

# Western Outdoor Times

December 2017  
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*A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports*

BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | RVING | SHOOTING SPORTS | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

FOR THE HOLIDAYS

## Slip Into Something Colorful



### Boating

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### Tackle & Target

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### Land Cruising

Pages 10-13

### Western Wildlife

Pages 14-15

## Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

**HUZZAH!**

## The 'Raucous Revelry' Returns

*Always a highlight of a new year, the annual Arizona Renaissance Festival is coming soon to the Valley of the Sun.*



Don't miss Raucous Revelry at the Annual Arizona Renaissance Festival! The Arizona Renaissance Festival is a medieval amusement park, a 13-stage theater, a 30-acre circus, an arts and crafts fair, a jousting tournament and a feast — all rolled into one non-stop, day-long family adventure. You never know what you will find on or off the stage!

This unique outdoor event combines entertainment and wares reminiscent of what may have been found in a 16th Century European village market celebrating the arrival of the King and Queen to their shire. Walk through the gates to be transported back in time.

Mingle with over 2,000 costumed characters, eat a giant roasted turkey leg; take part in games of chance and skill; cheer on your favorite knight; select a handcrafted rose for

that special someone — so much to see and do. Eat Drink and be Merry is the order of the day at the Village of Fairhaven. In addition to Saturdays and Sundays, the festival is open Presidents' Day, Monday, Feb. 19.

### Details

- Where: Festival Village, 12601 East Highway 60 Gold Canyon, Ariz.

- When: Saturday, Feb. 10 to Sunday, April 1, 2018, recurring weekly on Sunday, Saturday

- Information: Phone: (520) 463-2600

- Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- Pricing: Discount tickets are adult \$24, children 5-12, \$14 when purchased at Fry's Food stores; children under 5 are always free. Tickets purchased at the Festival are two dollars more.



### ON THE COVER

## Color Us Thankful

- For the joys of the holiday season,
- For the love of family and friends,
- For the beauty of our outdoors,
- For the chance to boat, hunt, fish, camp, and travel in this incredible Southwest,

See **THANKFUL**, Page 19

### FUN FOR THE FAMILY

## Cut Your Own Merry Christmas Tree

The 2017 holiday season is upon us! And, as we creep towards the end of the year, those celebrating Christmas have a big item placed near the top of their to-do lists.

Saturday, Nov. 18 was the start of the 2017 Christmas Tree Cutting Season. Permits went on sale Friday, Nov. 17 and will end just before Christmas. Permits are sold over-the-counter at the Mogollon Rim Ranger District Office, Forest Supervisor's Office and Flagstaff Ranger District Office.

Learn how to obtain a Christmas tree permit and get information about the cutting area for the Coconino National Forest. Information for the upcoming season is announced in

the fall. Permit sales and tree cutting generally start a week or so before Thanksgiving.

For those familiar with prior years' Christmas tree permits, the cutting area is expected to be the same area on the Mogollon Rim Ranger District, with permits available at the Blue Ridge Ranger Station (300 permits), Flagstaff Ranger District (200 permits), and Supervisor's Office (100 permits). More details will soon be available.

### Picking Out A Christmas Tree

For those looking to get a natural tree for

See **CHRISTMAS TREE**, Page 19



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### 'PACKAGES FROM HOME'

## Although They Are Away, You Can Send Holiday Joy To Our Veterans

As the giving season approaches, there is a special program that assures that those who are serving our country are not forgotten: "Packages from Home".

Generally, the smaller, travel sizes of hygiene and food supplies are recommended. Some of the items that our service members particularly appreciate receiving are the following:

- Hygiene Supplies such as foot or body powder, hand sanitizer, eye drops, lip balm, sunscreen, deodorant (non anti-perspirant), lotions, shampoo and conditioner (travel size), hair products, wet wipes (unscented), feminine products, disposable razors, shaving cream, toothpaste (small size), tooth-

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brushes, band aids, toilet paper, tissue packs (travel size), bug repellent, cool ties, etc.

- Food Items such as single drink mixes,

See **VETERANS**, Page 19

### 2017 COMMISSION AWARDS

## AZGFC Honors Arizonans Who Contribute To Our Outdoor Heritage

The annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018, at the Point Hilton Tapatio Cliffs Resort, 11111 N. 7th Street, Phoenix, Ariz. The event will honor the recipients of the 2017 Commission Awards that were selected at the Commission's Sept. 8 meeting.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage, and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The banquet will begin with a social hour and live music at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. The awards will be pre-

sented concurrently with dinner to allow for more live music and dancing afterward.

We are looking forward to a great celebration of all our award recipients and are expecting this to be our best banquet ever. The cost is \$65 per individual.

### First In 1991

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission held its first annual awards banquet on Jan. 12, 1991. Since then, a total of 374 re-

See **HERITAGE**, Page 19





We at Arizona Boating/Western Outdoor Times are thankful for all the joys this season brings and for the many of you who have shared the outdoors with us for over a dozen years of publication.

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## DOWNSTREAM: December 2017 Events Calendar

### BOATING

**12/1 and 2 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** Annual Boat Parade of Lights; see story on page 4

**12/9 TEMPE TOWN LAKE:** Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade; see story on page 4  
**12/10 and 17 SAN DIEGO BAY:** Parade of Lights; see story on page 4

### CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**Dec. 2-3 APACHE JUNCTION:** Family Campout – Lost Dutchman State Park. Ideal for those new to camping. An activity filled weekend could include fishing, archery, mountain biking, hiking, or birding, depending on the date and park chosen. Trained camp coordinators will assist by teaching campers how to set up a tent, prepare food outside, build a fire and work on a service project. \$90 for a family up to four. <http://AZStateParks.com/family-camp>

**Jan. 1, 2018 THROUGHOUT THE STATE:** First-Day Hikes in Apache Junction, Benson, Cottonwood, Lake Havasu City, Parker, Patagonia, Payson, Picacho, Safford, Sedona, Show Low, St. John's, Superior, Tucson, Wendell, and Winslow; 928-289-4106 or <http://AZStateParks.com>

### CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

### COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL

For a complete list of holiday events in Arizona, visit —<http://www.visitarizona.com/events>.

**1-3 PHOENIX:** Pops: Holiday Pops – Symphony Hall. Join The Phoenix Symphony and The Phoenix Symphony Chorus to experience this festive concert of seasonal favorites and the ever-popular Holiday Sing-Along, guaranteed to put you and your family in the holiday spirit. 7:30 & 2 pm. 602-495-1999 or <http://phoenixsymphony.org>

**2 CAMP VERDE:** Annual Victorian Ornament Workshop – Fort Verde State Historic Park. Join us for our Victorian ornament workshop. Visitors will enjoy making their own Victorian ornaments – bring the kids and enjoy the fun. Free. 10 am – 2 pm. 928-567-3275 or <http://azstateparks.com>

**2 PHOENIX:** 31st Annual APS Electric Light Parade: Winter Nights Dazzling Lights 2017 – The APS Electric Light Parade has long been an event where families, neighborhood groups and businesses from across the city come together and spread the joy of the holidays to more than 100,000 spectators.

**2 | December 2017** [www.azbw.com](http://www.azbw.com) • [westernoutdoortimes.com](http://westernoutdoortimes.com)

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**DECEMBER 25**

**BOXING DAY (CANADA)**  
**DECEMBER 26**

**NEW YEARS DAY**  
**JANUARY 1**

tors. The parade begins on Central Avenue & Montebello and ends at 7th Street and Indian School. All entries lined with electric lights, from floats, to marching bands, performance groups, car groups and families. Free. 7 pm. 602-262-6437 or <https://www.phoenix.gov/parks/elp>

**2 PRESCOTT:** 63rd Annual Courthouse Lighting & Ceremony - In Arizona's official Christmas City, 1 pm parade, free, 6 pm lighting, Frontier Christmas Open House at Sharlot Hall Museum, Christmas Indian Art Market at Smoki Museum, Jinglet Bell 5K run. This must-see event is one of Prescott's most beloved and time-honored traditions! 928-445-2000 or 800-266-7534 or <http://www.visit-prescott.com> or <http://http://heard.org/holidays>

**2 PRESCOTT: 35th Annual Prescott Chamber Christmas Parade** – Downtown Prescott. Bring the family to watch more than 100 floats and entries. 1 pm. <http://www.visit-prescott.com>

**6, 7, 8, IN PHOENIX AREA:** Handel's Messiah in Scottsdale, Sun City, and Mesa; an annual holiday favorite, Handel's Messiah returns to The Phoenix Symphony. The acclaimed "Hallelujah" chorus highlights these performances featuring some of the most glorious sacred music ever written. Join The Phoenix Symphony, The Phoenix Symphony Chorus and world-class soloists in Handel's masterpiece in churches and venues throughout the Valley. 7:30 pm. <http://phoenixsymphony.org>

**8-9 CAMP VERDE:** 9th Annual Candlelight Tours – Fort Verde State Historic Park. Enjoy the celebration of a Victorian Christmas with our traditional candlelight tours. Re-enactors dressed in period clothing provide guided tours with hot chocolate and light refreshments. 928-567-3275 or <http://azstateparks.com>

**8-10, 15-17, 19-23, 26-30 PHOENIX:** 39th Annual Las Noches de las Luminarias - Desert Botanical Gardens. Experience the beauty of more than 8,000 hand-lit luminaria bags, thousands of white twinkle lights and unexpected views of familiar spaces. As you walk the Garden paths, you will be welcomed by the sights and sounds of nine entertainment ensembles. Additional dinner is available. \$10-25. 5:30 pm, pre-register. 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

**8-24 PHOENIX:** The Nutcracker – Symphony Hall. With more than 150 performers,

hundreds of costumes and the beauty and athleticism of Ballet Arizona's nationally recognized dancers, a timeless holiday tradition for all ages. Choreography by artistic director Ib Andersen danced to Tchaikovsky's famous score, with the Phoenix Symphony. 602-381-1096 or <http://balletaz.org/>

**26 PHOENIX:** 29th Annual Cactus Bowl – Chase Field. Featuring Pac-12 team vs. Big 12 conference team, football. \$10-50. gates open at 6:30 pm. 7 pm. 480-350-0911 or <https://www.fiestabowl.org/>

**26-31 PHOENIX:** Holidays at the Heard Museum - Heard Museum. Exciting performances and artist demonstrations introduce visitors to traditional and contemporary American Indian music, dance and art throughout the week, included in general museum admission. \$7.50-18. Sat-Thu 9:30 am - 5 pm, Sun 11 am - 5 pm. 602-252-8848 or <http://heard.org/holidays>

**30 GLENDALE:** 47th Annual PlayStation Fiesta Bowl Football Classic – University of Phoenix Stadium. Top teams play, the champion of the Big 12 Conference and another one of the nation's top college football teams. Tickets start at \$95. 2 pm. 480-350-0911 or <http://www.fiestabowl.org/>

**30 PHOENIX:** 47th Annual National Bank of Arizona Fiesta Bowl Parade - Central Phoenix. Arizona Coyotes legend Shane Doan will be the Grand Marshal. Floats, bands, specialty and equestrian units; bleacher seating \$25. 9 am. <http://www.fiestabowl.org/>

**31 PHOENIX:** New Year's Eve Celebration – Symphony Hall. End the year on a high note with The Phoenix Symphony and conductor Stuart Chafetz for the most popular New Year's Eve Celebration in Arizona. Enjoy famous Strauss waltzes, seasonal classics and Broadway and contemporary favorites all with a complimentary glass of Champagne to celebrate the New Year. Don't miss this joyous and popular musical event that is sure to sell out. 4 & 7:30 pm. 602-495-1999 or <http://www.phoenixsymphony.org>

**31 SHOW LOW:** Deuce of Clubs Drop – Festival Marketplace. Countdown to midnight, ushers in the new year giant electrified Deuce of Clubs (playing card) dropped from a crane, free photo booth, cocoa & popcorn available, free noisemakers & party items, and fire pits to keep you toasty, the evening comes to a climax with a giant fireworks show immediately following the dropping of

the Deuce of Clubs. 11 pm – midnight. 928-532-4140 or <http://www.showlowchamber.com/>

### EXPOS/SHOWS

**3/22-25, 2018: SCOTTSDALE'S WEST WORLD:** International Sportsmen's Exposition and Arizona Boat Show® (ISE) — See story on page 4.

