



Western Outdoor Times

August 2017
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A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports

BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | RVING | SHOOTINGSPORTS | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

A COOL IDEA

Fish To Refresh

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PHOTO COURTESY WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM



Southwest Summertime News And Views

James Ammons Becomes Chairman Of Arizona Game And Fish Commission

Ammons will bring extensive experience in business and wildlife issues to the role.

James Ammons assumed the role of chairman of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission on July 1. Charged with leading the five-member commission for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, Ammons has been serving on the commission since 2014 after being appointed to a five-year term by then-Gov. Jan Brewer.



James Ammons

Ammons replaces Chairman Edward "Pat" Madden, whose term as chair expired

June 30. Madden will continue to serve on the commission through the end of the year until a successor is appointed by the governor and confirmed by the state Senate. Commissioners' five-year terms are staggered, and each commissioner traditionally serves as chair during his or her final year.

A Passion For The Outdoors

A third-generation Yuma native with a passion for hunting and spending time in the great outdoors, Ammons has extensive experience in both business and wildlife issues. Ammons has owned and operated River Cities Adjusters, a Yuma-based transportation

service, since 1978 and served as a board member of AEA Federal Credit Union.

He is a life member of the Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club where he has served as a board member and president. Ammons was named the club's "Sportsman of the Year" in 2010 and played an instrumental role in implementing policy and bylaw changes that allowed membership for women.

A Member Of Many Organizations

Ammons has worked on multiple water-hole development projects, various wildlife conservation initiatives, and Bureau of Land

Management recreation management planning. He is a member of numerous organizations, including the Arizona Antelope Foundation, the Arizona Mule Deer Association, the Arizona Elk Society and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Ammons also is a life member of the Wild Sheep Foundation, Grand Slam Club and the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society.

"As chairman, I look forward to a continued productive working relationship between the commission, department and public to ensure that Arizona's wildlife is protected, conserved, enhanced and man-

See **AMMONS**, Page 19



Ty Gray Named Director Of Arizona Game And Fish Department

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has appointed Ty Gray as director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The appointment came in a unanimous 5-0 vote at the commission's June 11 meeting.

Gray, of Phoenix, has been with Game and Fish for 24 years and is currently the agency's deputy director. He replaces outgoing Director Larry Voyles, who announced May 12 he would be retiring after a 43-year career with Game and Fish, the past nine as director. Gray will assume the role following a transition period.



Ty Gray

Gray began his career with the department as a research biologist in 1993 and worked his way up through the ranks. He has a unique familiarity and perspective on department issues and operations, having also served as urban fishing program specialist, a regional fish program specialist, human dimensions coordinator, field operations coordinator, fisheries branch chief, education branch chief, assistant director (Information/Education/Recreation Division), and deputy director, a position he has held since March 2013.

forward to continuing our tradition of innovation and dedication to meet the conservation challenges and opportunities of the future."

Gray will lead an agency that employs more than 600 people and is funded at more than \$120 million per year, primarily from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, a federal excise tax on hunting and fishing gear, and several other sources such as the Heritage Fund (lottery proceeds), Wildlife Conservation Fund (tribal gaming revenue), watercraft licensing, OHV decals, and state wildlife grants. The agency does not receive Arizona general fund tax dollars.

Congratulations From Voyles, Ducey

"I have the utmost confidence in Ty and his ability to lead the agency into the future," said outgoing Director Voyles. "I commend

See **GRAY**, Page 19

Brings Extensive Experience

"We're thrilled to hire someone with Ty's depth of experience and accomplishments," said Commission Chairman Pat Madden. "He brings extensive experience in wildlife management, planning, budget, and executive-level administration and leadership, as well as the respect of colleagues and the public."

'A Great Honor'

"This is truly a great honor," said Gray. "The Arizona Game and Fish Department is recognized as one of the world's leading wildlife management agencies, and I look

'IT WAS THIS BIG ...'

Cast Your Lines In Roosevelt Lake And Create Your Own Fish Tales

Fishing is a sport with many varieties: Fresh water, sea water; rivers, lakes; bass, trout; solitary or with the whole family.

Whether you are an experienced fisherman or just want something the whole family can do, you can't do any better than fishing at Roosevelt Lake. With more than 15,000 surface acres and near-record water levels, Roosevelt Lake is that largest man-made lake in Central Arizona — a water oasis just two hours away from Phoenix. Fishing enthusiasts have plenty of space to stake their spots on the lake or even find their own special, private spaces without having to compete for places.

Big Cats And More

And the lake is stocked with largemouth and smallmouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, bluegill, crappie and carp. The U.S. Forest Service reports that catfish weighing more than



FOR THE FAMILY — Fishing is a sport with many varieties and can be enjoyed alone or with the whole family. Whether you are an experienced fisherman or just want something the whole family can do, you can't do any better than fishing at Roosevelt Lake — case in point: this young angler proves one is never too young to enjoy this wonderful watersport.

See **FISH TALES**, Page 19

ON THE COVER

'Quality Of Life' Includes 'Cool'

BY CAROL L. ALLEN

If you know Wayne Gustavson of www.wayneswords.com, you have heard him say, "[the] quality of life is measured by [the] amount of time spent fishing." During the Southwest summer months, we would add this: "... spent fishing on or near cool waterways."

On page 8 of this issue, Gustavson writes of the great angling opportunities now at Lake Powell: "Lake Powell has lots of fish to catch."

Fishing — perhaps considered by many the ultimate activity in watersports — offers us a chance to get to cooler destinations and to recreate on or near area lakes, rivers, ponds, and streams.

Shown on the cover is Aubry Calkins, who — with a friend Megan Sparks — really enjoyed fishing for strippers with bait at Buoy 25. (At press time, the water temperature was a relatively cool 77-84F.)

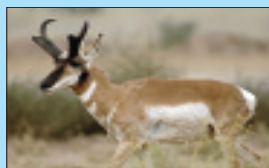
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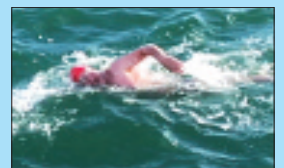
Western Wildlife

Nominations Open
The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is soliciting nominations for its 2017 Commission Awards. The deadline for submission is Aug. 24/**Page 17**



Watersports

ASU Grad Swims English Channel
On July 4, Willie Schulz, graduate of Arizona State University, completed his dream of swimming the English Channel/**Page 13**





We send our heartfelt thanks to all the firefighters who bravely fight the many wildland fires burning in our Southwest. They are constantly challenged by the heat, the wind, and the dry conditions. Yet, they continue to persevere and succeed! We are grateful to them all.

Publisher
Jim Allen

Editor
Carol L. Allen

Production Manager
Angela Ogden

Marketing/Sales
John Campbell

Outdoors Editor
Marge Anderson

Shooting Sports Editor
John Anderson

Salt Water Fishing Editor
Don McDowell

Special Features Editor
John Koleszar

Galley Proof Editor
Henri Hurrier

Birding Editor
The Late Margie Allen

Distribution
Leslie Manes
The Late Lisa Brookes-Haws

Contributors
Arizona Game and Fish Department
ASU Bass Team
Arizona State Parks
AWA
AYC

AZBW News Service
AZ Tourist News
BASS
Becky Thompson
Bill Koedcker
Boatt'l's
Bruce Biddick
Bureau of Reclamation
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WOT/AZBW is published monthly.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Jim Allen, 950 East Baseline Road, 104-901, Tempe, AZ 85283.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$25 for 12 issues; single copies are \$2.50 prepaid. Subscriptions are transferable, non-refundable.

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DOWNSTREAM: August 2017 Events Calendar

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

15 FLAGSTAFF: 17th Annual Pepsi-Cola Taylor House Century Bicycle Ride – Flagstaff Medical Center. A 31, 50, 63, or 100 mile, mostly flat ride with views of San Francisco Peaks and plenty of wildlife. This year the ride will head out Lake Mary Road with the longer distances looping around Mormon Lake. Raises funds to support The Taylor House, providing housing for friends and families of patients at Flagstaff Medical Center. \$60. 7 am. 928-773-2577 or <http://taylorhouseride.com>

22 FLAGSTAFF: Sunset Crater Volcano Solar & Star Party - Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument. Drive time from Flagstaff is 30 minutes. Solar viewing takes place at Sunset Crater Volcano Visitor Center 1-4 pm. All other events will take place at the Lava Flow Trail parking lot, located 1.5 miles east of the Sunset Crater Volcano visitor center on the park loop drive (FS 545), at 8 pm. <https://www.nps.gov/sucr/planyour-visit/summer-night-sky-events.htm>

CALENDAR OF OUTDOOR EVENTS: Ongoing — www.azgfd.gov/OutdoorSkills Google calendar.

PROTECT-A-PARK: Ongoing — Boaters, anglers, divers needed to adopt Lake Pleasant's shoreline areas and coves for regular litter removal in 2009; (602) 372-7460, ext. 200

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 Independence Day events, visit <http://www.visitarizona.com/events>.

