with a U.K. passport, or anyone else with confirmed airfare to the U.K. in July or August, would be provided with a thumb-nail-sized piece of the bridge and a brochure about the historic structure. The idea is to have returning residents of Great Britain, and Americans traveling to London on work or vacation, testify that all's



well with what's been called the "world's largest antique."

Says the City's Mark Clark, PE, PTOE, Maintenance Services Division manager, "All these improvements that we continue to make keep the bridge intact to avoid any major failures. Once our work is completed this summer, we should have a bridge that lasts another 40 years or more."

### Repairs In The Works

The bridge has been holding up well these 43 years, but water has leaked into one of the support piers and now needs to

See **LONDON BRIDGE**, Page 15

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WHEN MAKING YOUR CAMPING RESERVATIONS PLEASE INCLUDE THE WORD **BOAT** IN YOUR APPLICATION.





# RV/Land Cruising



FOR A COOL EXPERIENCE

## Give The Pinaleno Mountains A Try

Riggs Flat Lake

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MARGIE ANDERSON

If you're looking for a cool getaway in Arizona that is a bit off the beaten path (and therefore not quite so packed with human beings), you should give the Pinaleno Mountains a try.

There are lots of excellent hiking trails, a lake to fish in, and plenty of good campgrounds whether you favor a tent or an RV. The tallest peak is over 10,000 feet, and you may be familiar with the name — Mt. Graham: the mountain with the famous



One Of Pinalenos' Many Little Streams

protected red squirrels.

The Pinalenos are one of the "sky islands" in southeastern Arizona. Sky islands are mountains that are isolated by drastically different lowlands. In this case, the beautiful forests of these mountains are surrounded by desert. This gives them a unique ecology. You can find out a lot more about sky islands at [www.skyislandalliance.org](http://www.skyislandalliance.org).

### Arcadia Trail

The Arcadia trail has been designated a National Recreation Trail, so of course we had to check it out first. There are gorgeous views and lots of beautiful birds to see. If you're lucky, you may even see deer. When we went, there were still bright yellow and red leaves on some of the trees and bushes. This was in November and it was already getting chilly.

The Arcadia is a five-mile there and back trail (so, 10 miles round trip), but it goes from one campground to another. Most people go from the Shannon Campground to the Arcadia Campground because it's mostly downhill that way.

Since we were going to have to back-track either way, we chose to park at the Arcadia Campground and go uphill on the way out and downhill on the way back. If you have someone to give you a ride, by all means take the downhill path.

If you park at the Arcadia, you actually have to climb up a little ridge to get to the actual trailhead. You can't see it from the main campground.

About a mile from the Shannon Camp-



Arcadia Trail

ground trailhead you will come across Heliograph Trail. This one climbs to the top of Heliograph Peak and you can get quite a fantastic view from up there.

If you have started at the Shannon and don't want to go all the way to the Arcadia Campground, you can take the Heliograph trail to the summit then go back to Shannon campground by following Heliograph Road, which is closed to motor vehicles. This makes about a 4-mile loop, but you'll miss a lot of really pretty trail.

Also, the Heliograph Trail is a bit steep so be prepared for some huffing and puffing. Near Arcadia campground you'll see the more colorful trees and probably wildflowers as well. This is where we saw a lot of birds, too — the trail crosses a little riparian area. This really is a beautiful hike and I highly recommend it.

### Grant Hill Loop Trail

This trail is actually part of a system of trails for mountain bikes, made up of old logging roads connected together. They make for a great hike, especially the old road parts.

For easiest going, take this loop headed clockwise. It's just over four miles, and will give you some sweet views of Fort Grant and the Galiuro Mountains. There are a lot of loops and connecting trails, so if you don't have trail maps, make sure you take a photo of the one at the trailhead so you don't get mixed up.

The forest is mostly pine, but you'll also find some nice stands of aspen. This is a really nice, not-too-difficult trail.

### Riggs Flat Lake

This beautiful 11-acre trout lake is your reward for reaching the end of the Swift Trail. Alpine forest and meadows surround it, and there is a really nice, easy hike that goes around the lake. The trail is only a little over half a mile and is super easy, so it's great for kids. It can get a little boggy at the end of the lake, but kids love that anyway.