### SHOOTING SPORTS/ARCHERY

**BEN AVERY CLAY TARGET CENTER:** Ongoing — Open seven days a week; (623) 434-8119

### WATERSPORTS

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**SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS:** Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake: sales@saguarosports.com

**Frozen:**  
**Through 1/7 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** Ice Skating at the London Bridge — London Bridge Resort. Experience a traditional winter favorite in the heart of the desert at Lake Havasu City. Enjoy real ice skating under twinkle lights and a backdrop of pine trees at the London Bridge Resort. 928-855-0888 or <https://golakehavasu.com/event/ice-skating-at-the-london-bridge/>

**LEARN TO CURL LESSONS:** Ongoing — [learntocurl@coyotescurling.com](mailto:learntocurl@coyotescurling.com)

### WILDLIFE/ANIMAL-RELATED

**Through 12/23 TEMPE:** Go, Dog. Go! - Tempe Center for the Arts. The cast of this beloved preschool favorite has gone to the dogs—with cars, hats, a moonlit boat ride, and even a wild game of ball—as this hilarious visual spectacle manages to sneak in some important lessons about life between innings. Go, Dog. Go! is a musical romp full of surprises, color, clowning, vaudeville, singing/barking, and of course, six lovable dogs! Sat 1 & 4 pm, Sun 1 pm. <http://www.childsplayaz.org>

**Through 4/30 PHOENIX:** Dinosaurs in the Desert – Phoenix Zoo. 23 prehistoric creatures stand along the Zoo's Desert Lives Trail. The self-guided tour includes animatronic dinosaur structures which move and make various sounds including the infamous roar of the tyrannosaurus rex. A fossil dig and a photo op with a pachyrhino are also available. Educational signage and guides highlight size and interesting facts. <http://www.phoenixzoo.org/event-items/dinosaurs-in-the-desert/>

**Editor's Note:** Please submit announcements to [learntocurl@coyotescurling.com](mailto:learntocurl@coyotescurling.com). See **DOWNSTREAM**, Page 19

# Our waterways are ready, but are you?

## Free courses offered by the Arizona Game and Fish Department:

### Boater Education Course

- December 16 in Phoenix
- January 20 in Phoenix

### Paddlesports Education Course

- December 9 in Phoenix
- January 13 in Phoenix

Sign up online and get the details at [www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating) or give us a call: 623-236-7219

## U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Courses:

### December 16

- Flotilla 10-08 in Mesa  
510-386-2356

## Get a Head Start on 2018

Fall marks the end of boating season for many in Northern Arizona and as owners prepare to stow their watercraft until the spring, it's an ideal time to inspect life jackets, safety gear and mechanical equipment. The following steps will help ensure the boat or watercraft is stored properly for next year and you're ready to safely hit the water in 2018:

1

INSPECT LIFE JACKETS FOR ANY RIPS, TEARS, MOLD, MILDEW AND WORN AREAS.

2

CHECK THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER TO ENSURE IT'S SUFFICIENTLY CHARGED.

3

PULL THE VESSEL'S DRAIN PLUG, AND DRY AND CLEAN THE HULL.

4

INSPECT PROPELLERS AND THE HULL FOR ANY DISTORTIONS OR CRACKS.

5

CHECK THE FUEL SYSTEM FOR ANY LEAKS OR DAMAGES.

## Register Your Watercraft

Make sure your vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water!

Skip the line and renew your watercraft registration online at [www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating)



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# Boating



## Sportsmen And Arizona Boat Show Adds More Family Fun Features

The 18th annual International Sportsmen's Expo has announced new activities for the March 22-25 event at WestWorld in Scottsdale.

Already the state's largest annual show spotlighting fishing, hunting, boating and outdoor gear and destinations, the 2018 Expo will include DockDogs, the most-popular tour of water-jumping dogs. "WestWorld's vast outdoor space makes that possible," said John Kirk, Expo director of communications.

"We've also expanded our Wilderness Camp, hosted by Scottsdale-based Todd Jostes, the Wilderness Man," Kirk continued. "Todd recently won top honors on Discovery Channel's *Bushcraft Build Off* show. He'll present free survival, bushcraft and outdoor-skills seminars every day at his camp."

The Arizona Boat Show — held in the giant Multi-Use Tent at WestWorld — will grow again, offering additional dealers and models of sport and fishing boats. The Expo's sale of UTVs and ATVs will also expand.

The Expo's Adventure Theater will offer new, free seminars highlighting off-roading and camping vehicles, hosted



Watersports Pond

by *Adventure Portal*, the leading website for overlanding. Another new talk, "So, you didn't get your tag...now what?" will be led by Trevor Stoltzfus, host of the television show *Outback Outdoors*.

Other show activities include Offroad Test Track, Outdoor Product Showcase, Bass Demonstration Tank, Watersports Pond, Zipline, Climbing Wall and Fly-Casting Pond.



Wilderness Camp

**When:** March 22-25, 2018

**Where:** WestWorld of Scottsdale, 16601 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85260

**Hours:** Thurs & Fri-10a-7p; Sat-10a-7p; Sun-10a-5p

**Reduced Admission:** \$12, adult; youth 15 and under and active military (with ID), free

**Info:** SportsExpos.com and AZBoatShow.com

## Waters Sparkle With Spectacular Lighted-Boat Parades

*The Christmas season is made just a little more special each year by three of our favorite Southwest lighted-boat parades.*

### Lake Havasu City

(Friday, Dec. 1 and Saturday, Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m.)

### Up To 50 Boats Will Delight Spectators

The Annual Boat Parade of Lights is in its 35th year and has been the must-see event of the holiday season. Lake Havasu City's Boat Parade of Lights has been repeatedly selected as one of the top 100 events in the United States by the American Bus Association.

Up to 50 boats brightly decorated in their holiday best will delight children and adults alike. Watch the boats cruise through the Bridgewater Channel beginning in Thompson Bay and continuing under the London Bridge to the north end of the Channel, with a turnaround at Windsor Beach and back.

Bundle up and take a stroll through the Channel — the only time you'll see the

Channel packed full of boats and boaters in winter gear at night. Come cozy up with family and friends and create treasured memories of a favorite holiday tradition!

Want to enter your boat in the parade? Anyone is welcome and prizes are given for Grand Marshal's Award, Commodore's Award, Best Family/Individual Award, Best Corporate Entry Award, Best First-Time Entry Award, Best Service Club/Organization Award, Judge's Choice Award, and Best Sparkle Award.

Boat parade participants and sponsors invite you to visit the docks in front of the London Bridge Resort where parade floats will be lit up nightly beginning at dusk.

Bonfires will be permitted throughout the Channel on the island-side beach areas but must be contained in a portable, self-contained fire pit. All ashes must be removed entirely and the area left clean.



Absolutely no digging of fire pits in the sand and no dumping of ashes in the water. The area will be patrolled throughout the evening. (Bon fires are not permitted on the new white-sand beaches at the north end of the channel.)

There will be great viewing at the Nautical Beachfront Resort (the starting point of the Parade of Lights), Rotary Beach, throughout the Channel on both sides between Rotary Beach and Windsor Beach, the English Village, across the London Bridge, and at any of the restaurants along the Channel.\*

\*If you plan on watching from the Channel restaurants, early reservations are recommended.

There is no charge to view The 35th Annual Boat Parade. Plenty of free parking is available at the English Village and in the parking areas on the island near the Channel. Plan to get there early as traffic around the London Bridge can become congested.

Event categories include Boating, Channel District, Family Fun, and Top-25 District.

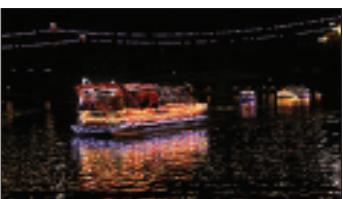
For more information, visit [ibyboatparadeofflights.com](http://ibyboatparadeofflights.com), call or email Organizer Tammy Kastelz: (928) 486-4159, tkastelz@gmail.com.

### Tempe Town Lake

(Saturday, Dec. 9)

### 2017 Fantasy Of Lights Boat Parade Will Dazzle The Crowd

Light up the night and be dazzled at the Valley's most unique holiday event, the 2017 Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade presented by SRP at Tempe Town Lake. The Boat Parade will feature as many as



50 festively lighted boats of all sizes.

After dark, more than a thousand luminaries will illuminate the sidewalks and paths of Tempe Beach Park, a special display provided by Tempe South Rotary.

Come early to Tempe Town Lake at 80 W. Rio Salado Pkwy., Tempe, AZ 85281

For more information, phone (480) 355-6060 or visit <http://www.downtowntempe.com/explore/our-events/fantasy-of-lights>

### San Diego Bay



MARV SLOBEN

(Sundays, Dec. 10 and 17)

### San Diego Bay Parade Of Lights Announces 2017 Theme

One of San Diego's most popular holiday events is scheduled for two December Sundays, the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>. Recently, the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights announced the theme for this year's holiday boat parade: "Arrgh! A Pirate's Christmas." This year marks the 46th anniversary for the Parade of Lights.

"The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights gives boat enthusiasts and owners an opportunity to demonstrate their creativity in a fun way and we can't wait to see what they come up with to celebrate a pirate's Christmas this year," said Parade Chairman Larry Baumann. "I'm sure the thousands of spectators who visit the bay to view the dazzling lighted boats will get a kick out of this year's theme."

Presented by the Port of San Diego,

See BOAT PARADES, Page 18

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## Harvey And Irma Damage Or Destroy More Than 63,000 Recreational Boats

*'It could have been much worse.'*

Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), the nation's largest advocacy, services and safety group for recreational boaters, estimates that more than 63,000 recreational boats were damaged or destroyed as a result of both Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma, with a combined dollar damage estimate of \$655 million (boats only).

These numbers are strikingly close to 2012's Hurricane Sandy, which remains the single-largest industry loss with more than 65,000 boats damaged and more than \$650 million in estimated losses.

### Two Very Different Storms

Breaking down the 2017 season storms, Hurricane Irma damaged or destroyed 50,000 vessels with approximately \$500 million in recreational boat damage. About 13,500 boats were damaged or lost costing \$155 million in boat damage as the result of Hurricane Harvey.

"These two storms were as different as night and day," said BoatUS Marine Insurance Program Vice President of

Claims Rick Wilson. "The boats that were hit the hardest by Harvey were located on a relatively small slice of Texas coast, while we saw damage to recreational vessels from Irma in every corner of Florida."

The BoatUS Catastrophe Team recently completed two months of field operations arranging for repairs, salvage or wreck removals for BoatUS Marine Insurance program members and GEICO Marine Insurance customers.

### Damage Lessened

"While Hurricane Irma's losses are significant, it could have been much worse," added Wilson. "Irma ultimately traveled up Florida's West Coast and not the East, which was initially forecast. And, while locations in the right front quadrant of the storm such as Big Pine Key and Marathon were hit hard with Category 4 storm, Irma lost strength as it approached the mainland and swept up Florida. As the storm passed east of Tampa Bay, waters receded and came back gradually, also lessening surge damage."



**DOUBLE WHAMMY** — BoatUS estimates that Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma caused a combined dollar damage estimate of \$655 million (boats only).

To view damage to recreational boats caused by Hurricane Irma, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IIL-hC-obEs>.