5-7 MOENKOPI: Experience Hopi Presentations: Carvings/Flute/Misc. Crafts – Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites. Join us o the Hopi Arts Trail for an introduction into Hopi culture and arts and crafts from Hopi artists. The beautiful artwork is created before your eyes. 6-9 pm. 928-283-4500 or <http://HopiArtsTrail.com> or <http://www.ExperienceHopi.com>

7-9 PINETOP-LAKESIDE: 10th Annual Medieval Mayhem in the White Mountains – Mountain Meadows Recreation Complex. Celebrating the Medieval times/Dark Ages and the Renaissance all rolled into one, features period dress, food, music, dancers, merchants, sword fighting demonstration and more, different vendors, attractions, groups and guilds come to play. \$5-10. Fri-Sat 10 am – 7 pm, Sun 10 am – 5 pm, <http://www.azmayhem.com>



8 CLARKDALE: Summer Starlight Train-Verde Canyon Railroad. On select Saturdays during the summer months, Verde Canyon Railroad travels during the cooler temperatures of late afternoon through sunset, twilight and starlight, serving up a wide ranging mix of light, color and shadow as the Canyon transforms into a moonlit dreamscape. 5:30 pm. 928-639-0010 or 800-293-7245 or <http://www.verdecanyonrr.com>

22 PAYSON: Payson Book Festival at Mazatla Hotel & Casino; info@payson-bookfestival.org; see story on page 1 of this issue

21-22 SEDONA: 13th Annual National Day of the Cowboy Celebration – Uptown Sedona, enjoy “a whole lot of cowboy goin’s on,” gunfights, roping, cowboy action shooting, historical re-enactments, musical revues, storytelling, poetry, cowboy/cowgirl outfit contest, country music and performances, presented by Sedona Main Street Program with the “Red Rock Posse” and area businesses, free, 10 am – 8 pm, 928-204-2390 or <http://www.sedonamainstreet.com>

FISHING

ARIZONA FLYCASTERS CLUB MEETINGS: Second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. — Sunnyslope Community Center; <http://www.azflycasters.org>

SRT BASS PHOENIX CHAPTER MEETINGS: Ongoing — Shake, Rattle & Troll Bass Club; volunteers needed; new members (boaters and non-boaters), families, children, friends are welcome; (623) 221-7655

SHOOTING SPORTS/ ARCHERY

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

WATERSPORTS

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

Frozen LEARN TO CURL LESSONS: Ongoing— Learntocurl@coyotescurling.com

Swimming 13 FLAGSTAFF: 33rd Annual Mountain Man Triathlon - Lake Mary. Sprint: swim 700 meters, bike 10.6 miles, run 3.1 miles; Olympic: swim 1500 meters, bike 24.9 miles, run 6.2 miles. Spectators free. 6:30 am. 928-526-8761 or <http://www.mountainmanevents.com>

WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

8 PINETOP/LAKESIDE: Pollinator Day – The Vital Roles They Play & Attracting Them to Your Yard – White Mountain Wildlife & Nature Center. Bees, butterflies, and birds and their importance to Planet Arizona. Learn how to create pesticide-free bee gardens, build bee nest boxes, and garden with pollinator-friendly plants. Free. 10 am. 928-358-3069 or <http://www.wmnature.org>

8, 29-30 SUPERIOR: Learn Your Lizards – Boyce Thompson Arboretum. This entertaining guided tour around the gardens is not just for kids -- popular Lizard Walks are for all who enjoy Arizona's most common, colorful and charismatic little reptiles. No additional fee, and no pre-registration, just be in our Visitor Center breezeway at 8 am. With ‘Wild Man Phil’ Rakoci is our guide! \$5-12.50. 520-689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

8, 15, 29 TUCSON: 2017 Cool Summer Nights: Creatures of the Night – July 8 – Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Want to know what creatures party in the nighttime? Here's your chance to find out! Experience live animal interpretations on grounds, spend time with our animated animals, and enjoy our popular Desert Survivors show. Free with museum admission. 5-10 pm. 520-883-2702 or <http://www.desertmuseum.org>

15 PINETOP/LAKESIDE: 6th Annual Audubon Film Festival – White Mountain Wildlife & Nature Center. White Mountain Audubon film festival with locally produced movies and presentations. 928-358-3069 or <http://www.wmnature.org> or <http://whitemountainaudubon.org>

22 PAGE: 2nd Annual Glen Canyon Bat Festival – Wahweap Amphitheater. Family friendly event to learn more about bats, how they help the environment, and how we can help them. Children can participate in activities and crafts as well as bat house building demos for people of all ages. There are also educational booths, a raffle, door prizes, guest presentations, and a night time bat walk through Wahweap. 5-10 pm. <http://www.glencanyonhna.org/events-2/2017/7/22/glen-canyon-bat-festival>

22 SUPERIOR: Butterfly Walk - Boyce Thompson Arboretum. A walking tour, with guide Marceline Vandewater, to see, photograph and learn about colorful species ranging from Empress Leilia to Queen, Spring Azure and more. This relaxed and slow-moving walk explores the Hummingbird-Butterfly Garden, Demonstration Garden and Children's Garden collections. \$5-12.50. 8:30 am, 520-689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

22 TUCSON: 2017 Cool Summer Nights at the Desert Museum: Insect Insanity – Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Let's celebrate Incredible Insects and Amazing Arthropods! The Sonoran Desert is a hot spot of insect diversity and this is your chance to meet them. Tonight, get a bugs-eye view of many of the million species of arthropods that make the Sonoran Desert their home. Free with admission. 5-10 pm. <http://desertmuseum.org>

28-30 SEDONA: 6th Annual Sedona Hummingbird Festival – Sedona Performing Arts Center. Presentations by hummingbird experts in many interest areas: science, gardening, photography, conservation and regional species studies, and tours. \$23-25 for 1-day presentations pass; 3-day presentations pass \$60-70; children under 12 free with a paying adult. 800-529-3699 or <http://www.sedonahummingbirdfestival.com/>

EMPTY PET FOOD BANK IN TEMPE: Ongoing — A unique food bank which serves cats and dogs needs your help. Lost Our Home Pet Foundation has been providing food and pet supplies to the pets of family in need since 2009, all through community donations. Donations can be made at the shelter location at 2323 S. Hardy Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282; Jodi Polanski, Jodi@lostourhome.org

THESE NO-KILL SHELTERS NEED HELP: Ruby Ranch Pet Rescue and Sanctuary, www.rubyranchrescue.org; The Pet Knot, www.thepetknot.com; Paw Promise Animal Rescue, www.pawpromisecaninial-rescue.com; Lulubelle Animal Rescue, www.lulubellerescue.org, and Fur and Feather Animal Assistance, <http://www.furandfeather.org>

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

For a complete list of Arizona events, visit www.visitarizona.com/events



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

Our waterways are ready, but are YOU? Brush up on your boating skills by taking one of the many Boating Safety Education classes or take one online at www.azgfd.gov/boating.

August 2017				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	August 19 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	August 19 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Bldg. 2176 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-08	August 19 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shops 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(510) 386-2356
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-11	August 19 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Century Marine 3302 E. Main Street Mesa	\$25	(602) 550-8655
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-07	August 26 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bell American Plaza 7121 W. Bell Road Glendale	\$30	(928) 310-4603

September 2017				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	September 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Bldg. 2176 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-08	September 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shops 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(510) 386-2356
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-11	September 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Century Marine 3302 E. Main Street Mesa	\$25	(602) 550-8655
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-07	September 23 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bell American Plaza 7121 W. Bell Road Glendale	\$30	(928) 310-4603

Registration Decal



Spaces or hyphens should appear here.

Register your watercraft

Make sure the vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water. It's one of the most important boating requirements needed to operate a watercraft on Arizona waterways.

The registration fee is determined by watercraft length and ranges from \$20 to \$66 for Arizona residents and \$100 to \$495 for non-residents. Skip the line and renew your watercraft registration online at www.azgfd.gov/boating.

Renew Online. It's Easy!

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



This information brought to you by: Arizona Game & Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086, 623-236-7219, www.azgfd.gov

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Know the Rules: Learn to identify "Navi-Aids"



Arizona law enforcement agencies write many citations for "failure to obey navigation laws." You can help ensure the safety of all on the water by learning to identify these common navigational aids.



Information
Squares indicate where to find food, supplies, repairs, etc., and give directions and other information.

Controlled
Circles indicate a controlled area such as speed limit, no fishing or anchoring, ski only or no skiing, or "slow, no wake."



Exclusion
Crossed diamonds indicate areas off-limits to all vessels such as swimming areas, dams, and spillways.



Danger
Diamonds warn of dangers such as rocks, shoals, construction, dams, or stumps. Always proceed with caution.

Other Non-Lateral Markers

Safe Water Markers are white with red vertical stripes and mark mid-channels or fairways. They may be passed on either side.



Inland Water Obstruction Markers are white with black vertical stripes and indicate an obstruction to navigation. You should not pass between these buoys and nearest shore.



Mooring Buoy

Mooring Buoys are round and white with a blue horizontal band and are found in marinas and other areas where vessels are allowed to anchor.

Note, the following actions are illegal:
◆ Willfully damaging, removing, interfering with, or tying up to a navigation buoy not intended for mooring.
◆ Mooring, anchoring, or fastening to shore for more than 14 consecutive days any vessel on public waters.

Need to borrow a life jacket?