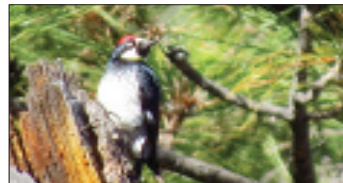
If you have a valid Arizona fishing license, you can try for the trout that are stocked in Riggs Flat. Try corn, cheese,

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Bird On Arcadia Trail



This is FR300, the gravel road that takes over where 366 ends. It takes you the rest of the way to Riggs Flat Lake, which is 40 miles from Safford. (But a long drive!)

See PINALENO, Page 13





# RV/Land Cruising



## SWIMMING

*Continued from page 1*

### Slide Rock State Park

A hot summer day is perfect to enjoy the natural waterslides of Oak Creek. Kids and adults can enjoy the luxury of cool swimming holes and smooth rock chutes amid the exquisite scenery along Oak Creek Canyon.

Access is easy (check, though, for any restrictions following the Slide Fire) and there are restrooms, picnic tables and a small concession and gift shop, Slide Rock State Park is popular, especially on summer weekends.

When you are ready to "dry out," try a stroll along one of the short, scenic hiking trails. Bird watchers will delight in this rich riparian area.

A word to the wise, though: No pets or glass containers are permitted in the swimming areas.

From Phoenix, take Interstate 17 north to Exit 298 (the Sedona exit), then follow Arizona 179 west and north about 15 miles into Sedona. Now take Arizona 89A north about 7 miles to the park.

### Bell Crossing

There's some history here. Rancher Charles Bell built a cattle trail in this spot in the 1930s, but now it's a favorite among hikers.

After a long, hot 3.5-mile hike across a slightly scenic landscape, the crossing — where the Bell Trail crosses Wet Beaver Creek — appears as an oasis, shaded by cottonwoods, sycamores, willows and ash.

To reach the swimming hole, also known as "the Crack," head upstream from the crossing to a series of wide and sometimes fairly deep pools along the creek — perfect spots for a quick, cooling dip.

Although it can be a bit of a challenge in places to get beyond the Crack, the farther you go, the fewer the people.

From Phoenix, take I-17 north to Exit 298 (the Sedona exit). Turn east and follow Forest Road 618 about 2 miles south-east, then turn left onto FR 618A and proceed to the parking area.

### Hell's Gate

Just the opposite of its name, Hell's Gate Wilderness is a lovely place, with ragged rock walls towering hundreds of feet and a lush riparian corridor providing a green carpet through the desert.

There's no doubt that it's a long, hot, steep and heavy hike down to Hell's Gate, but it only makes arriving at the creek that much more rewarding. (And it cuts way down on the crowds.)

Not quite a clear path until you reach the creek, but a trail continues on the other side, winding west a couple of hundred yards to where Haigler Creek joins Tonto Creek. The banks are full of brush, but there are some good camping spots near the confluence, and the verdant areas along the creeks are inviting places.

From Phoenix, take Arizona 87 (the Beeline Highway) north to Payson. Turn east on Arizona 260 and go about 11 miles. At mile marker 263, turn south onto the unsigned Forest Road 405A and drive half a mile to the trailhead.

### Havasu Falls

The waters of Havasu Falls in the western Grand Canyon are an amazingly exquisite turquoise. Although a trip here requires a lot of planning, some money, and a long hike, the wonder of soaking in some of the most beautiful water ever is worth every plan, every dollar, and every effort.

Whether you stay at the lodge in Supai Village or the campground beyond, you can explore Havasu, Mooney and Navajo falls. And, if you want even more water, you can hike all the way down to the Colorado River.

From Hualapai Hilltop, roughly 60 miles north of Seligman, it's a moderately difficult 8-mile hike to Supai Village and another 2 miles to the campground.

From Phoenix, take I-17 north to Flagstaff. Turn west on I-40 and go about 75 miles to Seligman. Take Route 66 about 28 miles northwest to Indian Route 18. Turn right and go about 60 miles to the parking area at Hualapai Hilltop. There are no facilities at the trailhead, but you may camp there. No permits or fees required.

## PENALENO

*Continued from page 12*

salmon eggs, Power Bait, and worms. Fly fishermen often catch the browns and brook trout. You can even take a small boat on the lake (electric motor only).