**RECALLED** — The CPSC website shows boaters how to easily identify recalled Kidde fire extinguishers.

## More Than 40 Million Kidde Fire Extinguishers Recalled

*They include those used for personal watercraft (PWCs).*

More than 40 million Kidde fire extinguishers equipped with plastic handles, some on the market for more than 40 years, have been recalled. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), "The fire extinguishers can become clogged or require excessive force to discharge and can fail to activate during a fire emergency. In addition, the nozzle can detach with enough force to pose an impact hazard."

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is urging recreational boat owners to check their boats for the recalled extinguishers and get a free metal-handled replacement by going to the CPSC recall website.

The recall affects both plastic-handle and push-button Pindicator Kidde fire extinguishers, including 134, ABC- or BC-rated models manufactured between January 1, 1973, and August 15, 2017. The extinguishers are red, white or silver and were sold in the US and Canada through a wide range of retailers from Montgomery Ward to Amazon. The CPSC recall website shows how to easily identify the affected extinguishers.

In the recall, Kidde also acknowledged the free replacement push-button extinguisher being sent to personal watercraft owners is similar in size to the recalled model but may not fit in the same location as the old fire extinguisher. "This may require a slightly different

mounting orientation or location," said BoatUS Foundation Assistant Director of Boating Safety Ted Sensenbrenner.

CPSC says there have been approximately 391 reports of failed or limited activation or nozzle detachment, including one fatality, approximately 16 injuries — including smoke inhalation and minor burns — and approximately 91 reports of property damage.

Kidde may also be contacted toll-free at 855-271-0773 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET Saturday and Sunday. The company offers additional recall information online at [kidde.com](http://kidde.com) by selecting "Product Safety Recall."

## What You Need To Know About Your DSC-VHF Radio When Buying Or Selling A Boat

If a boater has an emergency on the water, there's no better way than to call for help than with a Digital Selective Calling (DSC) VHF radio which can give rescuers critical GPS location information. But that doesn't mean these technologies come without a few quirks, especially when buying or selling a boat with DSC-VHF radios aboard. Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) has some practical advice to ensure that when you do need help, it arrives as quickly as possible.

**The MMSI issue:** DSC-VHF radio-equipped vessels must be registered and issued a Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number that is then entered into the radio. Unlike a phone number that stays with you when you move across town, a boat's MMSI always stays with the boat, so any subsequent owner must update the MMSI number with his or her new contact information.

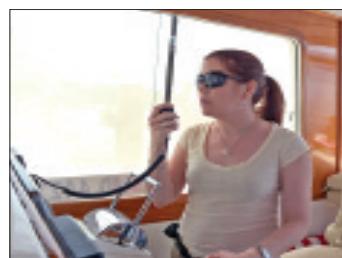
To make this easier, print a copy of your MMSI certificate, write down your registration login name and password and keep it in a safe place. This will make managing your boat's MMSI easier if any registration details change or when it is sold to a new owner.

### Hand-held DSC-VHF radios — who

**should get them when the boat is sold?** Some boaters have both fixed-mount and hand-held DSC-VHF radios aboard, and both can share the same MMSI number. When selling, it's wise to include any hand-held DSC-VHF's in the purchase and not take them with you to the new vessel.

It would be dangerous to have the same MMSI being used by more than one vessel, and hand-held DSC-VHF radios often need to be sent to the manufacturer for a "factory reset" before they can be updated with a new MMSI number — a time-consuming process.

**The international quirk:** It's okay to



**BOATUS**  
**NEED TO KNOW** — Boaters who are buying or selling a DSC-VHF radio-equipped vessel need to follow some guidelines.

use your DSC-VHF radio for communications purposes when transiting foreign waters. Once you communicate with or enter a foreign port ("foreign station"), however, a US-registered boat must have a federal Ship Station License. These are

*See RADIO, Page 18*

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## Boating

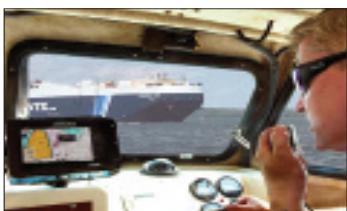
# 'AIS Electronics For Boaters — See And Be Seen On The Water'

This is the newest online course from BoatUS Foundation and US Power Squadrons.

If your boating takes you through crowded harbors, across shipping lanes or on foggy seas, then you know the feeling in your stomach when you have to ask yourself, "What's that vessel doing?"

Automatic Identification System, or AIS, can give you the answer, but is this collision-avoidance technology right for you? The answer to that question can be found by taking the new online course offered by the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water and the United States Power Squadrons, "AIS Electronics for Boaters — See and Be Seen on the Water."

**SOCK STUFFER** — Most boats use flush-mount deck plates to provide discreet, convenient access to wiring, plumbing and other internal components. Yet opening them can sometimes prove challenging, especially when they haven't been used for long periods. The simple solution to this problem — and an ideal gift — is the DPA-4 Deck Plate Key.



Available for a limited time at the special price of just \$15 using coupon code AIS15 at BoatUS.org/AIS, "AIS Elec-

tronics for Boaters — See and Be Seen on the Water" offers a blend of practical knowledge with technical know-how and is a simple and easy way to get up to speed on this important navigation technology that more recreational boaters bring aboard every year.

From discovering the different types of AIS and what each offers to learning important terms such as "update rates" and "time to closest approach", boaters will get a full look at AIS and how it can increase safety. Upon completion, boaters will be able to build out a sample AIS component system for installation for

their own vessel.

"The course is designed for boaters — not marine electronics technicians — and our online learning system makes it easy to learn at your own pace from the comfort of your own PC or tablet," said BoatUS Foundation Director of Education Amanda Suttles Pérez. "Users can stop and start again right where they left off or review previous information at any time. It's great for when schedules are tight."

For more information on all online courses offered by the Foundation, go to BoatUS.org/courses.

## Indispensable Deck Plate Key Makes Ideal Gift

Most boats use flush-mount deck plates to provide discreet, convenient access to wiring, plumbing and other internal components. Yet opening them can sometimes prove challenging, especially when they haven't been used for long periods. The simple solution to this problem — and an ideal gift — is the DPA-4 Deck Plate Key from Beckson Marine.

A compact, multi-purpose tool, the DPA-4 Deck Plate Key can be used with screw-out, pry-out and twist-out plates, as well as drain plugs. Formed from high-strength acetal resin in high-visibility yellow, the lightweight tool is approximately 7" long for an easy fit in standard tool boxes, glove boxes and storage trays.

Two molded-in tabs on the base edge of the tool fit into the recessed ports on screw-out and twist-out deck plates, allowing it to function as a spanner wrench for greater leverage and grip. One end of the key features a convenient pry tool that makes it easy to free tight pry-out plates. Its opposite end incorporates a drain plug slot wrench, which can also be used to secure the key to a lanyard or hang it for storage. The ultimate gift or stocking stuffer, the Beckson Marine DPA-4 Deck Plate Key sells for \$5.80.

Contact local dealers or Beckson Marine, 165 Holland Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06605. Email: sales@beckson.com; Visit www.beckson.com.

## ARIZONA YACHT CLUB NEWS

### Come Sail With Us In February

The annual Leukemia Cup & Birthday Regatta is Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Feb. 16-18. As always, three days of racing, cruising and desert hospitality are highlights. The event is the nation's first Leukemia Cup Regatta of the year.

Sail with us, with over 200 sailors and "shore crew," and 70+ boats. Sail under blue skies in front of the Black Mountains near Castle Hot Springs, Buzzard Neck and Humbug Bay. Celebrate with us under the stars, between the saguaro and ocotillo, with the burros and coyotes on Lake Pleasant, just 45 minutes northwest of Phoenix.

The AYC Leukemia Cup & Birthday Regatta provides a fabulous taste of desert winter sailing, usually with warm days, fresh breezes and a wilderness vibe that no other regatta can match.

See YACHT CLUB, Page 18



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# Tackle & Target



**TAKE THE KIDS** — One of the most important lessons that can be taught while fishing is that the Earth needs to be taken care of. Teaching kids to fish is an excellent start to their respecting Mother Nature.

## Take Them Fishing

*Including kids (and their friends) in your fishing trips can not only make memories but also teach them to protect the environment.*

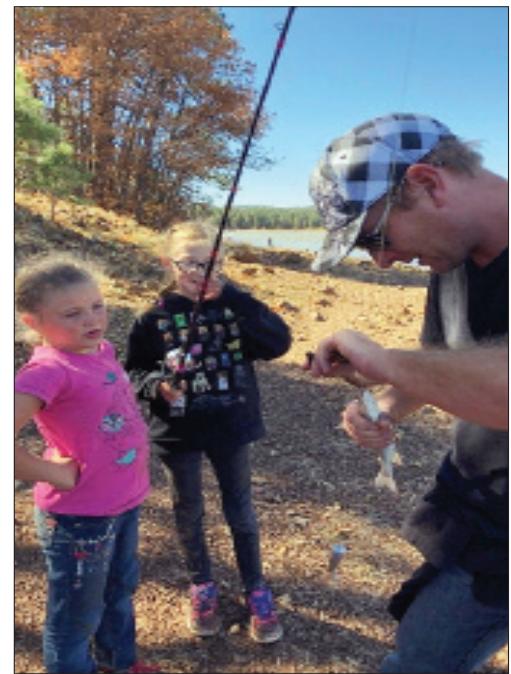
Memories are not made by playing video games. Disconnect electronics and reconnect with your kids on a fishing adventure! Kids get immediate gratification from the abundance of technology.

Purposefully plan time for kids to experience the majesty of Mother Nature. If we don't show them, who will?

And, it's true: You don't know what you have until it's gone. One of the most important concepts that can be cultivated through fishing is that the Earth needs to be taken care of in order to preserve its beauty.

Teaching kids to fish allows them to commune with the elements. Once they have had fun and success on and around the water, there is a greater chance that they won't litter or be wasteful, and that they will become active in protecting the environment.

Make it a point to take your kid/s fishing this year. Even try to take their friends. It will build memories that last a lifetime.



**MAKE MEMORIES** — Unplug the electronics! Memories are not made by playing video games. Disconnect them and reconnect with your kids on a fishing adventure.

### WELCOME BACK THE TROUT

## Stop Wishin' You Were Fishin'; Get Your License Today!

*Arizona is one of the best places to chase trout with our warm winter climates. Are you ready?*

Don't want to go too far? No problem! Arizona Game and Fish Department stocks community lakes near you! Our community fishing programs stocks 39 community waters. The community Fishing Program was designed to ensure that anglers in all incorporated communities within Arizona have fishing opportunities within five miles of home. Get your community fishing license today!

"If people can't get to the fish, we'll bring the fish to the people!"

Arizona is blessed with diverse fishing opportunities, from the large reservoirs to the lakes in the mountains, and plenty of low elevation fishing holes in between. Go out and catch a memory! With a general fishing license you can fish close to home, at one of our stocked community locations, or go on an Arizona exploration and fish where your heart takes you. Your adventures await!

Hunting and fishing in Arizona can be combined into a cast-and-blast adventure!



Arizona Game and Fish has the right all access adventure license for you! With our Combo License, not only will you save money but you will get the best of both worlds right here in Arizona. Enhance your adventures with our Combo license and start your escapade today.

For the best shot and tackle, get your combo cast-and-blast license today!

Have visitors? Do you want to try a new adventure for the day? Short-term

combo licenses are perfect for you or someone visiting Arizona! With holidays coming up, family and friends will be coming into town. Take them outside to enjoy Arizona's beautiful climate, with a day out on the lake or in the field.

Never tried fishing or hunting? Not ready to commit to an annual license? No Problem! With our short-term combo license, you can give it a spin! This inexpensive license will get you and your

loved ones outside on a new adventure in no time!

Try a new adventure today with a short-term combo license!