Visitors to lakes Pleasant, Havasu, Saguaro or Mohave needing a life jacket can borrow one at Life Jacket Loaner Stations near each lake's boat ramps.

Stations contain jackets for infants to adults. **Please return** the jackets so they can be used by others.



Boating



DAN RUTHERFORD

BEWARE! — Electronics are being stolen more frequently than ever. BoatUS says be aware of crime rings this summer and offers some prevention tips.

ALERT:

Crime Rings Stealing Boats, Yamaha Outboards, Garmin Electronics

BoatUS offers seven tips to slow down thieves.

Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatUS) said today crime rings responsible for stealing boats, Yamaha outboard engines, Garmin electronics, and other expensive navigation units along the East Coast's I-95 corridor have moved across the country.

Largely striking boat dealerships and boat-storage facilities, the thieves are getting the attention of a new intelligence working group made up of local, state and federal law enforcement officials as well as certified marine investigators who urge recreational boaters to be vigilant.

One Virginia marina recently reported six 600-pound engines stolen, with dealerships in upstate New York and Texas hit in similar fashion, according to a June 2 report in *Soundings Trade Only Today*.

Working-group member Daniel Rutherford, claims director for Maritime Program Group, a leading marina and boatyard specialty insurance program company said, "They are professional. They know what they are doing and get in and out quickly leaving very little damage."

What can boat owners and boating facilities do to prevent thefts? It's hard to stop a determined thief, but you can reduce your chances of being targeted. BoatUS offers seven tips:

Take a look at your boat storage area. Is it lit at night? Does it have motion-operated lighting or audible alarms? How difficult is it to gain entry? Is there one or multiple ways to enter? Does it have an effective, fully operating video-surveillance system? Does the storage facility have signage advising that license plates are being recorded and property is under 24-hour surveillance?

Slow a thief down. Are helm electronics locked behind a solid instrument cover? Use tamper-resistant fasteners for mounting electronics and outboard lock-

See **CRIME RING**, Page 5

Pleasant Harbor Hydroflight: Up, Up And Away

Next time you are at Pleasant Harbor on the eastern shores of Lake Pleasant, you will want to look up. Most days in the marina cove by Dillon's Bayou restaurant, you are likely to see people hydroflying, hoisted up as much as 30 feet in the air thanks to water pulsating through a long hose.

People on the shore can't help but watch this futuristic fun while those who sign up for hydroflight report they can't get enough. On one end, the 80-foot firehose is attached to a jet ski and on the other, to a jetboard, jetpack or hydrobike.

Once the jet ski throttle is engaged, water is pushed through the hose, driving the apparatus and user into the air. Clint Page, manager at Pleasant Harbor Boat Rentals, indicates that most people can pick up hydroflight in a quick 10-minute orientation. With warmer water temperatures at Lake Pleasant, this is a perfect time to give hydroflight a try.

Flyers for the jetpack and/or jetboard, must be at least 14 years of age. For the jetbike, flyers must be 18 years of age. However, over the years, Pleasant Harbor has hosted flyers from 14 – 80 years of age, with most people up and flying within 5 minutes after their orientation session.

Cost for this futuristic fun is reasonable, with a single apparatus flight run-



UP, UP, AND AWAY — Next time you are at Pleasant Harbor on the eastern shores of Lake Pleasant, you will want to look up. Most days in the marina cove by Dillon's Bayou restaurant, you are likely to see people hydroflying, hoisted up as much as 30 feet in the air thanks to water pulsating through a long hose.

ning a minimum of 30 minutes. The session includes a 10-minute orientation and 20-minute flight and runs \$45.00.

A 2-device flight runs a minimum of 45 minutes with a 15-minute orientation and 30-minute flight. This 2-part hydro device flight runs \$75.00. Pleasant Harbor does take reservation for flight and interested flyers can call 928-501-5101 or visit <https://boats4rent.com/pleasant-harbor-az/>.

harbor-az/.

Pleasant Harbor Marina and RV Resort is the closest entrance to Lake Pleasant and is open 365 days a year. Pleasant Harbor is home to the Lake Pleasant cruise ship, *The Phoenix*, as well as a full-service marina, 253-space RV Resort and Dillon's Bayou restaurant.

For more information about Pleasant Harbor, visit: www.pleasantharbor.com.

Secretary Zinke Releases Boating Infrastructure Grant Funds

Program channels boater taxes into user facility improvements.

In a ceremony held recently in Yorktown, Va., U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke shared a \$14.7 million check with Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatUS) Vice President Heather Lougheed, who accepted on behalf of America's recreational boaters. The amount represents 2017-18 funding for the federal Boating Infrastructure Grant (B.I.G.) program, which funnels user taxes paid by boaters to develop transient boating projects.

Tool To Attract Spending

BoatUS was instrumental in creating the program in 1998 that is viewed today by local municipalities as an economic-development tool to attract overnight-boater spending. The Secretary and BoatUS also urged municipal marinas, private marinas and boat and yacht clubs to consider applying for available funds by the Sept. 11, 2017 deadline.

The B.I.G. program recognizes that transient boaters offer economic benefits and add to the vitality of waterfront communities, marinas and boat clubs. Funds go to construct, renovate or maintain transient-boater facilities, including docks, moorings, restrooms (including floating



BIG BENEFIT TO BOATERS — (R to L) Government Affairs Program Coordinator Morgan Neuhoff, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatUS) Vice President Public Affairs Scott Croft, and BoatUS Vice President Membership Heather Lougheed – all were present as U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke shared a \$14.7 million check.

ones), fuel docks, electricity, water and sewage utilities, recycling and pumpout stations, and potentially small dredging projects.

Support To Local Communities

Said Secretary Zinke, "These three grant programs provide critical support to local communities, whether through the preservation of American maritime

heritage or by ensuring the facilities and waters anglers and boaters depends on are in the best condition," said Zinke. "Although these grants come from different funding sources, none would be possible without great partnerships."

Said BoatUS Vice President Public Affairs Scott Croft, "If you want boaters

See **GRANT FUNDS**, Page 5

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RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY

Keep A Good Day On The Water A Good Day By Following These Basics

PROVIDED BY ED HUNTSMAN
DISTRICT RECREATIONAL BOATING
SAFETY PROGRAM MANAGER

This page is intended to serve as a general resource for recreational boating safety information. Should an issue or topic not be addressed here, feel free to contact Ed Huntsman, the District Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program Manager, via email at Edward.L.Huntsman@uscg.mil or by telephone at 504-671-2148.

File a Float Plan

Why should you take the time to prepare a float plan? The answer is simple — there are just too many facts that need to be accurately remembered and ultimately conveyed in an emergency situation. Without a float plan, you are counting on someone else, a friend, neighbor, or family member to remember detailed information that rescue personnel need in order to find you — information that can make a difference in the outcome.

Don't think for a minute that a float plan is only for those with big expensive boats. A Float Plan is equally effective for the owner of a 10-foot kayak or flat-bottom skiff as it is for a 48-foot express cruiser, or a 90-foot sport-fishing vessel or luxury yacht.

So, what kind of boaters prepare float plans?

- Kayakers and stand-up paddlers
- Sport fisherman
- Hunters
- Jet skiers
- Water skiers
- Family day cruisers
- Private charter boat services
- Canoeists
- Rowers
- Rafters
- Sail boaters
- Power boaters

Typically, the skipper of the vessel is the individual who prepares the Float Plan. However, any member of the crew can be assigned the preparation and filing duty.

I'd also encourage you to make sure you have a good quality VHF marine-band radio, and consider investing in a quality EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon).

GRANT FUNDS

Continued from page 4

to visit and spend in your town, safe protected overnight dockage with electricity and water service connections are a must. BoatUS is proud to play an important role in providing funding for these boating access improvements to communities across America."

Not A Government Handout

To date, more than \$180 million has been awarded. Not a government hand-out, funding for the competitive B.I.G. program comes from excise taxes on boat gasoline and fishing tackle that boaters and anglers pay into the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, while U.S. Fish and Wildlife administers the funds. There are two tiers of funding open for applications: a non-competitive "mini-grant" up to \$200,000 for small maintenance projects, and a competitive second tier offering up to \$1.5 million.

Grants are for projects located on water bodies deep enough for boats 26 feet in length staying overnight from one to 15 days, and to navigate at a minimum depth of 6 feet. A minimum of 25 percent matching funds is required.

While the annual deadline for the B.I.G. program is in September every year, state boating agencies may have earlier deadlines



THE COAST GUARD CARES — Contact the Eighth Coast Guard District RBS Specialist, your local Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadron or state wildlife (e.g., the Arizona Game & Fish Department) or Natural Resources Agency for additional information or boating-safety class information. Also, please see page 3 of this issue.

Contact the Eighth Coast Guard District RBS Specialist, your local Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadron or state wildlife or Natural Resources Agency for additional information or boating-safety class information.

The Four Principles Of Boating Safety

Want to keep a good day good? Generally speaking, by following the Four Principles of Boating Safety, most recreational boaters will significantly reduce any likelihood that they will encounter anything other than an enjoyable boating experience.

The four principals are —
1) Wearing life jackets saves lives - Wear yours! Most, if not all, boating-safety education professionals agree that the one single thing that would contribute the most to reducing deaths and saving lives would be wearing life jackets. Statistics show time and time again that many boating fatalities could have been avoided if the victim had only been wearing a life jacket.