There is also a one-mile trail (2.2 miles round trip) called the Jesus Goudy trail that simply dead ends at a vista point. It starts above Riggs Flat Lake. We didn't hike this trail, which by all accounts is very faint and rather difficult to follow.

We'll try this one next time. And there definitely will be a next time for us — we are totally in love with the beautiful Pinaleno Mountains.

### So Many Hikes, So Little Time

There are many more hikes that we simply didn't have time to explore our first time out. Go to the Coronado National Forest Web site for information on trails, camping, water availability, etc. Some of the campgrounds are closed until fall this year because of dangerous trees, and since the road goes up up up, portions of it may be closed due to snow. We passed several gates that can be swung shut to close the highway.

### Scenic Drives

If you're not into hiking, you may want to check out the Pinaleno Swift scenic drive. About 8 miles south of Safford, turn southwest onto AZ 366. The drive is just over 35 miles and will take you about 5 hours for the round trip (70 miles total).

You'll see everything from desert scrub to alpine forest and meadows on this drive. There are plenty of interesting things to stop and see, as well as trailheads and other recreation activities that might be too hard to resist. Allow plenty of time!

### Camping

Campgrounds in the Pinalenos are Arcadia, Cunningham, Hospital Flat, Riggs Flat, Shannon, Soldier Creek, and Stock-



Another Arcadia Trail Bird

ton Pass. RVs under 22 feet are allowed at Arcadia, Riggs Flat, Soldier Creek, and Cunningham. You need to call ahead and make sure the campgrounds are open before you go. Call the Coronado National Forest Safford District at (928) 428-4150.

### Getting There

From Safford, drive south 8 miles on US 191 to AZ 366. Turn right (southwest) onto 366. This paved road is paved winds up the western end of the Pinalenos until just around where the Shannon Campground is. Then you follow FR300, which is a very well-maintained gravel road that will take you all the way to Riggs Lake.

### Bonus Trip

If you're staying in Safford and are just exploring the area, take I-70 east from Safford, then 191 up through Clifton and Morenci. The copper mines in that area are awesome to behold.

I have a very old Forest Service map of this area and it shows that highway 191 used to be Highway 666. There is a pretty interesting story about that. To check it out, visit [www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/us666.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/us666.cfm).

Safford, by the way, is a delightful place to stay. It's a very pretty town and the people are really friendly. It's big enough to have everything you need, but small enough to give you a down home feel. We loved it there. They also have some awesome Mexican-food restaurants.

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# RV/Land Cruising

## OHV Riders: Stay Safe On The Trail

Arizona Game and Fish reminds OHV riders to stay safe on the trail. Although "National ATV Safety Week" was held in early June, its lessons are year-round, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department is partnering with the ATV Safety Institute to remind all off-highway vehicle (OHV) and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) owners and riders to practice safe riding habits.

way to do that is to be safe and responsible whenever you ride," said Eberhart. "When a rider wears a helmet, goggles, gloves, long pants and over-the-ankle boots, the risks of serious injury are greatly reduced. Of course, even the best equipment won't protect you if you're taking chances and driving recklessly."

### Safety Tips

Below are several simple yet valuable safety tips that all riders should follow:

- Always wear a DOT-compliant helmet, goggles, long sleeves, long pants,

See **OHV RIDERS**, Page 15



# 'Everybody's Home Town' Presents Outdoor Recreation Festival & Expo



Join us for the fun at Prescott's Great Outdoors.

Come to Prescott's Watson Lake Park Oct. 11 and 12 (Columbus Day Weekend) from 10. The many outdoor recreational opportunities, organizations, resources, equipment, and businesses in the Quad-

Cities and beyond will be highlighted.

### Here Are Some Of The Features

- Live music on the lawn with the talented Mogollon, Groove Merchants (who entertained at AZ Best Fest Centennial Celebration), Ashley Wine, and Big Daddy D and the Dynamites
  - The 300-foot fly-wire (zip-line) + climbing wall
  - Many great displays and exhibits by Arizona Game & Fish Department, to include creatures from the Adobe Mtn. Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
  - Food vendors + many organization and business booths
  - An expanded two-day fishing component
  - Prescott Astronomy Club and telescopes for Saturday evening's night-sky program
  - Adventure Recreation by Tierra Wild
  - An expanded Expo with the latest in watercraft, ATVs, bikes, camping gear, and much more
  - Canoe and kayak rentals, camping, boating, disc golf, and a few surprises
- Sponsorship opportunities are available, and volunteers are needed. For more information, contact Eric Smith, Parks and Recreation, (928) 777-1590 or eric.smith@prescott-az.gov., or Kelly Tolbert, Parks and Recreation (928) 777-1558 or kelly.tolbert@prescott-az.gov.