### Links To Schedules And Licenses

The statewide stocking schedule: <https://www.azgfd.com/Fishing/Stock-Schedule/> and licenses: <https://www.azgfd.com/fishing/locations/welcome-back-the-trout/>

## Desert Roses, Too Are Set To Bloom At Ben Avery

Everything is coming up roses for the women's shotgun shooting program at the Ben Avery Clay Target Center.

Desert Roses, Too, is a new level of the program for women who want to learn about advanced shotgun shooting. Participants are meeting every second and fourth Thursday of each month. A

\$10 registration fee includes eye and ear protection, loaner shotguns, ammunition and clay targets.

Desert Roses, Too is the big sister to Desert Roses, the introductory level of the program that meets every first and third Thursday of each month (a \$10 registration fee also applies). There is no require-

ment to complete Desert Roses before registering for Desert Roses, Too.

"We want to retain newer shooters who go through Desert Roses — we didn't offer anything past those classes," said Mark Williams, program coordinator.



## Tackle & Target

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### STOCKING STUFFERS FOR SHOOTERS

# Some Ideas That Make Fantastic Gifts

BY JOHN ANDERSON

Whether the shooter in your life is a tactical shooter, recreational shooter, hunter, competitor, pistol, or shotgun shooter, he or she will definitely appreciate a shooting-related stocking stuffer this Christmas. Here's some we think they will like.

#### Flashlights

TriTac Flashlights from First Tactical now come in small and medium models. They are powered by Duracell Ultra CR123 batteries and both lights feature an Intelligence Button system with a half-



First Tactical's TriTac Flashlights now come in small and medium models, built to last.

second delay so you can easily find the correct light mode quickly. The small one has high, low, and map modes with run times of 2.25 hours, 4 hours, and 20 hours respectively.

They will also have end cap protectors and space for laser etching plus Bungee Finger Loop, interchangeable bezels, and reversible pocket clips. The small one will be just under \$50 and the medium will be just under \$60. Find them at [firsttactical.com](http://firsttactical.com).

Also, a tiny flashlight that will fit just about anywhere is the Dot USB flashlight by ASP. This tiny light puts out 130 lumens and it's rechargeable. It's built to last — so sturdy you can drop it from 2 meters with no harm, and it's also water resistant.

This is a great gift even for people who don't shoot! The Dot is \$35 and you can find it at [asp-usa.com](http://asp-usa.com). Just enter "Dot"

See STOCKING STUFFERS, Page 9



The Dot flashlight puts out 130 lumens in a tiny package. You can even get it engraved.

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# Tackle & Target

AZ LAKES, AZ PROS: DAN MARZANO

## Arizona Angler Knows Patagonia Lake So Well

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Patagonia Lake is a small reservoir about an hour south of Tucson. Formed by damming Sonoita Creek, this beautiful little lake offers good crappie, catfish, and bass fishing in Southern Arizona. The terrain around Patagonia is very different from the deserts surrounding the central Arizona lakes. Patagonia is at an elevation of 3,750 feet, and the surrounding country is grassy hills and scrub oak and juniper.

### Dan Marzano Takes Us To Patagonia

Patagonia looks more like a midwestern lake than an Arizona lake--thick reeds and cattails line much of the shore, and



Patagonia Lake

weeds are thick in the shallower areas. Coues deer, javelina, wild burros, and many different kinds of birds can often be spotted on the hills around the lake. Also, fishing Patagonia is a little different from fishing a desert reservoir.

Anyone who fished bass tournaments in the early '90s will remember an angler named Dan Marzano. A Tucson resident, he loved fishing Patagonia but also fished bass tournaments all over the state and made quite a name for himself. He took us to Patagonia one late summer day to show us the ropes.

### A Pleasant Walking Trail

On the day that we visited Patagonia, the air temperature was around 90 degrees, and the water temperature was 76. There wasn't a cloud in the sky and there were a lot of boats on the water, as well as plenty of shore fishermen. Patagonia has a very pleasant 6/10 mile walking trail that leads from the loop at the end of the road over to Sonoita Creek.



Dan Marzano And John Anderson

The creek winds through some pretty thick trees before spreading out into a grassy delta with two main branches, so it's a very nice place to sit and fish. Four Coues deer were sharing the grass with some cattle the day we were there.

See **PATAGONIA LAKE**, Page 12

### STOCKING STUFFERS

Continued from page 8

in the search bar. You can even get it engraved.

#### Sturdy Belt

One thing any pistol shooter understands is the need for a sturdy belt. When you are using a holster on a belt, a cheap flimsy belt stretches and sags. Gunbelts.com has some dynamite leather belts that are beautiful and functional. They start at around \$55 and go up, including models with steel cores.

They are quality belts that will last just about forever. Go to [gunbelts.com](http://gunbelts.com) to look at all the styles and colors they have.

#### Cleaning Kit

If your shooter has an AR-15 in .223 or 5.56, the Real Avid .223/5.56 Pro Pack premium cleaning kit will be their next favorite thing ever. This kit has it all, including a quick reference field guide to disassembly, scraping, cleaning, and lubrication of the gun, all printed on oil and solvent resistant 3x5 inch dog tag shaped pages.

It combines the field guide, scraper, and Gun Boss Cleaning kit into one compact and portable case. Best of all, it's less than \$40 on Amazon. Just look for the Real Avid .223/5.56 Pro Pack and it should pop right up. Real Avid also makes the field guides for other types of guns, such as Glocks and 911's.

You can get other small gun cleaning kits as well, including universal kits for pistols or rifles so you don't even need to know what kind or caliber of gun they shoot. A small kit that will fit in a range bag or backpack is a great thing to have, and you get them as low as around \$15. Just go to your local outdoor shop or browse online for "small gun cleaning kit".

#### Anything Camo

If your shooter happens to be a hunter, anything camo is going to be appreciated. Gloves, scarves, hats, shirts -- you name it and they need it. On a multi-day hunt, your camo takes a beating and it's always good to have spares to change into. If your shooter is a bow hunter, he or she will need face paint as well.

Hunters who go after desert animals will appreciate lightweight gloves and hats, while those who go after game in the forest will get more use out of warmer wool or fleece items.

#### Targets

All hunters and shooters also need targets. Keeping your skills sharp requires practice, and that means shooting at targets. There are tons of targets on the market, but some of the best are the kind that are self-sticking and come with a variety of patches to stick over the holes so you can use them over and over.



A universal gun-cleaning kit small enough to fit in a backpack or range bag is an ideal gift for any shooter.



Hoppe's BoreSnake cleans a gun bore in one pass.



Swab-Its are ideal for gun cleaning because they are lint free and reusable.



Splatterburst targets let you see where you hit even from a distance. The dots around the edges are used to repair the target so you can use it again.

The kind that are "splatter" targets are awesome because when the bullet hits it leaves a bright colored halo around the hole, making it easy to see where you hit it, even from a distance. You can get Splatterburst targets from Amazon or visit their website at [splatterbursttargets.com](http://splatterbursttargets.com). There are many other brands as well, and you can find them just about anywhere guns or ammo are sold. These make fantastic gifts.

#### Gun Cleaners

It's a sad fact of life that if you shoot, you clean guns. One thing that makes this chore a lot more pleasant is Swab-Its



The Real Avid .223/5.56 kit has everything you need to take care of your AR, including a scraping tool and field guide.



Real Avid has oil and solvent-resistant guides for many types of guns.

foam swabs. They beat the heck out of using cotton swabs or any thing else. Swab-Its are reusable, lint-free, and gentle on delicate parts but they have sturdy plastic handles that don't break like wood or bend like paper. I love these things!

You can get them specifically for the caliber of the gun, or you can buy multipacks. Find them on Amazon by visiting [swabits.com](http://swabits.com) and clicking on "Amazon Store" on the menu at the top of the page.

Another great gun cleaning gift is a bore snake. The Hoppe's BoreSnake is only \$14.99 at [Cabelas.com](http://Cabelas.com) and it combines cleaning steps in one pass. It has a series of built-in brushes that removes loose stuff then scrubs and shines the barrel. It's also reusable hundreds of times and it's super easy to use. These are sold by caliber.

#### Shooting Cards

For shotgun lovers, target shooting mostly means moving targets, and that means going to the range for trap, skeet, sporting clays, etc. A great gift for a bird hunter or shotgun sports lover would be a shooting card for the local range. At the Ben Avery Clay Target Center in north Phoenix you can get Trap and Skeet for \$6 a round - 25 clays.

Wobble Trap and 5-Stand are \$6.50. Sporting clays are \$10 for 25, \$20 for 50, and \$30 for 100. Or you can spend \$115 and get a Pay and Play Card which includes \$15 for the card and gives you

discounts on the clays. You can reload the card in \$100 increments any time. That card would be a great gift for any shotgunner. Visit <https://www.azgfd.com/shooting/bactc/prices/> for more information.

#### Magazine Pouches

Blue Force Gear has some magazine pouches that will fit perfectly into a stocking this Christmas. These mag holders have no sharp edges or hard corners — they are made of military-grade elastic and a high-performance laminate so they will hold two single or double stack magazines. They use hook and loop to attach to a belt or you can slip them in your pocket.

At only 2.25x4.5 inches, they are easy to carry, and at just \$26, they are the perfect stocking stuffer. They're made in the USA, have a limited lifetime warranty, and come in four colors. Check them out at [blueforcegear.com](http://blueforcegear.com).



The Blue Force Gear Magazine Pouch

# RV Land Cruising



FOR YOUR SPECIAL CAMPERS AND HIKERS

## Stuff Their Stockings With These Great Gifts

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

We just got back from a seven-day hunting/camping trip and I discovered quite a few things that make life a lot easier for a camper. We camp rough — no trailer, no cots, no RV. We just throw a couple of self-inflating pads in the back of the truck and roll out our sleeping bags.

### Warmers Blankets

That said, one of the most important things is being warm enough. Lightweight sleeping bags are usually fine in Arizona, but when nights get chilly, you need more. Something along the stocking stuffer line that would help a lot with that is a couple of those emergency blankets — the little ones that look like they're made of aluminum and fold up so small they'd fit in your pocket. Those things are incredibly warm.

### Ponchos

Another thing that helped a lot was a big PVC poncho. I bought us both one online at Amazon for less than \$12 each. They are the Coleman Unisex-adult PVC Poncho Camo Poncho. These things are small but sturdy, 10mm PVC material with hoods and snaps.

They made a huge difference when thrown over the sleeping bags. They also



The Coleman poncho is sturdy and warm — handy for a variety of uses.

came in handy while we were glassing — I threw mine over my pack and all my stuff so it all blended into the hillside.

### Campfires

#### JetBoil, TekFire

I have a JetBoil stove with a cup that holds nearly two bottles of water and boils



The TekFire rechargeable lighter is the perfect lighter for any gas stove and also for starting campfires.



The JetBoil boils water in no time flat. We love ours for making coffee and boiling water for freeze-dried pouches of food.

that water in a matter of a few minutes. It's perfect for making coffee or boiling water for those delicious freeze-dried Backpacker's Pantry meals we bought at Sportsman's Warehouse.

One thing that makes the JetBoil even better is a flameless rechargeable electronic lighter. I got one from UST called the TekFire for just under \$25. You charge it up at home, then it lights the stove over and over even if the wind is blowing. Matches can get fussy if they get even the tiniest bit damp or old, but this lighter is super dependable.

You can start your campfire with it as well. Get one at [ustbrands.com](http://ustbrands.com).



The BioLite stove burns twigs and generates power as well as heat and light.



The Ever Stryke is handy to have around when you need to start a fire under adverse conditions.

#### BioLite Stove, Ever Stryke Lighter

Speaking of campfires, my little BioLite stove makes the best little campfire ever. The only fuel it needs is twigs and very small pieces of wood, and I have a grill that attaches to it as well. On this trip we ate the freeze-dried meals every

evening, but it was still wonderful to have that little BioLite fire going to keep us warm while we ate dinner.