Wearing a life jacket while boating is like wearing a seat belt when driving or riding in a car. Find a life jacket that is comfortable, that you like and that you'll wear! Wear it anytime you are on a boat or even near the water or on a boat dock. And, with the new inflatable life jacket technology in the marketplace, a variety

of life jackets are available for those over the age of 16 that are not bulky, hot or uncomfortable.

Don't forget that for those boaters who are 13 years of age or younger, Federal law requires them to wear a life jacket (properly sized, fitted and worn to the manufacturer's specifications) any time they're on a boat that is underway (not at anchor, made fast to the shore or aground) — even when launching or retrieving your boat. But always check with local authorities regarding local regulations.

In Louisiana, for example, children 16 years of age or younger (under 17) on boats less than 26 feet in length must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket suitable for the activity in which they are engaged anytime the boat is underway (not at anchor, or made fast to the shore or aground).

Also in Louisiana, all persons onboard a motorboat less than 16 feet in length propelled by a hand tiller outboard motor are required to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket suitable for the activity while the boat is underway. Always check with the local authorities on the body of water you're boating on to ensure you understand operating requirements.

2) Boater education saves lives - Take a boating safety education course! Get, be and stay prepared. Statistics show that more than 80 percent of those involved in boating fatalities have never taken a boat-

ing-safety course or had any other type of formal boating education.

The States, Auxiliary and Power Squadron have excellent volunteer instructors who offer numerous classes across the District throughout the year. These classes offer introductory and basic information as well as other interesting subject areas about boats and boating. The instructors are eager, able and ready to help you learn more about operating your boat safely and proficiently. And in most cases, these classes are offered free of charge.

Once you complete the brief introductory course, check with your insurance agent as most companies offer a reduced insurance premium to educated boat owners and operators. National Association of State Boating Law Administrator (NASBLA) certified courses are also offered by other organizations such as the Red Cross, and other boating organizations.

Always ensure that the course you are taking is National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved and recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard for the location at which you reside if your state requires boating-safety education. There are hands-on skills courses as well that are recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard.

3) Safe boats save lives - Get a free Vessel Safety Check! Boats that are properly equipped, in good operating condition, and safe from hazards are less likely to be involved in accidents and fatalities. While the law doesn't require certain items or supplies such as an anchor, visual distress signals or other safety equipment on inland lakes, Federal requirements are more stringent and demanding. The U.S.

See **SAFETY**, Page 6

CRIME RING

Continued from page 4

ing devices. Using a special nut with an engine-mounting bolt that requires a special key can help.

Make stealing expensive electronics less appealing by engraving and posting a warning (this goes for the outboard, too). Create and keep at home an engine and electronics inventory list that includes manufacturer and serial number, and take plenty of pictures — including the boat.

Be wary of suspicious questions. In most of the boat dealership theft cases, a suspect posed as a boat shopper on the day before the theft occurred. For boat owners, loose lips sink ships. Boaters should remain cautious to questions from strangers wanting to know more about access. Get to know your dockside neighbors so you can

more readily recognize suspicious activity and people who don't belong.

Consider adding a boat tracking device that can sound an early alarm if something's amiss.

Yamaha outboard engine owners may want to investigate **Yamaha Customer Outboard Protection**, or Y-COP. Y-COP is available with the manufacturer's Command Link (CL) and Command Link Plus (CLP) systems.

Help get the word out. If you are a victim of theft, ask your local law enforcement to share the information on the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), a computerized database of documented criminal-justice information available to virtually every law-enforcement agency in the U.S. or add to state crime-tracking databases

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Operation Dry Water Continues – Continuously

FROM AZGFD

Operation Dry Water was once again carried out on Arizona's bodies of water as officers from numerous agencies were on the lookout for people who were operating a boat or watercraft while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Operation Dry Water is an ongoing national awareness and enforcement campaign, with heightened efforts taking place in late June and early July.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has been participating in Operation Dry Water since the initiative began in 2009. AZGFD partners with local agencies on the effort, which is done in partnership with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Deadly Fact

"It's a national effort to bring attention to the deadly problem of operating a watercraft while under the influence," said Tim Baumgarten, AZGFD boating



law administrator. "It's difficult to separate recreation from alcohol — that's the problem and the paradigm that we have to shift. Our goal is to make a difference in reducing the number of fatalities and injuries on Arizona's lakes and rivers."

Alcohol is one of the top factors contributing to recreational boater deaths. According to the U.S. Coast Guard, alcohol was a leading factor in 15 percent of fatal boating accidents in 2016. Of the five deaths in recreational boating accidents in Arizona last year, alcohol use

was a contributing factor in three of them.

Even Slight Impairment —

Although the legal limit for operating a boat in Arizona is .08 blood-alcohol content, an operator is in violation of the law and may be prosecuted for operating a watercraft while impaired to the slightest degree by alcohol and/or drugs.

Nationwide last year, 367 arrests were made for boating under the influence and officers made contact with more than 130,000 boaters during the three-day peri-

od of heightened enforcement, according to Operation Dry Water. Eight of those arrests were made June 25, 2016, in Arizona, with officers contacting 487 boaters aboard 128 vessels.

Other Issues

While the main focus is those operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, officers may also give warnings and write citations for other issues such as operation, fire extinguisher and life jacket violations.

State law requires that anyone 12 and under must wear a life jacket at all times when the vessel is underway and there should be one life jacket aboard for every passenger. In addition, a throwable flotation device — usually a cushion with handles or a ring buoy — is required for all watercraft longer than 16 feet, except for canoes and kayaks.

For more information on boating safety or to sign up for a boating education course, visit www.azgfd.com/Education/Boating/ and see page 3 of this issue.

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SAFETY

Continued from page 5

Coast Guard Auxiliary, Power Squadron or local law-enforcement officers would be happy to check your boat for you.

Contact representatives of the Coast Guard Auxiliary or Power Squadron to request a free Vessel Safety Check (VSC). Learn what you need to have to make sure your boat is always seaworthy and ready to go. You won't get a ticket because you don't have what you need during a VSC, but you'll likely avoid one in the future if you learn what you need and go get it before boating!

4) Sober boating saves lives - Avoid alcohol and other drugs while on or near the water! Approximately 40 percent of all boating fatalities involve the use of alcohol. If you are drunk and get into an accident on the water, but are fortunate enough to survive, you will likely suffer financial and personal consequences such as large fines and the possible loss of automobile driving privileges.

Drugs and alcohol don't just impact the boat operator; passengers who have been drinking alcohol, for example, are 10 times more likely to fall overboard. And, if they aren't wearing life jackets, possibly face drowning. You hear it all the time: Water and alcohol don't mix!

Many states are zero-tolerance and that means any boat operator impaired to the slightest degree could be arrested. Don't risk a great day on the water—keep a good day good and go home safe.

Keeping It Fun And Safe

Following these four basic boating tips will help keep you safe. The Eighth Coast Guard District joins all boating safety advocates across the country in our hopes that you and your loved ones enjoy boating during the years to come. Safe boating is no accident — keep a good day on the water good by following these four easy-to-follow basic principles.

Have questions about cold water immersion? Check out Beyond Cold Water Bootcamp's "4 Phases of Cold Water Immersion", Water Safety Congress's "Cold Water Bootcamp" or the Coast Guard Boating Safety Web site.

Questions about general boating safety? Check out the Coast Guard's Boating Safety page.

Paddlesports (canoe, SUP, kayak or rowing) questions? Check out the American Canoe Association (ACA) page.

Still have questions about any boating safety issue? Feel free to contact Ed Huntsman, the District Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program Manager, via email at Edward.L.Huntsman@uscg.mil or by telephone at 504-671-2148.



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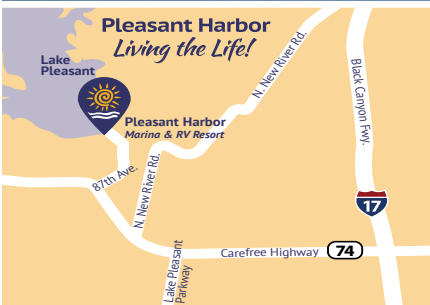
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LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

There Are 'Lots Of Fish To Catch'

'Quality of life is measured by amount of time spent fishing.'

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON
WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM

Lake Powell fish are in awe at the brushy cover inundated along the shoreline. Virtually any place that is not a sheer cliff is now a brushy haven for all of Lake Powell's fish. Those enjoying cover the most are shad.

Normally this time of year, defenseless shad are easy targets for stripers and other fish. Now shad can go hide in the brush making it much tougher for predators to get an easy meal. I am happy as well because this gives me hope that shad will grow to a larger size, in larger numbers which will lead to big striper boils in late July and August.

This will be a story for a future report. Right now shad are happy in brushy cover and game fish are trying to figure out what is going on!

Stripers Were Thrilled

Stripers were thrilled to have slow moving tiny shad in open water where they could just go get an easy meal any time of the day. Now shad are able to swim and have high-tailed it to the brush

line. Surface feeding action that was easy to see two weeks ago is now missing in action in the southern lake.

Striper slurps still continue in the northern lake where shad numbers are higher and muddy water slowed the progression of shad movement to brush.