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Catalina State Park

## Arizona State Parks Accepting Grant Applications For Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program

The National Park Service (NPS) has released guidelines for a new nationwide pilot grant program called the "Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program." The program is for projects that will create or reinvigorate parks and other outdoor recreation spaces in ways that will encourage people, especially youth, to connect or re-connect with the outdoors. Priority will be given to projects located in urbanized communities that are economically disadvantaged and are underserved in terms of outdoor recreation resources. Guidelines were released in mid-June.





# RV/Land Cruising

## GRANTS

*Continued from page 14*

Arizona State Parks (ASP) will choose from eligible submissions located in Arizona. ASP staff will evaluate the submissions and the top two will be forwarded to NPS to compete in the national competition where between six and 12 proposals will be awarded.

If selected, additional information will

be required. Please note that only a total of \$3 million is available for the entire nationwide competition, with each state eligible to submit only two applications.

Arizona State Parks will hold a grant workshop on July 15 at 10 a.m. in the Board Room conference room at 1300 W. Washington St., PHOENIX or by calling 1-877-820-7831 then enter 613038. The proposals will be accepted via mail or in-person delivery to the Arizona State Parks

administrative office at 1300 W. Washington, PHOENIX, AZ 85007 until Aug. 1 at 5 p.m.

Governmental entities having populations of 50,000 or more and the counties they reside in as listed in the 2010 Census Urban Areas are eligible to apply for this grant program. Eligible projects include acquisition and/or development of public parkland and applicants can request between \$250,000 and \$500,000.

There is a required match from state, local or private sources. The anticipated award date is between January 1, 2015 and April 1, 2015.

To apply, download and read the grant application guide visit [AZStateParks.com/grants](http://AZStateParks.com/grants) or contact State Parks at (602) 542-4174. The deadline for the completed application package is Friday, Aug. 1, 2014 at 5 p.m.

## OHV RIDERS

*Continued from page 14*

over-the-ankle boots, and gloves. A helmet approved by the US Department of Transportation is required for those under the age of 18, and recommended for all riders. ALL riders are required to wear protective glasses, goggles or a transparent face shield unless the OHV is equipped with a windshield.

- OHVs are designed to be operated off highway, not on paved surfaces. Always ride on designated trails—never on paved roads except to cross when it's safe and permitted by law.

- Never carry a passenger on a single-rider OHV, and no more than one passenger on an OHV specifically designed for two people.

- Always ride sober. Never drink alco-

hol or use drugs while operating an off-highway vehicle.

- Kids should never ride adult model ATVs. Get the right size OHV for your child and always supervise riders younger than 16.

- Stay on trails. Straying from designated trails may cause lasting damage to wildlife habitat, and can make you harder to find if you get lost or crash.

- Educate yourself by taking an OHV safety course. The Game and Fish Web site has several online learning opportunities

"Off-highway vehicles are not toys, so it's important that you follow the rules and use the proper safety equipment to prevent serious injury," said Eberhart.

For more information, besides from AZGFD, visit [www.ATVSafety.org](http://www.ATVSafety.org), or call (800) 887-2887.

## LONDON BRIDGE

*Continued from page 11*

be pumped and dried out. Lake Havasu City also plans to create a maintenance entryway into the mainland side of the bridge to better ensure the safety of workers.

Also on the repair schedule: There's sand on the bearing pads that prevent the bridge from smoothly expanding and contracting in various temperatures. Those pads will now be cleaned.

The CVB's Traub continues, "The Sun story also says the bridge will be torn down to attract drug tourism. Last time we looked, this was illegal in Arizona."

### 'Chips Off The Old Block'

The city's Visitors Center, located in the shadow of the bridge, regularly sells

bridge fragments to tourists. The stones are literally "a chip off an old block" that was transported to Lake Havasu by founder Robert P. McCulloch, but never used in the reconstruction.

U.K. residents and Americans heading to Great Britain can claim their souvenir fragments by visiting the Visitors Center at 422 English Village.