The way the BioLite is designed though, you really can't reach down into it with the TekFire. For the BioLite, you need a match. Fortunately, I have a SurvivalLife Ever Stryke Waterproof lighter that is just like a permanent match. The best part? It was only 99 cents at [survivallife.com](http://survivallife.com).

Once we got the BioLite fire going with that Ever Stryke lighter, the stove actually produced power to charge up a USB device. That was handy because I was using my phone for maps. I didn't have any service out there, but I still used my phone and it was great to be able to charge it up every night.

The JetBoil and the BioLite don't qualify as stocking stuffers, but they are both incredibly compact and sturdy. In fact, either of them could be used for backpacking trips as well.

You can check out the BioLite Stoves at [bioliteenergy.com](http://bioliteenergy.com) and the JetBoil systems at [jetboil.johnsonoutdoors.com](http://jetboil.johnsonoutdoors.com).



The Stone Mountain Fire Kit has everything you need to get a fire going quickly.

#### Stone Mountain Kit

If you're just wanting to start a regular fire, even that can get difficult if the wind is blowing and your hands are cold. A great stocking stuffer for any outdoorsy person is a Stone Mountain Fire Starting Kit from SurvivalLife. It's just under \$10 and comes in a little tin can and contains waterproof safety matches, cotton balls, and fire starter. Get one by going to [store.survivallife.com](http://store.survivallife.com), then click on "Fire and Lights".



The Sola Charger uses your own muscle power to charge any USB device.

#### Sola Charger

If you don't have a BioLite stove to charge up your phone, it will almost surely be dead as a doornail before a 7-day trip is over. You can sit in the truck with the motor running and charge it up, or you could charge it by hand with a Sola Charger from SurvivalLife.

This little gadget looks like one of those old hand-cranked pencil sharpeners, but when you plug your phone into the USB port and crank the handle, it charges your phone. Pretty cool deal, and it's only \$5.99. Go to [store.survivallife.com](http://store.survivallife.com) and click "Shelter and More Power".

#### For Your Fur Friend

A lot of people love to take their pets hiking and camping, and dogs just love to go. However, they sometimes get so excited they'll nearly pull you off your feet

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**FALL HIKING: THE ARIZONA TRAIL**

## Make Roosevelt Lake Marina Your Home Base

If you are a hiker in Arizona, traversing the various paths that are a part of the Arizona Trail is likely something you have done numerous times without a second thought. This 6,875 mile portion of the Great Western Loop has numerous terrains, climates, and hikes that are perfect for all hikers, new or seasoned.

### What Is The Arizona Trail?

The Arizona Trail (AZT) is an 800+ mile thru-hike that stretches from the border of Mexico to the border of Utah.

### GIFTS

*Continued from page 10*

by lunging and tugging at the leash. This is not good for you or for them, especially if the leash is attached to a regular collar. Throats are delicate.

Well, the people at *Thundershirt.com* have a solution called the ThunderLeash. It works with any collar and wraps around the torso behind the front legs. When the dog pulls, gentle feedback encourages him or her to ease up. The ThunderLeash comes in standard (\$29.95) or retractable (\$39.95). It works by applying safe pressure around your dog's chest and it's fully adjustable.

I bought a ThunderShirt for my Rosie years ago and it completely cured her of freaking out during the monsoon thunderstorms, so I have complete confidence that the Thunderleash will work. Then you and your pet can both enjoy the hike. Check them out and see videos at *thundershirt.com*.

### Military Compass Kit

This next stocking stuffer is one I don't own yet, but I'm going to order one asap.

It was a teacher, Dale Shewalter, from Flagstaff who originally came up with the idea and began to promote the idea of the trail that is now designated as a National Scenic Trail.

### Things To Know Before You Go

During certain times of the year there are certain forest thinning and prescribed burns that happen. You may want to check the national parks in the areas you are wishing to visit. The Arizona Trail Association (Link: <http://www.aztrail.org>) frequently lists the areas affected and offers phone numbers of various Ranger Districts that can give you more information.

### Picking The Right Trail For You

The Arizona Trail Association site offers information on the numerous trails that follow the 800+ mile system. You will want to choose a trail option that accommodates your level of hiking ability,

*See HIKING, Page 17*



Arizona Trail

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The ZeTime smart watch uses groundbreaking technology to create a watch with mechanical hands and a touchscreen.

cool. Check this out at [stealthangelsurvival.com](http://stealthangelsurvival.com).

### Hybrid Sports Watch

Last but definitely *not* least is the ZeTime hybrid sports watch with hands over the screen. This smart watch looks like a regular watch, even with mechanical hands, but also has the advanced features of a smartwatch with touchscreen.

It's water resistant to 3 meters and will function for 30 days on a single charge. It does everything — messages, calendar reminders, fitness tracking, mail — you

name it. It's also beautiful and comes in two sizes — the regular is 44mm and the petite is 39mm. It even automatically changes time when you enter a different time zone.

Designed in Switzerland, it has Sapphire glass and removable bands so you can be as fancy as you like. You can order one on [Indiegogo.com](http://Indiegogo.com) starting at \$159. Just go to [Indiegogo.com](http://Indiegogo.com) and enter "zeitime" in the search bar.

### Bottom Line: Merry Christmas!

There is no end to the little gadgets and survival items you can find to put in your camper or hiker's stocking. Hopefully some of these will fit the bill. If not, head to your nearest outdoor store and just wander around.

If you're not really sure what to get or you're afraid they might already have one, freeze-dried food is always good, and so are paracord bracelets and whistles. Most of us hikers and campers have multiple backpacks, and it's great to have the basics in each one all the time, ready to go. Merry Christmas!



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Maricopa County is home to one of the largest regional parks systems in the nation with more than 120,000 acres of open space parks that include hundreds of miles of trails. More information on trail maps and park locations: [www.maricopacountyparks.net/](http://www.maricopacountyparks.net/) or (602) 506-2930



### PATAGONIA LAKE

*Continued from page 9*

#### Launch Ramps, Boat House

There are two launch ramps at Patagonia, and we launched at the marina, which is situated at the far end of a little bay on the south side of the lake. There is a store there, and you can even rent a small boat if you need to. On the right side of the bay, as you're heading out, there is a boat house where Marzano said he has often caught good numbers of crappie.

The marina bay narrows down just before it opens back out into the main lake, and an arched footbridge has been built across the lake at this point. The bridge runs from one large rock formation to another and is quite pretty. Fishermen lounge on the boulders in the shade of the bridge while they watch their lines.

#### A Good Place To Fish In Winter

As you turn right after passing under the bridge, heading toward the east end of the lake, there is a large shelf underwater

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just at the turn where the bay opens into the main lake. This is a part of the rock formation that the bridge sits on, and there is a good drop-off about forty feet from shore. This is a good place to fish in winter, Marzano says. He likes to fish plastic worms, and this shelf with the drop-off is the perfect place for worm fisherman. A four-inch grape worm is one of Dan's favorites and in December and January, finesse fishing is the best way to catch fish.

He works these little worms very slowly on the bluffs and drop-offs along the creek channel. A crankbait worked along these areas will work, too, a lot of times. He chooses crankbaits that run about eight feet deep, and tries to keep them ticking the submerged treetops in winter. A jig and pig will also catch bass on the drop-off by the bridge, according to Marzano. Purple and blue seem to be the colors that the Patagonia bass prefer, no matter what time of year it is.

#### Swimming Beach On South Shore

Moving on down the bank on the south shore, you come to the swimming beach. This beach is buoyed off, and you can't fish inside the buoys when people are swimming there. This is a good worming spot, says Marzano, and an excellent place to fish a spinnerbait at night. Spinnerbait fishing at night is particularly good at Patagonia, and for cranking on summer nights, Bagley's DB3 in Hot Craw is the best lure ever.

#### Dan Says: 'Always A Bite'

At the end of the lake is where Sonoita creek enters, and the water is shallow and weedy. This is spinnerbait, topwater, and jerkbait territory. "At Patagonia there is always a bite in less than five feet of water," Dan stated, and proceeded to put his money where his mouth was by catching a nice bass on a suspending Rogue. Dan caught some more on his Rogue (clown color), and insisted that the fishing would be even better as evening approached, when the topwater bite would begin. Buzzbaits, grubs, Pop-R's, and other top-

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water lures fished over the weeds in this end of the lake are real producers.

The fishing by the creek isn't that great during the cold months, but when winter ends the bass move toward the incoming creek waters and you can catch one after another on small blade baits like Super Dopers, Roostertails, and Mepps. Marzano added that in the deeper parts of the lake, Patagonia is "a dynamic spoon lake in winter". In summer, the creek area is one of the best spots on the lake for catfish.

#### Marzano Knows This Lake So Well

Moving on to the north shore, the banks are cattails and trees, and pitching small purple worms, spinnerbaits, or jigs is the order of the day from April through October. When you pitch to the reeds, says Dan, stay out a little way because of the clear water, and pitch your lure right up to the plants. Let the lure fall, hop it once or twice, and if you don't get bit, move on. The fish always take the lure on the fall.

One stretch of this reedy bank has a lot of wood sticking out of the water in front of it, and this is an excellent place to throw a spinnerbait. Marzano knows this lake so well that he practically has each individual piece of wood named, and can recite lengthy lists of fish caught off each stump and log.

As you start to reach the point where you are directly across from the entrance to the marina, the bank changes. Huge boulders form the shore now, and this is one of the best places on Patagonia for big fish. "Crankbaits like a Poe's 300 or 400, a Bagley's DB3, or a Mann's 15+ are dynamite on this rock," say Dan, "especially first thing in the morning." Spinnerbaits are good here, too.

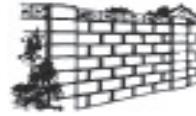
#### Dynamite For Bass And Crappie

Still heading west along the north shore, past the big rock bank, you come to another area where the shoreline is covered with cattails. This is a submerged bluff, and the creek channel below is still

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lined with huge cottonwood trees. The shore runs out relatively flat, then suddenly drops off, and you can see the trees beneath you on your graph. This is a dynamite spot not only for bass, but for crappie. We hooked two huge bass on our crappie rods while fishing these trees, and both fish broke off the 4-pound-test by diving into the thick branches.

Just past this tree-filled fish heaven the shore begins to curve north and east into Ash Canyon. This cove is a super area for crappie and bass, and in the summer, you can sometimes catch big bass on buzzbaits in the middle of the day at the back of this cove. The right side of this arm as you are moving in is a little steeper, and the cuts on this side are some of Dan's favorite crappie spots. The crappie at Patagonia prefer yellow and white jigs, and use of live minnows is forbidden on the lake. Dan uses yellow/white tube jigs on 1/32-ounce jigheads for crappie.

#### Catch Bass All Year Long

Once you come out of Ash Canyon, you're almost at the end of the lake. This end is the skiing half of Patagonia — the east end is totally no wake. The spillway can be an awesome place for buzzbaits, especially from June through September. Mostly, though, Marzano pitches his purple Lucky Strike worms to the reeds. In winter, the channel of Ash Canyon is good to fish with finesse lures and jigs.

In general, you can catch bass at Patagonia all year long on spinnerbaits and jerkbaits. In summer and fall he uses suspending jerkbaits, but switches to floating ones in spring. Winter is pig-and-jig time, and also crankbaits and worms. But worms work all year in the reeds at Patagonia, and there are plenty of those around.

#### For Anglers At All Skill Levels

November and December are the best months for crappie fishing, according to Dan, and the monsoon season is best for catfish. Bass fishing, like bass fishing everywhere, is just about as good as the bass fisherman, but Patagonia offers opportunities for anglers at all skill levels, with beautiful scenery thrown in free of charge.

#### Some Need-To-Knows

You can get to Patagonia by taking I-10 east to I-19 at Tucson and going to Nogales. At Nogales, head north on Highway 82 to the lake. A more scenic route is to keep going east on I-10 past I-92 to Highway 83 at Pantano. Turn south here to Sonoita, then catch Highway 82 to the lake.