Warm surface water and lack of open-water shad have made bait fishing in deep water the most effective fishing technique now for stripers. Adult stripers are hungry and trapped down at 30 feet waiting for food. Main channel and main canyon walls anywhere on the lake can house a hungry, waiting school of stripers.

Chumming and bait fishing may be the best way to approach these waiting fish. Another option is to troll deep diving lures along slick rock points and steep walls. Trolling is a good way to find a school of fish. Once found, bait may work better but it really depends on which angling technique is preferred.

Smallmouth Bass

Smallmouth bass prefer rocky structure but are not afraid of brush. They have followed shad into the underwater jungle and can be found searching through the limbs and branches for a shad or sunfish. Small topwater lures, swim baits, D-Shad, and weedless plastic baits fished along brushy main points have been very effective.



BAIT IS BEST — Right: Megan Sparks and Aubry Calkins, St George, Utah, really enjoyed fishing for stripers with bait at Buoy 25. Bait fishing is once again the best choice.

Watch for shad schools to pop up in the brush line and then toss a surface lure near the shad school to target any game fish also eyeing that school.

Largemouth Bass

Largemouth bass will be right there rubbing shoulders with smallmouth bass. Largemouth tend to prefer brush thickets in shallow water. They live in the same brushy condo as sunfish.

Bass are good neighbors most of the time but occasionally eat one of the sunfish when the time is right. With a full stomach, largemouth return to being

model citizens and continue to live in the brush pocket.

Walleye

Walleye really like brush. They are an ambush feeder so they move to a submerged tree top and wait for the right fish to swim by. Walleye are happy to eat shad, sunfish, bass or any other fish that enters their treetop target zone.

One great technique for catching walleye in brushy water is to troll or cast a shad imitating lure just over the treetops

See **FISH REPORT**, Page 19

WATER LEVELS ARE HIGHEST IN YEARS AT ARIZONA'S BOATING PARADISE!

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2017 Fall Hunt Draw Results Now Available

A list of leftover permit-tags is posted online.

FROM AZGFD

The waiting is over for hopeful hunters who applied for a 2017 fall hunt permit-tag.



There are three ways to obtain draw results for the deer, fall turkey, fall javelina, bighorn sheep, fall bear, fall bison and pheasant seasons:

- Sign in to your AZGFD customer portal account.
- Visit <https://draw.azgfd.gov>, then click on "View Results and Bonus Points."

- Call (602) 942-3000 and press "2."

A record 90 percent of all applicants applied online (131,457), compared to 10 percent who filled out a paper application (14,309).

For those who were unsuccessful in the draw process, a list of about 2,300 leftover permit-tags is posted at <http://www.azgfd.gov/draw>.

The department began accepting applications for leftover permit-tags — by mail only — on July 31. Leftover permit-tags will be available for purchase on a "first come, first served" basis at all department offices beginning Monday, Aug. 7.

All permit-tags are scheduled to be mailed by Aug. 4; all refund warrants by Aug. 11.

EXCERPT FROM A LATE-JULY AZGFD FISHING REPORT

Summer Nights Can Be *The* Time To Fish In Arizona's High Country

Tip Of The Week

When fishing in muddy or stained waters, as we'll no doubt have more of this summer, it can help to have a lure with some sound or flash. Some lure manufacturers are made with ultraviolet colors that can attract fish from far away.

One angler recently had luck on rainbow trout at Lower Lake Mary in Flagstaff using a Panther Martin FishSeeUv lure — one more trick for your tackle box.

The Reel Deal

Summer nights made chill by spats of rain showers — this can be the time to fish in the high country of Arizona. Increased rainfall predicted for high country regions can also eventually favor anglers, bringing inflows and nutrients, and, in turn, baitfish and predatory fish.

Target areas with recent inflows. Monsoon season is here so be safe. Get off the water if there's lightning and if you get trapped on the water find a protected cove or small bay and wait out the storm.

Submersible lights at night for strippers will be a great option if the weather is calm. Be sure to check the latest wind and weather forecasts.

Anglers can fish in snow, ice, some heat (be safe) and rain — but keep those lightning (fishing) rods off the water.

Successes

Anglers have reported success recently with bass at Pena Blanca Lake, walleye at Upper Lake Mary, and flathead catfish on the Upper Salt River and striper fish-

Arizona Big Game Super Raffle Nets Record \$673,600 For Wildlife

Among the prizes were 10 permit-tags, Swarovski optics package, and N.M. elk hunt.

Winners of the 12th annual Arizona Big Game Super Raffle were announced recently at Arizona Game and Fish Department headquarters in Phoenix.

The prizes included a total of 10 Special Big Game Tags, one for each of the state's big game species — bighorn sheep, elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, pronghorn, bison, turkey, bear, javelina and mountain lion. The permit-tags were awarded by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. Raffle tickets ranged from \$5 to \$25, depending on the species. A New Mexico elk hunt and Swarovski optics package also were raffled.

In the 12-year history of the raffle, more than \$6.1 million has been raised for wildlife and wildlife management in Arizona. This year's event generated a record \$673,600, topping \$633,750 in 2016.

The 2017 winners are the following:

- Bighorn sheep: **John Donovan**, Phoenix, Ariz.

- Black bear: **Peter Migale**, Novato, Calif.
- Bison: **Larry Lunsford**, Carlsbad, N.M.
- Elk: **Martin Lindstrand**, Damascus, Ore.
- Javelina: **Norman Unruh**, Saragosa, Texas.
- Mountain lion: **Stephen Todd**, Chandler, Ariz.
- Mule deer: **Roy Crouch**, Artesia, N.M.
- Pronghorn: **Robert Sherer**, Great Falls, Mont.
- Turkey: **Kent McClelland**, Phoenix, Ariz.
- White-tailed deer: **Ryan Jackson**, Kingsburg, Calif.
- New Mexico elk hunt: **David Knox**, Lakeside, Ariz.
- Swarovski optics package: **Brett Zeis**, Langdon, N.D.

The raffle is conducted by a nonprofit entity to raise money for wildlife conser-



BIG BUCKS — This year's Arizona Big Game Super Raffle netted a record-breaking \$673,600 for wildlife. This tops the 2016 total of \$633,750.

vation efforts. A volunteer board of directors, comprised of representatives from sponsoring organizations, oversees the operation of the raffle.

Every dollar raised for each species through the raffle is returned to the department and managed by the Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee (AHPC) for that particular species. With input from local habitat partners across the state and sponsoring organizations involved in the fundraising, project priorities are determined that will provide the most benefit to each species.

For more information, visit www.arizonabiggamesuperraffle.com.

Upgrades Coming To Ben Avery Shooting Facility's Main Range

Projects prompt closure Aug. 14-29.

When the Ben Avery Shooting Facility's main range opens bright and early Aug. 30, recreational shooters will zero in on several improvements:

- Earthen berms that serve as backstops for 67 shooting stations will be higher, more level and -- most important -- safer.
 - Target bumpers (which hold up the target frames) with re-stenciled lane numbers.
 - Refurbished shooting benches.
- In order to complete more than



\$100,000 in improvements, the main range will be closed to the general public Aug. 14-29. The projects will be paid

for through funding from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR). The Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive general funds from the State of Arizona.

"While this work is going to inconvenience some folks, due to the extended duration of the closure, the work on the range is necessary to maintain the highest levels of standards of safety and stewardship that our customers have come to expect from the facility," said Christopher

See **BEN AVERY**, Page 19

LESSONS || CHARTERS || SEASON PASSES



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ing on the Colorado River Below Davis Dam, where Chris caught this 32.6-pound striper:

Overall, angling can be tough in this part of the summer, but be selective in your spot and time, and you might go away with a heavy stringer, or at least a camera full of memories. Grab a license online (that helps conserve all species of wildlife, not to mention provides funding that goes back into fishing opportunities) and go.

Apache, Canyon, Saguaro

Apache Lake on the Salt River chain of lakes is relatively undeveloped, and is an excellent fishery for bass and catfish. Fishing tournaments at Apache and Canyon Lakes can resume, effective immediately. Tournaments on Apache, Canyon and Saguaro lakes were temporarily suspended when golden alga blooms developed over large portions of the lakes.

See **SUMMER NIGHTS**, Page 19

AZGFD Helps Rescue Native Gila Trout Following Frye Fire

Hiking steep trails wearing full fire gear Wednesday and Thursday, and often with backpacks holding aerated buckets of fish and other gear, the rescue team salvaged fish from two populations of Gila trout from the ash-blanketed slopes of Mount Graham.

During the aftermath of the 48,000-acre Frye fire, the 13 biologists and wildlife managers from Arizona Game and Fish and Mora National Fish Hatchery transported 79 Gila trout, a rare trout species native to Arizona and New Mexico, from Ash Creek and 111 from Frye Creek in good health to the Mora National Fish Hatchery in New Mexico.

The rescue came just before monsoon season when summer rains are likely to send ash flows toxic to fish down waterways following high-density wildfires such as the Frye fire.



One Of Two Native Trout Species

Gila trout, listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, are one of two native trout species in Arizona, along with the Apache trout.