### Read All About It

Read *The Sun's story* here:

<http://www.golakehavasu.com/vp/6769.aspx?url=/media-room/london-bridge-falling-down-the-sun.aspx>

Learn more about the history of the bridge here:

[http://www.golakehavasu.com/about-us/london\\_bridge1.aspx](http://www.golakehavasu.com/about-us/london_bridge1.aspx)

## GET-AWAYS

*Continued from page 11*

beach. Homolovi, along I-40, has a great campground, ancient Hopi villages, and Hopi elder audio tours.

### In The Verde Valley And More

Day-trippers can head out to the historic parks in the Verde Valley such as Fort Verde, Jerome, Slide Rock (upper area only) Dead Horse Ranch, and Riordan Mansion in Flagstaff. Environmental State Parks such as Oracle and Red Rock are good destinations for exploring and Kartchner Caverns is always 70 degrees

year round. Tonto Natural Bridge SP in Payson has the world's largest travertine bridge with a lush, cool waterfall splashing into Pine Creek.


### About AZ State Parks

For information about all 27 Arizona State Parks, the Trails and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs and State Historic Preservation Office call (602) 542-4174 (outside of the Phoenix metro area call toll-free (800) 285-3703), visit the website and online camping reservations at [AZStateParks.com](http://AZStateParks.com), Twitter/Facebook [AZStateParks](http://AZStateParks).



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Other than some editorial specials, this late summer issue will feature New Products — everything from floodlights to macerating pumps to barrel bolts to electronic innovations, and more; the list is endless and inclusive of exciting new products for boaters, RVers, campers, and all outdoors enthusiasts.

So, if you have a product or a service or event that you'd like to advertise in this extraordinary issue of *WOT/AZBW*, please contact Jim Allen at [jim@azbw.com](mailto:jim@azbw.com) before Aug. 10.







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**HUNTING DAY***Continued from page 9*

ing wildlife conservation when they take to the field or stream. Through licenses, permits, and special taxes on firearms, ammunition and fishing tackle, hunters and anglers generate \$100,000 every 30 minutes — totaling more than \$1.75 billion per year — for fish, wildlife, and habitat conservation.

No one contributes more to conservation than America's sportsmen and women. National Hunting and Fishing Day is set aside to celebrate those conservation efforts and involve more people in these outdoor traditions.

This year, country music star, award-winning TV host, and former U.S. soldier

Craig Morgan has stepped forward to promote NHF Day as the event's honorary chairman. Morgan is well-known as an avid outdoorsman and also takes pride in serving others. He has made eleven overseas tours to entertain our troops and received the 2006 USO Merit Award for his tireless support of U.S. soldiers and their families.

The Tennessee native also hosts the award-winning *Craig Morgan's All Access Outdoors* television show on the Outdoor Channel.

Sponsors for National Hunting and Fishing Day 2014 include the Wonders of Wildlife, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Bass Pro Shops, Realtree, Yamaha, GunBroker.com, Izaak Walton League of

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Productions.

For more information, visit <http://www.nhfday.org>.

**LEAGUE***Continued from page 9*

Additional information and registration forms may be obtained by contacting

Marci Welton, President and Director of Education, at (602) 571-4055 or at [baclaybusters@gmail.com](mailto:baclaybusters@gmail.com). Registration forms may also be obtained online at <http://www.benaveryclaybusters.org>.

**NIGHT***Continued from page 10*

For a quality experience, this activity is limited to 50 people. Participants will be divided into groups of 10 and partnered with a guide for the hike.

The hike will be held on Friday, July 18 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the shooting facil-

ity, which is just west of I-17 on Carefree Highway in Phoenix. The cost to participate is \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 10 years and older. No children under 10 years of age will be permitted and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

To register or obtain more information, contact Joe Yarchin at (623) 236-7589 or [jyarchin@azgfd.gov](mailto:jyarchin@azgfd.gov).

**PROGRAMS***Continued from page 10*

ment's program began, estimates showed that less than four percent of successful Kaibab deer hunters used non-lead ammunition.

For the past two years, 88 percent of the state's hunters in condor range have taken voluntary lead-reduction measures even despite a nationwide shortage in non-lead ammunition in 2013.