There is a \$15-\$20 entry fee per vehicle to Patagonia Lake, and there is no entry from 10:00 pm to 4:00 am.

There are 105 developed campsites at Patagonia, and you can reserve online or by calling 877-MY-PARKS. There is also a store, marina, restrooms and showers, and picnic ramadas. There are also 12 boat-in sites with picnic tables and fire rings. Some have portable rest rooms.

## National Parks Call For More Than 100 Percent Increase In Entrance Fees

In upcoming years, entrance fees could more than double their current rates at some of the U.S.'s most popular national parks, including the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and Zion. A large backlog of infrastructure and maintenance projects have led to this request by the National Park Service.

Currently priced at around \$30 per vehicle, the National Park Service has proposed that entrance fees be raised to \$70. These price hikes would occur during peak season from the months of May through September and are estimated to provide an additional \$70 million a year in revenue to the parks affected.

This proposition comes at a time when national parks are experiencing record-breaking attendance, putting a strain on park resources. Across all parks, maintenance fees accounting for more than \$11 billion dollars have been deferred. However, many believe that

maintenance costs should be covered by Congress, not by visitors.

"We've supported increases at the parks; they are a huge value for the price of entrance," Arizona Senior Program Manager Kevin Dahl stated. "But we want to look closely at this and we want local communities to look closely at this to see if it would impact visitation because we don't want to price people out of the parks."

Since opening a public comment period, many have expressed their disapproval of these possible increases. Brittany Motague, Flagstaff, Arizona, resident, said the increase is "completely unreasonable," especially considering those that may make day trips to national parks.

Others such as Erik Schwartz, agree with the increase in costs. "If they have the true justification for that, then I think preserving these lands for future genera-



tions is absolutely critical."

The \$80 annual pass for federal lands

as well as free weekends and holidays are not expected to change at this time.

## Grand Canyon National Park North Rim Yurt Permanently Closed

Grand Canyon National Park has closed the yurt located at CC Hill on the North Rim for safety concerns. The yurt is scheduled for demolition later this fall. A park superintendent has the authority to "designate areas for a specific use or activity, or impose conditions or restrictions on a use or activity" as outlined in 36 CFR 1.5(a)(1).

The closure and demolition of the yurt is a proactive measure taken to protect park visitors and employees from conditions conducive to rodent exposure and the accompanying risk of medical infections, such as hantavirus.

There is no diagnosis or indication of infectious disease relating to rodent ex-



posure from the yurt. These actions are precautionary and are being taken with emphasis of visitor and employee safety.

Hikers and backpackers should be aware that the yurt is no longer available

for backcountry use. Individuals who plan on recreating on the North Rim over the winter need to consider alternative options prior to obtaining a backcountry permit.

After November 1, the North Rim Campground reverted to primitive use with walk-in only sites and no running water. Backcountry reservations from the Backcountry Information Center are required. To obtain a permit call 928-638-7875 or email [gca\\_bic@nps.gov](mailto:gca_bic@nps.gov).

Visitors and employees are reminded that although rare, hantavirus and other zoonotic diseases are found in the Southwest including the Grand Canyon region. Hantavirus is transmitted to humans through rodent droppings, urine, and sali-

va particularly in indoor, poorly ventilated areas.

Visit the park website for additional information on zoonotic diseases and how to protect yourself.

*Grand Canyon National Park, located in northern Arizona, encompasses 277 miles (446 km) of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion anywhere in the world, Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site. The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.*



### THANK YOU, PRESCOTT!

## This Area Offers Unlimited Outdoor Activities

### Willow Lake Loop Trail: Arizona's Newest Premier Trail

Recently named an Arizona State Premier Trail by Arizona State Parks, Willow Lake Loop is a must-do hike. This trail covers rocky steep terrain, moderate terrain and some relatively flat terrain. On the western shore, the trail is clearly mellow and rambling with a wide flat trail, grassy expanses, and reflective lake views.



### SEEING STARS

The Highland Center for Natural History, Friends of JS Acker Park, and the City of Prescott Recreation Services Department have collaborated to offer year-round educational star parties, close and convenient to town at JS Memorial Park. Come and join longtime local naturalist and docent John Mangimeli for the final 2017 fun trek through the fall sky constellations on Friday, Dec. 15, 6-7 p.m.

The eastern shore, by contrast, is ram-bunctious and playful with billowing boulders to scramble over, small hidden canyons to explore and broad views of Prescott's iconic Granite Dells. The lake itself is scenic, offering dazzling views of kayakers, wild birds, sculpted stone slopes and Granite Mountain on the horizon.

Willow Lake has been named an important birding area by the Audubon Society. You'll have glimpses into quiet harbors full of birds and view the small dam that retains the lake. During the fall passage period large numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds frequent Willow Lake.

There is an endless array of gigantic rolling boulders to climb on. The trail over boulders is marked by white dots to guide the hiker along. You'll encounter a lovely tree lined area on the northern most tip of the lake. This loop offers a fantastic day-hike opportunity! **Contributor: Joe Baynes**

*Note: Challenge yourself to complete this 5.7-mile loop around Willow Lake which consists of great sweeping views, technical rock hopping, steep steps, and prolific bird watching. Most of the trail is above the high water mark, but the East Bay Trail segment is not accessible at high water (see map). Access is from Heritage Park, Willow Lake, and Willow Creek Park.*

### Natural Parklands, Pioneer Park Trails

After considerable thought, design, planning, and the building of eight new miles of trail in eight months, the improvements and reconfiguration of the trail systems at Pioneer Park were completed earlier this year.

With both city and county trails now under the City of Prescott Recreation Ser-

vices Department management, the larger trail system has expanded to a total of 20 miles and meshes both systems, making them more cohesive, offering trail users many more options for hiking, running, and bicycling.

Response has been overwhelmingly positive, especially from mountain bikers who have found the single and double track trails more interesting and diverse.

Herb Rosborough, director and head coach for the Prescott High School Mountain Bike Team, indicated that the trails are greatly improved and offer a series of trail options and more variety, which is great for teams.

Courses can now be chosen for all skill levels, from beginners to advanced riders. In the past, the team occasionally used Pioneer Park but now train there once a week. The team participated in an Arizona Interscholastic Cycling League (an affiliate of NICA-National Interscholastic Cycling Association) race at Pioneer Park held earlier this fall. It was the second leg in a series of five races held around the state. There are six high school mountain bike teams in the Prescott area, and over 1,000 middle and high school students participate in the sport statewide. **Contributors: Nancy Nesbit with Chris Hosking**

### Mountain Biking In Prescott

Over the years, mountain biking has become increasingly popular in Prescott. While out on the trails, Prescott Recreation Services Trails and Natural Parklands Coordinator Chris Hosking meets many mountain bikers visiting the parks from across Arizona and other western states.

Prescott offers mountain bikers many opportunities close to town, from a pleasant ride along the Prescott Peavine Na-

tional Recreation Trail to challenging rides through the Granite Dells around both Watson and Willow Lakes. The 50-mile Prescott Circle Trail is the backbone to the trail system in the Prescott area with links to many City and Prescott National Forest Trails, making rides limitless.

With Prescott situated in Arizona's Central Highlands, the terrain is diverse with trails going through forests, grasslands, and boulders in the Granite Dells. With a mild four-season climate, weather, conditions, and scenery changes from season to season, the trails give riders different and new experiences on trails they may have already ridden.

Due to mountain biking's growing popularity, six events were held in Prescott in 2017. In April the MBAA Prescott Punisher was held on Brownlow/Pioneer Park Trails. Also in April, the Whiskey Off-Road Mountain Bike Race took riders through the Prescott National Forest. In September, Brownlow/Pioneer Park Trails hosted the Arizona Interscholastic Cycling League.

October was also busy with the Stadium Team Triathlon on the 7th and the Prescott 6'er on the 13th and 14th, both at the Brownlow/Pioneer Park Trails. The year ended on the 14th with the Prescott Mountain Bike Festival downtown. **Contributors: Nancy Nesbit with Chris Hosking**

For more information, visit the Prescott city website: [www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/) or call (928) 777-1122.

## Wildlife Center Is Operated By AZGFD

The Arizona Game and Fish Department manages more than 800 native species and the public had a chance to visit with some of them on Wildlife Day in November.

This free family friendly event was designed to allow the public to meet their wildlife neighbors up close, while helping raise funds for the AZGFD Wildlife Center.

"The Wildlife Center is often the first stop for many wildlife needing lifesaving care," said AZGFD Wildlife Education Program Manager Mike Demlong. "Wildlife Day helps us to educate the public about our diverse species and to leave people with a new respect and admiration



**RELEASED** — A pair of Chiricahua leopard frogs are released into the wild. The pair were among 454 frogs released into the Clifton Ranger District to bolster populations of the threatened species. [www.azgfd.gov/2017/10/chiricahua-leopard-frogs-released-bolster-endangered-populations/#axzz4yWTbWrVA](http://www.azgfd.gov/2017/10/chiricahua-leopard-frogs-released-bolster-endangered-populations/#axzz4yWTbWrVA)

for our state's abundant wildlife."

The Wildlife Center is operated by AZGFD with a small budget from the Heritage Fund, a voter-passed initiative that provides for wildlife conservation and education through Arizona lottery ticket sales. It also receives some financial and volunteer support from the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Auxiliary ([www.azwildlifecenter.net](http://www.azwildlifecenter.net)) and the general public.

Monetary contributions will be graciously accepted from those wishing to support the relocation of the AZGFD Wildlife Center, outreach education programs, and the department's efforts to care for wildlife treated at the Wildlife Center.

For the past few weeks, sandhill cranes by the thousands have been trumpeting their annual arrival in southeast

Arizona, primarily at the Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area in the Sulphur Springs Valley — and a lot more of them are on the way.

They are Arizona's true "snowbirds," content to spend winter days basking under mild, sunny skies before getting the itch to turn around and head back north sometime in March or early April.

It happens every year. As if on cue, they pick up and travel thousands of miles from places like Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, and some from as far away as Canada, Alaska and even Siberia.

For the past few weeks, sandhill cranes by the thousands have been trumpeting their annual arrival in southeast



## Sandhill Cranes Wing Their Way Back To Arizona Live streaming offers quality, watchable wildlife experience.

They are Arizona's true "snowbirds," content to spend winter days basking under mild, sunny skies before getting the itch to turn around and head back north sometime in March or early April.

They are Arizona's true "snowbirds," content to spend winter days basking under mild, sunny skies before getting the itch to turn around and head back north sometime in March or early April.

"We are excited to see the sandhill cranes return for the winter," said Randy Babb, watchable wildlife program manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "While there are only a few thousand in the area now, their numbers will grow to more than 30,000 before they migrate in the spring."

"The cranes afford wildlife lovers one of Arizona's greatest wildlife spectacles through visual and sound experiences that most of us will never forget."

The department's Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area serves as a roosting and loafing place for the cranes and offers viewing decks and trails from which other migratory birds, such as waterfowl, grassland sparrows and an assortment of raptors, often can be seen. The fields surrounding the Willcox Playa in the vicinity of Kansas Settlement, or farther south near Elfrida and McNeal, also are good places to see cranes. In western Arizona, along the Colorado River south of Ehrenberg, many cranes winter at the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge.

### 'Crane Cam' Offers Live Streaming

For those who can't make the trip to



view the raucous birds with long necks, beaks and legs, the department has made it convenient for anyone with an Internet connection to enjoy this thrilling wildlife-watching experience. This marks the third year that a "crane cam" will live stream the wintering habits of the cranes at the Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area.

The live stream can be viewed at [www.azgfd.gov/sandhillcranes](http://www.azgfd.gov/sandhillcranes). The best time to see the birds is about the first hour after sunrise, before they leave the roost to feed for the morning. The cranes usually return later in the morning (before noon) and remain at the wildlife area for the rest of the day. On occasion, the birds will fly out to feed again in the afternoon and return at dusk.