"Populations restored in isolated headwaters are unfortunately vulnerable

to the risk of post-fire flooding, making our salvage efforts critical," said Tracy Stephens, AZGFD native trout and chub coordinator. "We could not have done this without the efforts of the Type-2 Incident Command Team, including USFS and BLM personnel from throughout the Southwest Region that coordinated our efforts and ensured our safety."

Evacuated Also In 2012

In 2012, the nearly 300,000-acre Whitewater Baldy Fire – the largest fire in the history of New Mexico -- burned through nearly half of the existing Gila trout streams and fish were eliminated from six of the eight streams that were within the burn area. Gila trout were evacuated from three streams following the fire, including Spruce Creek.

Those fish from Spruce Creek were transported to Ash Creek, where last week they once again were salvaged.

The South Diamond Creek lineage of Gila trout were introduced into Frye Creek beginning in 2009, and this wild population was the first to open to catch-and-release angling for Gila trout in recent Arizona history.

Held At Hatchery

All Gila trout rescued last week are being held at Mora National Fish Hatchery. The fish from Frye Creek will be used to supplement the South Diamond brood stock. The fish from Ash Creek will be held at the hatchery until an alternative stream is identified, or if conditions in the creek are deemed suitable for the fish following post-monsoon evaluations.

Trout Fishing In The Cool Pines Is A Refreshing Remedy To Triple-Digit Heat

For desert dwellers itching to escape the triple-digit heat, there's a refreshing remedy – head to the cool, pine-scented high country for some of the extra trout that Arizona Game and Fish Department employees and volunteers having been stocking.

As desert temperatures consistently crack 100 degrees in the Valley, visit the mountain regions before the summer heat raises lake temperatures and trout activity patterns slow down. Summer has officially started, yet great spring-like fishing remains – for now.

Extra-Heavy Stocking

Due to evacuation of the Tonto Creek Hatchery earlier this month during the Highline Fire, Willow Springs Lake on the Mogollon Rim was stocked extra-heavy with 7,080 catchable rainbow trout and a similar number of tiger trout. Also, nearby Woods Canyon Lake was stocked recently with 7,800 catchable rainbow trout as well as tiger trout.

There are many scenic, family friendly streams in Rim country that are consistently stocked, such as Tonto Creek, Canyon Creek and the East Verde River. In

the White Mountains, try the East Fork of the Black River, Little Colorado River in Greer, Show Low Creek or Silver Creek – all are fishing excellent.

In the Flagstaff and Williams region, possible hot spots to try are Ashurst, Kaibab and Dogtown lakes.

Where The Money Comes From

More than half of the money used for the AZGFD hatchery program comes from the Sport Fish Restoration Program. It was created through the Dingell-Johnson Act of 1950 (Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act) and the Wallop-Breaux amendments of 1984.

Through a federal excise tax paid by manufacturers on fishing gear and mo-



torboat fuels, it provides grant funds for fishery conservation, boating access, and aquatic education.

And if you don't have a license, purchase one online, 24/7. A General Fishing License is \$37 for residents and \$55 for non-residents, Combo Hunt & Fish Licenses are \$57 and Youth Combo Hunt and Fish Licenses are \$5. All are good for 365 days from the date of purchase and help conserve wildlife.

For more information, sign up for our Weekly Fishing Report or visit azgfd.gov.

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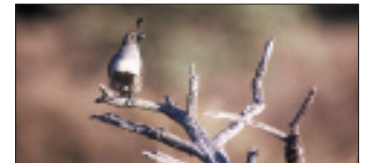
Arizona's quail hunters have had it rough. Ask them to recount their best hunt in the past few years, and most will look down at their dust-covered hunting boots and shake their heads.

Well, if the results from the latest Gambel's quail call counts are any indication, those hunters just might find a few more birds to chase when the 2017-18 general season opens statewide Oct. 6.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department conducted its traditional call-count routes from about mid-April to mid-May near Oracle. A call count involves department personnel stopping every mile along a 20-mile route, then recording the number of calls made during a three-minute span.

Numbers Up

The scale ranges from zero to 3,500 calls. If 1,000 to 2,000 calls are heard



over the course of a 20-mile route, those results would indicate that hunters could expect good, or even very good, hunting.

This year's results indicated numbers are up from 2016 and higher than the average of the last 10 years (2008-2017). The combined call count from along Freeman and Willow Springs roads was 2,336 – almost double from last year (1,293). The average over the past 10 years is 1,870.

'Things Look Good This Year'

"Things look good this year," said Johnathan O'Dell, the department's small

See **QUAIL CALL**, Page 17



ONLINE RESOURCE — The 2017 edition of "Hunt Arizona," the Arizona Game and Fish Department's yearly compilation of big and small game hunting statistics, is now available online at www.azgfd.com/Hunting/surveydata. The free, downloadable, PDF publication includes draw, survey and harvest statistics for a five-year period, as well as information on distribution, life history and behavior of big game, small game and other wildlife.

NASCAR's Childress Gives Back To Hunting, Fishing, Conservation

Richard Childress is best known for his success on the NASCAR circuits but has also become one of the great champions of conservation. His success on the track has enabled him to give back to the activities he enjoys most - hunting and fishing - and help conserve wildlife and wild places for future generations. Childress is serving as Honorary Chair for the 2017 National Hunting and Fishing Day set for Sept. 23.

Early Love Of Outdoors

Childress's love for the outdoors was instilled at an early age with forays into the North Carolina woods with his stepfather and step-grandfather. His life as an outdoorsman began with trapping and hunting small game. Other days were spent at local ponds or lakes learning the best way to trick a bass or crappie to bite the end of his line. The tradition has continued throughout Childress' life and now he can be found hunting big game in Montana or bone fishing off the shore of Cuba.

"I was just a kid that loved the outdoors and got to spend time in the outdoors," said Childress. "There was a lake close to us that we would go catch a few bluegill. That's how I started out. I was just real fortunate to have mentors that carried me out into the great outdoors to enjoy that great experience."

Early Passion For Racing

Along with his love for the outdoors, Childress found his passion for racing at an early age as well. As a child, Childress earned money at Bowman Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem, N.C., by selling peanuts and popcorn. Childress idolized drivers such as Cale Yarborough and David Pearson and dreamed of becoming a professional stock car racer like his heroes.

The soon-to-be racer made his first bid into competition by buying a used taxicab for \$20. The purchase was split between Childress and a friend. The duo flipped a coin to determine who would drive with Childress winning the honor, beginning a career in racing that has spanned decades and spawned the most successful racing team in the history of NASCAR — Richard Childress Racing (RCR).



Richard Childress



NASCAR Crew

A Bit Of Luck

In the fall of 1969, a bit of luck helped Childress compete in his first NASCAR-sanctioned event when 16 drivers boycotted a race at Talladega Superspeedway. The fresh driver made a good showing with a 23rd-place finish.

Childress continued to race as much as possible and served as the driver, mechanic and chief engine builder. Childress experienced tough times as a one-man team, often working 18 to 20 hours a day and sometimes spending the night in the back of a truck.

Throughout his driving career, Childress experienced limited success but made 285 starts in NASCAR premier series races. Childress decided to hire a full-time driver and focus on team ownership. His first hire was Ricky Rudd who drove for Childress during the 1983 season and delivered RCR its first trip to victory lane at Riverside International Speedway.

This would prove to be the first of a litany of on-the-track successes, including two Daytona 500 championships — one from Dale Earnhardt in 1998 and one via Kevin Harvick in 2007.

In NASCAR Hall Of Fame

RCR has grown into one of the most

dominant racing team in NASCAR and what began as an one-man team has transformed into one of the largest organizations in NASCAR with more than 530 team members supporting multiple teams in the Cup and XFINITY Series. Childress became the first team owner to win championships in all three of NASCAR's top touring series and was inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame last January.

While Childress is still involved in the day-to-day operations of RCR, he does have interests away from the track. The former driver is passionately involved with conservation and youth outdoor education and is still and avid hunter and angler. Childress supports conservation not only with money but with his valuable time as well.

Dedicated Conservationist

Childress has served two terms on the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, which raised over \$1 million last year for conservation. Childress currently serves as the First Vice-President and as one of the Board of Directors for the National Rifle Association (NRA). He is also the Chairman of the NRA's Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Committee. The dedicated conservationist is a member of

the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and is one of the 100 members of the very first conservation group established in the U.S. — the Boone and Crockett Club.

Childress believes ensuring the future of hunting and fishing lies with getting today's youth involved in outdoor activities such as hunting and fishing.

"If you are a sportsman or an angler, the number one thing we want everyone to do is be a mentor to someone on National Hunting and Fishing Day," said Childress. "Let's go out and make the commitment to take someone out on this day and be a mentor."

About NHFD

National Hunting and Fishing Day, celebrated the fourth Saturday of every September, remains the most effective grassroots efforts ever undertaken to promote the outdoor sports and conservation. This year, September 23 is the day where sportsmen gather to celebrate past and present conservation efforts that make a difference each day.

For more information about National Hunting and Fishing Day visit. <http://www.nhfd.org> and Like us on Facebook.