In fact, this year's annual trapping and testing of condors from the Arizona-Utah population revealed a substantial decrease in the percentage of birds with

toxic blood-lead levels, the lowest in nearly a decade.

**Success In Arizona-Utah**

Condors are now frequently using lands in southern Utah for foraging, especially during the fall hunting season. With expansion of the condor's range, conservation management must adapt along with the birds. The Utah Division of Wildlife recognizes the role it plays in the conservation of the species and began a more aggressive voluntary non-lead program in 2011.

For more information on condors and lead, visit [www.azgfd.gov/condor](http://www.azgfd.gov/condor).



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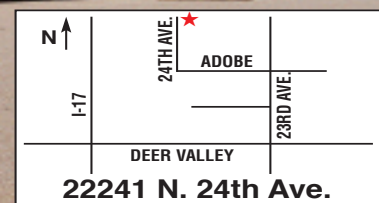
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*Continued from page 1*

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**WATER**

*Continued from page 1*

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### STRIPER

*Continued from page 7*

spent suggesting this fish had just completed spawning. Full, ripe ovaries can weigh 2-3 pounds which would add more weight and girth to this fish.

### Temperature Makes A Difference

Striped bass are a marine fish that are adapted to life in the ocean. As they mature, they seek water temperature in the mid 60s. Juvenile stripers can survive well in warmer water. This genetic change with age, separates large and small stripers and protects small fish from predation by larger ones.

In fresh water, the opposite is true. When adult stripers mature and are forced into deeper, cooler water, it is adult fish that struggle. Shad live in warm water where juvenile stripers reside. When adults are forced to leave the warm zone, their food choices become limited leaving juvenile stripers on top with shad and the competitive advantage.

If adult stripers are not large enough to

eat 1-pound carp, and catfish then they become malnourished. This explains why there are so many large, lean fish in certain years.

But, this trophy fish was healthy and well nourished. Striped bass are surface spawners so they must abide the warm water during spawning. If they stay in 75+ degree water for an extended time, lactic acid builds up in the muscles beyond the capacity of the fish to recover. This is the cause of death of most trophy fish that are found dead on the surface.

### Striper Life Spans

My best guess is that this fish succumbed to post-spawning stress and excessive lactic acid buildup in warm water, which prevented the fish from diving into deep water.

Scales were read to determine age. This fish was similar to other trophy striped bass from Lake Powell. The age was 10 years, which seems to be the maximum life span of large stripers. Striped bass that do not leave the school seldom live longer than five years, while trophy fish live twice that long.

Large stripers are loners that hunt cat-

fish, carp, and walleye in the cooler water. They do come into shallow water to eat shad on occasion when shad numbers are high and hunting forage does not require a long stay in warm water.

### Thank You For Sharing

I want to thank Alan and Deborah for sharing their fish with us so we could learn more about the rare trophy fish that do swim in Lake Powell.

# LAKE POWELL Yacht Club

The purpose of the Club is to serve the interest of boat owners and water recreational enthusiasts, to defend such owners and recreational enthusiasts against discriminatory legislation and burdensome taxation, to prevent the pollution of Lake Powell and neighboring recreational facilities, to stimulate a greater interest in boating among all the citizens in the area and those attracted to the area served by the Club, to promote better boating and water safety, to develop a fraternal spirit among local outdoor enthusiasts, and to provide a medium for the exchange of boating information.

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**mailto:lpyc@lp yachtclub.org**

### RIGGED

*Continued from page 8*

Northern Arizona lifted all fire restrictions on July 8.

### If You Fish The East Verde

Those visiting the East Verde River (where the fishing has been exceptional)

are again reminded that if a trout with an external radio tag is caught, they may keep or release the fish. Please return any tags.

If you catch a tagged fish, please call the number on the colored tag (623-236-7538) with the following information: location of the caught trout, identification number on the colored external tag, the date the fish was caught.

### SENATE

*Continued from page 8*

red snapper management problems in the Gulf of Mexico and the beach access problems at Cape Hatteras National Seashore would become amendments to the package.


Robertson further noted, "While these, and other beneficial amendments were filed, many other amendments served only as polarizing lighting rods. It's pos-

sible the bill could return in a lame-duck session, but it is too early to make that prediction."

For more information, contact Mary Jane Williamson, communications director, mjwilliamson@asafishing.org, 703-519-9691, x227 www.asafishing.org

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