The department will do its best to keep the camera focused on the cranes, but there might be times when that's not possible due to the unpredictability of wildlife. Viewers who don't see activity are encouraged to check back on a routine basis.



on "The Making of a Wildlife Manager Part 1", which follows eight recruits on their journey to become one of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's wildlife managers who are part biologist, part law-enforcement officer.

"Our team continuously sets the bar for visual storytelling, and these awards are further proof of the level of excellence in creating and producing the Arizona Wildlife Views TV show," said Bill Andres, AZGFD Information Branch chief.

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences has numerous chapters throughout the country, and the Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter serves Ari-

## AZGFD Wins Two Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's audio-visual team won two Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards for its work on the *Arizona Wildlife Views* TV show. Winners were announced by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in October.

### Among the winning stories —

"Show 13" (Forest Restoration) from the 2015-2016 season took home an Emmy in the Politics/Government — Program category, recognizing the work of David Majure, videographer, producer, writer and editor, Ben Avechoco, show editor, and Carol Lynde, videographer.

Majure also won an Emmy in the Video Journalist category for his work

Contact Mike Wallace at (480) 442-1731 or [triplewallproductions@gmail.com](mailto:triplewallproductions@gmail.com)

## Mount Graham Red Squirrels Impacted By Frye Fire

An annual survey of the endangered Mount Graham red squirrel showed a significant decline due to the effects of the lightning-caused Frye Fire in the Pinaleño Mountains of southeastern Arizona.

The annual survey, conducted jointly by the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD), Coronado National Forest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Center for Nature Conservation-Phoenix Zoo, and the University of Arizona, resulted in an estimate of only 35 squirrels.

This is a significant decrease from the 252 squirrels estimated in 2016. Evidence of the Frye Fire was observed in 95 percent of the surveyed locations, 80 percent showed at least some habitat loss, and 44 percent were completely burned.

### Surveys Visit Middens

"Although the estimated numbers were significantly lower this year, we are uncertain if our standard survey method allows for an accurate estimate in severely burned areas," said Tim Snow, AZGFD terrestrial wildlife specialist. "Our current survey methodology does not account for squirrels that dispersed from fire impacted

areas. Surveyors observed some squirrels in previously unoccupied areas."

Annual red squirrel surveys consist of visiting all known middens, which are areas where red squirrels store or cache their cones. Activity at these middens is used to estimate the population size.

### Challenging Fire Season

"This year the Forest has experienced a particularly challenging fire season, with 79 fires burning over 125,000 acres," said Coronado National Forest Supervisor Kerwin Dewberry. "Several fires covered large portions of the mountain ranges we manage, including the Frye Fire at over 48,000 acres in the Pinaleño Mountains.

"We appreciate the efforts of fire suppression personnel, and of the Burned Area Emergency Response Team. Their evaluation and recommendations will guide us as we work to stabilize and protect those areas on Mt. Graham that sustained damage from the fire, including Mt. Graham red squirrel habitat."

### A Textbook Example

"This is a textbook example of how species with low population sizes, espe-

cially those confined to a small geographic area, are vulnerable to natural events such as fires, floods, and severe drought," said Steve Spangle, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Supervisor. "We're grateful to have a cadre of the best squirrel biologists and habitat specialists dedicated to this subspecies' survival."

"Survival through this winter may be the key to the persistence of this species given the fire effects on their habitat," said Snow. Immediate conservation measures under consideration due to the effects of the Frye Fire include assessment of the remaining habitat, reducing food and habitat competitors, supplemental feeding during this winter, as well as the enhancement of natural middens. These actions will be followed next spring by a complete census of the population in the Pinaleño Mountains.

### Listed Endangered In 1987

The subspecies was listed as endangered in 1987. Mount Graham red squirrels live only in the upper elevation conifer forests of the Pinaleño Mountains and feed primarily on conifer seeds. This subspecies is highly territorial and has lower



reproductive rates than red squirrels in other locations.

Other long-term impacts to Mount Graham red squirrels and their habitat include insect infestations, competition with non-native Abert's squirrels, and poor cone crops caused by drought, all of which influence population size; however, this year's fire had unprecedented impacts.

Biologists continue to explore new methods to conserve the species, including continued squirrel research, developing long-term forest management strategies across the fire-impacted landscape such as reseeding and planting coniferous trees, and a managed care breeding program. The Mount Graham red squirrel population peaked at about 550 animals in the late 1990s, but typically ranges between 200 and 300 individuals.



## Critically Endangered Pan's Box Turtles Hatch At Turtle Conservancy

### Zoos may be the last hope for the turtles of China.

Staff at the Turtle Conservancy are celebrating the hatching of three Critically Endangered Pan's Box Turtles (*Cuora panii*) this week at their conservation center in California. It is the first time the Turtle Conservancy has hatched this species and the first second generation breeding of this species in the United States. Pan's Box Turtles are understood to be effectively extinct in its native China due to over-collection for the medicinal and pet trade.

### A Critical Step

"This is a critical step forward for Pan's Box Turtle, a unique and little-known species that really needs more attention," said Dr. Peter Paul van Dijk, Field Conservation Programs Director at the Turtle Conservancy. "Our efforts, along with those of our global partners, will contribute to ensuring their future on this planet."

This hatching success was years in the making. The parents hatched at the Fort Worth Zoo and Zoo Atlanta as part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Species Survival Program (SSP). They came to the Turtle Conservancy in 2010 where they grew to adulthood and bred for the first time this spring.

The Turtle Conservancy is home to one male and four female adult Pan's Box

Turtles, along with dozens of other species of threatened turtles and tortoises.

### 'Assurance Colony'

These animals represent a part of the North American "assurance colony" that is a last line of defense against extinction, with the ultimate goal of restoring wild populations. The Turtle Conservancy was the first organization in the world to return captive-born turtles to their native country for conservation when they sent young Golden Coin Turtles back to Hong Kong in 2012.

"We've been successful returning animals back to their native country in the past," said Turtle Conservancy co-founder and president Eric Goode. "With this species that will be a much more daunting task, but my dream is to let all wild animals be exactly that, wild."

### Exotic Pet Hobby Growing

The species is endemic to a small area of Central China, and may have been relatively common locally until the 1990s, when turtles increasingly became the focus of the traditional Chinese medicine markets. Now, China has grown into the largest market for turtles and tortoises in the world. Turtles and many other animals are collected and sold into the traditional medicine and food trade in massive quantities, while the exotic pet hobby is growing rapidly. The Pan's Box Turtle can fetch prices upwards of \$10,000 in the animal trade.

See **TURTLES**, Page 17



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# Enjoy Your Hunting Success With Some Holiday Feasting



Roast Quail

## ROAST QUAIL

This is a basic roast quail recipe that can serve as a stepping stone for other, fancier recipes. Once you know how to properly roast a quail, you can then play with glazes or marinades -- even though I am not normally a fan of marinades, they will work with quail because the birds are so small. Serves: 2 people. (Author: Hank Shaw)

### Ingredients

#### Optional Brine —

- 1/4 cup kosher salt
- 1 quart water
- 2 bay leaves

#### Quail —

- 4 whole plucked quail

- Lard, butter or olive oil
- Salt
- 2 celery sticks (optional)
- Black pepper
- Lemon wedges (optional)
- <https://honest-food.net/roast-quail-recipe/>

## ROAST WILD TURKEY

### Ingredients

- 1 wild turkey (10 to 15 pounds)
- 2 large apples, quartered
- 6 to 8 medium red potatoes, quartered
- 2 pound baby carrots
- 2 medium onions, sliced
- 2 cups water
- 1-1/2 teaspoons seasoned salt
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 cup maple syrup
- 1/4 cup French salad dressing
- 1/4 cup barbecue sauce
- 2 tablespoons ketchup
- 2 tablespoons steak sauce
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

### Directions

Place turkey on a rack in a roasting pan; place apples in turkey cavity. Place potatoes, carrots and onions around turkey. Pour water over vegetables. Com-



Roast Wild Turkey

bine seasoned salt, salt and pepper; rub over turkey. Combine remaining ingredients; brush over the turkey. Cover and bake at 325° for 3-1/2 hours or until a meat thermometer reads 180° baste if desired. Turkey may be uncovered for the last 30 minutes for additional browning if desired. Yield: 10-12 servings.

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/roasted-wild-turkey>



Roast Leg Of Venison

## ROAST LEG OF VENISON

### Prep Time

30 mins

### Cook Time

3 hr

### Total Time

3 hr 30 mins

You will want to do this only with a young deer or antelope, preferably a doe or yearling. For non-hunters, a leg of lamb or goat also works well. Don't try this recipe with larger, older animals, which will be too large and too tough. A good gauge is weight: The leg should never weigh more than 8 pounds. (Author: Hank Shaw)

### Ingredients

- 1 hind leg of venison, shank removed
- Salt
- 6 to 8 garlic cloves, peeled and cut into thick slivers
- 1/4 cup squash seed oil or other flavorful oil
- About 1 cup of red wine, stock or water
- 2 tablespoons minced sage
- 2 tablespoons freshly ground black pepper

### Instructions

1. Take the venison leg out of the fridge and salt it well on all sides. Let it sit on a cutting board for 30 minutes before proceeding. After 30 minutes have elapsed, preheat the oven to 450°F. Take a sharp knife with a narrow point and jab holes all over the leg of venison, tucking a sliver of garlic into each hole. You can use more or less garlic, depending on your taste.

2. Pat the venison dry, then massage the oil all over it. Set the leg of venison on a rack in a roasting pan and pour enough wine, stock or water into the bottom of the roasting pan to just moisten the bottom -- don't cover the bottom or the meat will steam. You just want to limit the amount of smoke you will be producing. Put the venison in the oven and roast until it is nicely browned, but no more than 20 to 25 minutes.

3. Take the venison out of the oven and drop the temperature to 350°F. Carefully sprinkle the minced sage and black pepper all over the roast; use tongs to pick it up if it is too hot. If you want, drizzle a little more oil over the top of the roast. Adding the spices at this point prevents them from burning.

4. Set the venison back into the oven and roast until the deepest part of the meat reaches the temperature you want: If you pull the venison at 125°F, it will be rare once it has rested. I pull mine at 130°F, which is closer to medium. Do not let the venison cook past 145°F under any circumstances, or it will get tough and gray. How long will this take? At least 25 more minutes, and up to another hour. Check the temperature after 25 minutes, then ev-

ery 10 minutes after that. A general rule is about 20 minutes per pound at 350°F.

5. When the venison has hit the temperature you want, move it to a cutting board and tent it loosely with foil. Don't carve it for at least 10 minutes; I wait a full 20 minutes. Carve and serve.

**A note on the oil:** I absolutely love the flavor that roasted squash seed oil brings to venison. You can find it in some stores, but your best bet is to buy squash seed oil online. But any good oil will work here: Olive oil, walnut oil, even sesame oil -- the point is to use something that adds flavor to the roast.

**Serve this with classic trimmings:** cranberry sauce, something green and a comforting starch. Mashed, baked or roasted potatoes are traditional, but I like German dumplings. If you decide to go the dumpling route, either make the semolina dumplings from my Habsnfeffer recipe, or make the Bavarian bread dumplings below. Oh, and should you have leftovers, sliced roast venison is awesome on rye bread sandwiches with some mustard and cheese.



Slow-Cooked Elk Loin

## SLOW-COOKED ELK LOIN

### BY NEVADA FOODIES

Slow cooked smaller cuts of elk loin with leeks and a wheat beer. Shred the elk after slow cooking for ten hours and fry in a little canola oil to give it more crispiness similar to Carnitas. Make a roux gravy using the leek and beer broth and serve with mashed potatoes.