ARIZONA LAKES, ARIZONA PROS: JOHN MURRAY

Try These Tips And Put Some Fish In The Boat

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

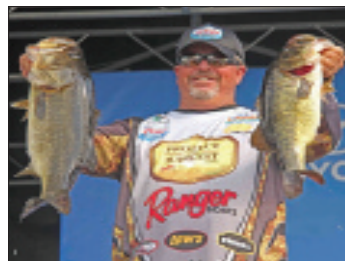
John Murray may have recently moved down south to be closer to the big tournament lakes, but the fact remains that he dominated bass fishing in Arizona for decades. He won so many tournaments that I lost count, and I've known him since he was really young.

One of the great things about Murray is that he is always willing to share his fishing knowledge with everyone — he is always doing seminars, giving talks on the bass tank, and going out with writers to do stories.

Doing Great In Bassmasters

Murray would probably still be in Arizona if he didn't value his family life so highly — but it's hard to travel to all those Bassmasters tournaments and leave your wife and son behind for weeks at a time. Murray is doing great in Bassmasters: He's been to the Classic 7 times, has been in the money 110 times, he has 3 wins, 24 top ten finishes, and has won over a million dollars.

And that's just in Bassmasters. Not telling how much he's won over his entire career. It boggles the mind. All this means that Murray is no stranger to tough conditions. When you fish tournaments you take the good with the bad, so John has good advice for when the bass seem



John Murray

to have lockjaw.

Doodling Is A Favorite

One of Murray's favorite ways to catch fish at Lake Pleasant is doodling. To him, doodling is a retrieve more than a rig. It means you're shaking the worm all the way back to the boat — not lifting or hopping, just shaking it gently as you drag it back.

This is one of his go-to techniques when fishing is really tough. It's most often a bottom-fishing method, but that depends on the terrain. In open water, doodle sliding is the way to go. For instance, Murray will sit over 50 feet of water and cast over a ridge into 30, and the instant the lure hits the surface, he starts shaking

it while swimming it back in a pendulum arc.

Best Colors

Best doodle colors are reds, browns, and greens. The same colors work for doodle sliding, or you can try smoke/blue or smoke/pearl. To rig a doodle worm, first slide a brass weight onto your line, then a faceted glass bead. Murray usually matches the bead to the worm. He uses 6-pound-test line and has caught tons of very big bass on this rig. DD worms, Don Iovino's worms (Don actually invented doodling), Robo Worms, and Berkley Power Worms all work well. He likes a curly tail in warmer water and a straight tail in cold water.

Bite Feels Like Mush

To fish this rig, he uses a 7-foot, medium light spinning rod and ¼- or 3/16-ounce weights with a 1/0 Gamakatsu offset worm hook. The worm should have a lot of salt or flavor so the fish hold on to it. The bite, he says, usually feels like mush.

You'll probably have a lot of light line out with that light hook, so Texpose it (rig the worm Texas style, but leave the point just outside the worm instead of slipping it back under the skin), and when you get

Joe Foss Shooting Complex Is Temporarily Closed

The Joe Foss Shooting Complex at Buckeye Hills Regional Park is temporarily closed to the public while Maricopa County's Parks and Recreation Department fleshes out contract negotiations with a potential new operator.

This decision affects public use of the Joe Foss Shooting Complex which has been open to the public Thursday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and includes the following facilities and amenities:

- The administration and retail building which houses the office, classrooms and restrooms,
- Public training range (50 yards; 40 shooting lanes),
- Public multi-use range (200 yards; 40 shooting lanes),
- Public Archery Range,
- Public Shotgun Range, and
- The hunter education trail

See **FISHING TIPS**, Page 17

Finding Right Outdoor Skills Event Is A Lot Easier

AZGFD, partners offer dozens of events now organized by skill level, interest.

When it comes to choosing a “how-to” outdoor skill event, one size does not fit all. So, where does one begin? Look no further than the Arizona Game and Fish Department, along with its extensive network of partnering organizations, which offers dozens of events throughout the year to suit almost everyone’s needs through the Outdoor Skills Network.

Those events now appear in a new format, organized based on skill level and interest:

- **Introductory:** No hunting or pursuit of wildlife, shooting lessons, instructional, typically one-day activity. Introductory – knowledge or information imparted.

- **Beginner:** Basic take of wildlife, one-day event, pass shooting, species include dove, ducks, squirrel. Beginner – a

person who is inexperienced, novice, a person who has begun a course of instruction or is learning the fundamentals.

- **Developing:** Pursuit of wildlife, overnight events, remote locations, species include quail, rabbit, predators, javelina, turkey. Developing – one who is learning by practical experience under skilled workers of a trade, art or calling.

- **Intermediate:** Pursuit of more challenging species, deer, elk, stalking, remote locations, overnight, a lot of field time. Intermediate – applies some already learned basic skills to adapt and meet the next level of learning, skill development.

- **Experienced:** Coming soon, minimal mentoring, base camps and “meet-ups.” Experienced – having knowledge or skill in a particular field, especially a

profession or job, gained over a period of time.

“We are really excited with this new format,” said Doug Burt, the department’s hunting and shooting sports program manager. “We hope it’s better for the customers to find what’s right for them.

The new format can be found on pages 24-29 of the “2017-18 Arizona Hunting Regulations” and by visiting www.azgfd.gov/OutdoorSkills.

In an ongoing effort to better serve the public, the department recently launched a new online registration system. It’s a winning combination that’s customer-focused and mobile-friendly, as well as a time-saver.

Of course, event types and descriptions are merely guidelines. Most events offer activities that are suitable for all skill levels, from hunting, fishing and shooting to learning more about wildlife, habitat and conservation.

“In the end, we want the attendee to



have the right expectations and the right experience,” Burt said. “That’s the key to keeping folks engaged in hunting and traditional outdoor recreation activities.”

There is no cost to Arizona taxpayers for this program. Game and Fish does not receive any of the state’s general tax funds and operates under a user-pay, public-benefit model. The program is an investment in the continuance of wildlife conservation efforts and outdoors recreation participation in Arizona.

To learn more about how hunters, anglers, shooters and boaters fund wildlife conservation, visit www.azgfd.gov/h/f/federal-aid-cycle.shtml.

A MINI-MAUSER

The Remarkable Gunsmiths Fire Up Another Restoration

BY MIKE BERGER AND PAT KNIGHT

It was a fun road trip. Prescott is a beautiful city, and the drive up always seems to be a pleasant outing; besides, the destination is not only the city.

For those of you who haunt gun shops, looking for deals, military surplus, bulk ammo etc., if you have not been to J&G Sales, let’s just say that you are missing out. Through the years, I have obtained



some very sweet deals on some great guns. Besides, the trip allowed us the opportunity to have a Ruben Sandwich at the Dinner Bell, a place I found on a previous trip with my son-in-law, Tim.

Mini-Mauser Is Eye Catcher

One of the firearms that had caught my interest was a Mini-Mauser. This was made by a company called Zastava Arms in Serbia. Sold as the model 85, it was also



The Gunsmiths: Pat Knight (left), Mike Berger

marketed by Remington as the Model 799. Zastava has been around, and making guns since 1853. Located in Kragujevac (easy for you to say, and spelled just like it sounds...) (note: I walk a thin line here as my wife is of Serbian descent), they have been making Mauser-designed products since 1880 for noted firms and countries to include FN in Belgium.

Two Calibers To Consider

There were a couple of example rifles up on the display wall, but one of the nice things about J&G is they will allow you to see several if they have them, so you can select your rifle. There were two calibers available, both of military origins.

The first was 5.56 x 45 mm, our standard military rifle cartridge. This is the military designation of the commercial .223 Remington, with a couple of small differences adopted during development. The military specification calls for a longer throat area in the chamber, and allows for a slightly higher chamber pressure.

It was nice that the Zastava had the military spec. chamber to allow a greater selection of ammo. It can, however, have an effect on accuracy. There are actually three very similar chambers out there — the previously described 5.56 x 45, the .223 Remington, and the .223 Wylde (a hybrid chamber, which permits the use of cartridges of either specification).

The second caliber available was the Russian standard 7.62 x 39 mm of AK 47 fame. This weapon, along with its predecessor the SKS, do not have reputations for stellar accuracy, and yet custom rifles have been built with rounds based on this case, with some very impressive results.

Decision: One Of Each!

The price was right, so as Pat and I looked over several examples, the question was which caliber to choose. And then it hit me: “Mini” means small, so if they are small, I will just get two. One of each! The wood stocks selected had nice figure, with one light and the other dark, to make it easy to tell them apart.

I finally admit to being a bit different, in that neither rifle was fired as it came. Instead, they were both disassembled, glass bedded and the barrels floated, as well as the triggers tuned. Rings and mounts were obtained, and the rifles scoped. I envisioned the 5.56 x 45mm as an excellent rifle to promote the grandkids from

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WILLIE AND THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

ASU Grad Has Realized His Dream

On July 4, Willie Schulz successfully made his swim across the English Channel

BY CAROL L. ALLEN
WITH KATHY SCHULZ

It is with great pleasure that we send heartfelt congratulations to Willie Schulz, an ASU graduate, who swam across the English Channel on July 4 of this year. Schulz is married to Kathy (nee Charles), daughter of Joan and Dale Charles of Tempe, Ariz.

Schulz grew up in Ketchikan, Alaska, and moved to Tempe in 1984 to attend Arizona State University; he left the state for California in 1997. Schulz and his family (his wife and three children) now live Ketchikan.