### Ingredients:

- Elk Loin or Elk Roast
- 1 bottle of German Wheat Beer
- 1 can beef broth
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1-2 Leek onions finely sliced
- 2 garlic cloves sliced thin
- 1 teaspoon fresh sage
- 1/2 cup flour
- salt and pepper

### Directions:

1. In a Dutch oven or heavy skillet melt 2 tablespoons of butter and sauté leeks and garlic until they become soft and translucent. Remove and set aside.

2. Dredge elk in a little flour shaking off excess. Add remainder of butter to the skillet and brown the elk on all sides. Remove from heat.

3. Turn your crock-pot on to the lowest setting. Add elk, leeks, sage, beer, and beef broth. Be sure that there is enough liquid to cover most of the elk. If needed, add more beef broth. Cook on low for 8-10 hours.

4. Remove elk from the crock-pot, season as needed and enjoy!

<http://outdoorchannel.com/article.asp?xid=28314&articleType=article&key=slow-cooked-elk-loin-recipe&p=nf>



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## TURTLES

Continued from page 15

### The Turtle Conservancy

The Conservancy protects more than 45,000 acres world-wide of wild land for endangered turtles and tortoises, along with other threatened species including jaguars, macaws and antelope, and native flora. It is their hope they can continue to protect viable habitat for other species, including the Pan's Box Turtle.

Pan's Box Turtle is classified as Critically Endangered in the IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species [<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/5956/0>].

Turtles and tortoises are the most endangered group of vertebrates on the planet. Over half of the 365 species of turtles and tortoises are threatened with, according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

• The Turtle Conservancy works to alleviate threats to highly threatened turtles around the world by protecting land and captive breeding species.

## EMMY AWARDS

Continued from page 14

zona, New Mexico, Utah and El Centro, Calif.

*Arizona Wildlife Views* is produced by the department's Information Branch and gives the public a behind-the-scenes view

## HIKING

Continued from page 11

or biking options. Some trails are complete loops and others require a bit of climbing and should only be explored by advanced hikers.

### Trails Near Roosevelt Lake

If you are an outdoor enthusiast who also enjoys lake activities and camping, you may want to make your home base Roosevelt Lake, which has five Arizona Trail connections within the area. You can make Roosevelt Lake Marina the starting point



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## DESERT ROSES

*Continued from page 7*

"The goal is to keep them coming back."

Women will learn in-depth techniques (more than how to shoot a shotgun) in the advanced program, including eye coordination, various stances, different methods of breaking targets and shooting games.

Classes are limited to 50 participants. To register for Desert Roses, visit [www.azgfd.gov/desertroses](http://www.azgfd.gov/desertroses). To register for Desert Roses, Too, visit [www.azgfd.gov/desertrosestoo](http://www.azgfd.gov/desertrosestoo). For more information, call (623) 434-8119.

Also, view a video about the program that recently appeared on 3TV/CBS 5 at <https://tinyurl.com/ya3mm4cm>.

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## Tutoring, Editing, Writing

As a college English teacher, editor, and writer of both fiction and non-fiction for many years, I am available online (or by U.S. mail) for tutoring, editing, proofreading, copyediting, and writing. I have skills in academic research at both high school and college levels and can also assist those working toward their GEDs, those who need help with resumes, and with both advertising and proposals.

## RADIO

*Continued from page 5*

only issued by the Federal Communications Commission, which also provides an appropriate internationally accessible MMSI number as part of the \$220 Ship Station License fee, good for 10 years.

The benefit of receiving an MMSI from the FCC is that your emergency contact information goes into an internationally accessible database (also accessible to the US Coast Guard), potentially speeding a foreign rescue. MMSI numbers not issued by the FCC are only entered into the US Coast Guard database used for domestic waters. Boaters can learn more at the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water's free online DSC-VHF radio tutorial.

**DSC-VHF radio and Automatic Identification System (AIS):** While both use the vessel's same MMSI number when it comes to registration, DSC-VHF radio and Automatic Identification System (AIS) do not share any other relationship, and each has a completely different process to follow when buying and selling a boat, or potentially when changing a boat's name (an AIS requirement).

BoatUS offers an easy online MMSI registration for \$25 that makes obtaining an MMSI number simple, adds an extra layer of safety by partnering with the US Coast Guard to share information, and offers valuable boater benefits. This registration fee includes complimentary BoatUS membership. Go to [BoatUS.com/MMSI](http://BoatUS.com/MMSI) for more.

## BOAT PARADES

*Continued from page 4*

the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights brings more than 100,000 San Diego residents and visitors to the San Diego Bay waterfront each year. The procession of about 80 lavishly decorated boats has become one of our region's most iconic holiday events.

The parade route starts at Shelter Island and travels west past Harbor Island, then south along the Embarcadero, Seaport Village, and Cesar Chavez Park before turning parallel with the Coronado Bridge to the west side of the bay. The parade then proceeds past Peohe's to the finish line in front of the Ferry Landing. It takes about two hours to complete the trip and there are many comfortable waterfront viewpoints along the route.

A variety of prizes and awards are presented to the best decorated boats and those that best capture the parade's theme. All participants will receive a participant plaque and are invited to the awards dinner held at Tom Ham's Lighthouse.

Those interested in sponsoring the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights, can contact Joni Geis at (619) 823-5220 or [joni@boatlenderusa.com](mailto:joni@boatlenderusa.com). For more information and parade details, visit [www.sdpardaeoflights.org](http://www.sdpardaeoflights.org).

**USA TODAY** 10 Best editors selected San Diego's long-standing holiday tradition, the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights as a candidate for "Best Holiday Parade" in the U.S. The parade is one of just 20 nominated this holiday season.

## YACHT CLUB

*Continued from page 6*

Expected classes include Buccaneer, Portsmouth, Catalina 22, Viper 640, Montgomery 17, Santana 20, PHRF spin, PHRF non-spin, Multi-Hull, and TransLoch cruising.

Throughout the year AYC has various social events outside of their racing, cruising, and education programs. The big racing event of the year is the Leukemia Cup & Birthday Regatta, where the Saturday night dinner and party is always a great get-together.



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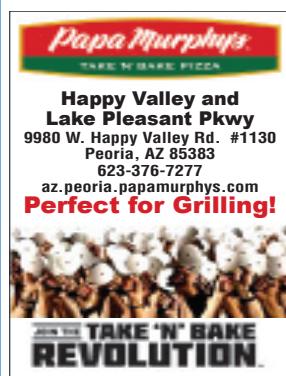
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## HERITAGE

*Continued from page 1*

cipients have been recognized with Commission awards. The awards banquet gives the Commission an opportunity to recognize individuals, groups and organizations for their contributions to Arizona's wildlife resources.

All of the costs associated with the awards banquet must be paid for by ticket sales and sponsorship donations, including the complimentary tickets for award recipients and their spouse or guest. Table sponsorships for organizations are available in several categories and include a table in the organization's name, logo advertisement in the event program, recognition in the introductory PowerPoint presentation and event press release.

### And, The Winners Are —

Award of Excellence: **Lake Havasu Marine Association**

Youth Environmentalist of the Year: **Chase Godbehere**

Media of the Year: (2) **Kim Quintero and the National Veterans Magazine**

Conservation Organization of the Year: **Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc.**

Conservationist of the Year: **Clyde Weakley**

Natural Resource Professional of the Year: **Erica Stewart**

Volunteer of the Year: **Ron Adams**

Educator of the Year: **Michael Eilertsen**

Mentor of the Year: **Justin Stewart**

Advocate of the Year – State: **Governor Doug Ducey**

Advocate of the Year – Federal: **Senator Jeff Flake**

Business Partner of the Year: **OneAZ Credit Union**

Buck Appleby Hunter Education Instructor of the Year: **John and Linda Vedo**

Wildlife Habitat Steward of the Year: **Double O Ranch**

North American Model Commissioners Award: **Luke Thompson**

## CHRISTMAS TREE

*Continued from page 1*

their home this year, there are several national forest offices in Arizona where you can pick up a Christmas tree tag. To be sure of availability, visit the specific national forest Web site in which you are interested.

*Although at press time, the allotment of tags was not available, the prediction is that they will be close to the 2016 numbers that follow:*

### The Kaibab National Forest

• 800 tags at the North Kaibab Ranger District

• 500 tags at the Tusayan Ranger District

## VETERANS

*Continued from page 1*

pop tarts, canned soup, microwave pop corn, sunflower seeds, coffee (one-pot packs), slim Jims, canned chili/ravioli/spaghetti-Os, ramen soup noodle mix (3 oz.), canned fruit, canned tuna, chicken, turkey, granola/power/energy bars, Rice Krispie treats, snack crackers, hot chocolate (individual size), jelly (squeezable in plastic containers), peanut butter in plastic containers, nuts/trail mix (1.5-6 oz.) fruit snacks, condiments, tabasco sauce (2 oz.), saltine crackers in sleeves, etc.

• **Wearables** such as tee-shirts, boxer shorts (med., lge., XL), socks (men's and women's), etc.

## DOWNTREAM

*Continued from page 2*

ments for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to editor@azbw.com. To guarantee placement, as

• 500 tags at the Williams Ranger District.

### The Tonto National Forest

• 500 permits at the Tonto Supervisor's Office

• 500 permits at the Mesa Ranger District

• 500 permits at the Cave Creek Ranger District

• 475 at the Payson Ranger District

• 25 at the Pleasant Valley Ranger District

### The Coronado National Forest

Christmas tree permits are expected to be available at the Douglas Ranger District. You can contact the Douglas Ranger District at (520) 364-3468 for additional information.

• **Recreational Items** (new or gently used) such as dominoes, handheld games, ping pong paddles/balls/nets, sports equipment and nets, video games and systems

If you are interested in participating in this program, *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* will donate one free online ad (size TBA) for each \$25 in merchandise you give. (Please keep your receipts.)

*Note: Packages From Home, a non-profit organization, is locally at 563 N. 52 Ave., Glendale, Ariz. 85301 and more information is at <https://www.packagesfromhome.org/> or call (623) 934-3274.*

### The Coconino National Forest

• 300 tags will be available at the Mogollon Rim Ranger Station

• 200 tags will be available at the Flagstaff Ranger Station

• 100 tags will be available at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Flagstaff

### The Prescott National Forest

• 300 permits available at the Bradshaw Ranger District

• 100 permits available at the Chino Valley Ranger Station

• 100 permits available at the Verde Ranger District

*For additional information, contact the local Forest Service office where you are interested in cutting your Christmas tree or visit the U.S. Forest Service Web site.*

## THANKFUL

*Continued from page 1*

• For the activities and events that celebrate our past, present, and future,

• For our natural resources and those who work to conserve them, and

• For the New Year with its possibilities for good health and happiness.

*We at Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times add our gratitude for all these things and more, including for your support of our ongoing commitment to publicize the opportunities and responsibilities for safe enjoyment and careful conservation of our great outdoor heritage. — Jim and Carol Allen*

room allows, items must be received by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) 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. You may also submit your event individually at <http://www.westernoutdoortimes.com/classifieds>.

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## **2,815 ACRES OF FUN!**

Bartlett Lake Marina has a boatable surface area of 2,815 acres - more than Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake, combined. Fed by the pristine waters of the Verde River, Indians of this valley spoke descriptively in their legends of the river's "sweet waters".

Outdoor enthusiasts frequent Bartlett Lake for a variety of recreational opportunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's natural desert terrain. While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, visitors may see mule deer, bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many indigenous desert plants, including the majestic saguaro, mesquite trees, and blooming ocotillo.

## **BOAT RENTALS**

Bartlett Lake Marina we are ideally located 17 miles northeast of Carefree and only one hour from Phoenix. Our marina offers a range of well equipped comfortable pontoon rental boats. All safety gear and full instruction are included. We welcome novices! You can trust our rental boats to keep you and your family safe while exploring the surrounding bays. We have a number of different pontoon boats for your party needs. We also offer a variety of packages from full day rentals, and weekend rental packages.



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