When the Schulzes lived in the San Diego area, Willie began distance swim-

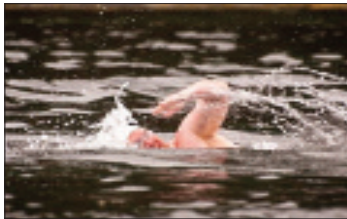


Kathy And Willie Schulz



Schulz Success!

See **DREAM**, Page 17



In The Channel

Swimming Near Boat Docks Claims More Lives

BoatUS gives six tips to prevent a tragedy with a summertime ritual.

The recent fatalities of an 11-year-old girl in New Jersey and a 19-year-old man in Ohio are bringing scrutiny to an age-old summer ritual that's common on waterfronts across America: swimming near boat docks.

Initial reports say the youngster died when touching a dock's electrified boat-lift, and the Ohio teen died as a result of dangerous electrical current in the water while trying to save his father and family dog that also appeared to be stricken by the electrical current.

The BoatUS Foundation, the boating-safety arm of the nation's largest recreational boat-owners group, has some tips to prevent an electrocution tragedy.

Deaths In Two Categories

While swimming deaths due to electricity fall into two categories, electrocution and electric shock drowning (ESD), both can be prevented the same way. Electrocution can happen in fresh or salt water when swimmers make contact with energized metal dock fittings, boats or other structures due to faulty alternating



BRIAN FITZGERALD

SHOCKING SWIM — This looks innocent enough. But, is there electricity in the water? Boaters and parents need to know about electric shock drowning and what to do to save a life.

current (AC) wiring.

ESD occurs when AC gets into fresh water from faulty wiring and passes through a swimmer, causing paralysis or even sudden death. Unlike electrocution, with ESD a swimmer does not need to be touching a boat or dock structure, and even minute amounts of electricity can be incapacitating and lead to drowning.

The Greatest Risk

The risk of ESD is greatest in fresh or brackish water, so some areas such as estuaries or rivers may only be in the danger zone after heavy rains. In salt water, electrical current takes the path of least resistance, bypassing swimmers.

Unlike drowning swimmers, who typically can't yell out for help because their mouths are mostly underwater, an ESD victim is often confused about what is happening, may be able to shout, and will feel numbness, tingling, pain and paralysis. Tingling in the swimmer's body is one

See **BOAT DOCKS**, Page 17

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IF YOU ARE A SENIOR

Get Your 'America The Beautiful' Passes Now

On August 28, the price of the America the Beautiful – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass — will increase for the first time since 1994. The additional revenue will be used to enhance the visitor experience in parks. Learn more about the changes, what they mean for you, and how the additional funds will be used.

Why is the price of the Senior Pass increasing? The price of the America the Beautiful – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass — is increasing as result of the Centennial Legislation P.L. 114-289 passed by the US Congress on December 16, 2016.

When was the last time the price increased for the Senior Pass? The Senior Pass has been \$10 since 1994.

How much is it increasing? The lifetime Senior Pass will increase from \$10 to \$80.

Why \$80? The legislation states that the cost of the lifetime Senior Pass be equal to the cost of the annual America the Beautiful – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass, which is currently \$80.

What if a senior citizen is on a fixed

budget? The legislation also establishes an annual Senior Pass for \$20. That pass is valid for one year from the date of issuance. Four annual Senior Passes purchased in prior years can be traded in for a lifetime pass. Additionally, access to the majority of National Park Service sites remains free — only 118 of 417 National Park Service sites have an entrance fee.

What if I have a current Senior Pass (or a Golden Age Passport)? The current passes are lifetime passes and will remain valid.

Will the benefits of my Senior Pass change? No. All benefits of the current Senior Pass stay the same.

What if my current Senior Pass is lost or stolen? Passes are non-refundable and non-transferable and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. If lost or stolen, a new pass will need to be purchased.

Who is eligible for a Senior Pass? U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 years or older are eligible for the Senior Pass.

What does the Senior Pass provide? Annual and lifetime Senior Passes provide access to more than 2,000 recreation sites managed by six federal agencies:

- National Park Service
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- US Forest Service
- US Army Corps of Engineers

The passes cover entrance and standard amenity (day-use) recreation fees and provide discounts on some expanded amenity recreation fees.

Are there any other benefits from a Senior Pass? Yes, traveling companions can also enter for free. The Senior Passes admit pass owner/s and passengers in a noncommercial vehicle at per-vehicle fee areas and pass owner plus three adults, not to exceed four adults, where per-person fees are charged. (Children under 16 are always admitted free.)

Also, at many sites, the Senior Passes provide the pass owner (only) a discount on Expanded Amenity Fees (such as camping, swimming, boat launching, and guided tours).

How can I purchase a Senior Pass? Senior Passes can be purchased at any federal recreation site, including national parks, that charges an entrance or standard amenity (day-use) fee. Proof of age

and residency is required. See the complete list of sites where the pass is available (PDF). Passes can also be purchased online or through the mail from USGS; an additional \$10 processing fee will be added to the price. Visit the USGS store to buy the pass online or find instructions for purchasing by mail.

Will the money from the sales of Senior Passes sold in national parks benefit the National Park Service? Yes, the funds from all Senior Passes purchased in a national park will go to a National Park Foundation Endowment and a National Park Centennial Challenge Fund, both authorized by the Centennial Legislation.

What is the National Park Foundation Endowment? The first \$10 million collected by the National Park Service in each fiscal year from Senior Pass sales will be deposited in the Second Century Endowment for the National Park Service managed by the National Park Foundation. The foundation is the congressionally authorized philanthropic partner, or official charity, of the National Park Service. Funds within the Second Century

See **SENIOR PASSES**, Page 17

There Are Beautiful Places To Cool Off Here In Arizona

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

In Arizona, people tend to think of heading north to cool off in the summer, but there are many places in the southern and eastern areas of our beautiful state that also offer higher altitudes, cool forests, and great hikes. These places include Mt. Lemmon near Tucson, the Pinaleno mountains near Safford, and the Mt. Baldy Wilderness near Greer.

Mt. Lemmon

In July, the Burro fire was raging and crews were using the Mount Lemmon highway as a firebreak. Residents, campers and hikers were forced to evacuate, but hopefully by the time this article is published, the fire will be a thing of the past. However, there are several big fires burning in southern Arizona right now. When we visited the Chiricahuas earlier this summer, fire crews from all over the country were battling six different fires in the area. So make sure you check before you go to make sure that the area you want to visit is safe.

A Gorgeous Place To Visit

That being said, if Mt. Lemmon is open, it's a gorgeous place to visit. The Mt. Lemmon Scenic Byway takes you to the upper regions of the Santa Catalina Mountains and Mt. Lemmon. In this case, the road itself is part of the experience because of the cool rock formations and the gorgeous views you'll see from the road. There are plenty of places to pull over and take photos, and there are also lots of hiking trails, campgrounds, and picnic areas.

The road is paved and everyone except really big motor homes, buses, and



View On Road To Mt. Lemmon

trailers over 22 feet will be fine. The longer vehicles might have a hard time going around the sharp turns and handling the steep grades, and there aren't many places to turn around. The road is 28 miles long and will take you one to two hours. It took us a long time because we stopped everywhere — it's so pretty!

To Get There

To get there, take Tanque Verde Road east from Tucson to the Catalina Highway and follow it to the top. The name changes to Hitchcock Highway when you enter the national forest. There is another way up the mountain from Oracle, and that is a dirt road that is popular with off-roaders. Hoping to write about that soon!

Observatory At Top


At the top of Mt. Lemmon is an observatory that used to be an Air Force radar base. It is now used for astronomical research. They have visitor programs and if you go online you can buy tickets and get on the waiting list for their SkyNights

See **COOL OFF**, Page 15

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Overlooking Forest On Mt. Lemmon

COOL OFF

Continued from page 12

StarGazing programs. You will get to use a telescope and a professional astronomer will help you to see astronomical objects. When you go online and “buy” a ticket (the price is \$0), you are placed on the wait list.

If the weather cooperates and they are able to do the stargazing, they will call you on the morning of the program you signed up for. Monsoon storms can change things, which is why it’s a wait list. You won’t be asked for a credit card or anything since you’re not buying anything.

Make sure you allow at least 90 minutes to get to the observatory from Tucson.

High And Cool

At the ski resort on Mt. Lemmon, Ski Valley, you can ride the lift in the summer. It takes about a half hour and gives you great views while taking you up to an elevation of 9100 feet. It’s \$12 for adults, \$9 for youths, \$7 for children, and \$9 for seniors and the military. Go to skithelemmon.com for more information.

The top of Mt. Lemmon, at 9,157 feet, is twenty degrees cooler than the desert below, which makes it a great place for a summer visit.

There are several good campgrounds on the slopes, and the Rose Canyon Campground and Rose Canyon Lake offer fishing. Rose Canyon Lake covers 7 acres in the ponderosa pines. Fishing for rainbow trout is from the shore only – no boats allowed. The trout are stocked from April through the end of August.

There is also a nice trail around the lake (Rose Canyon Lake Trail #37), with several logs along the way so you can sit and enjoy yourself. It costs \$10 a day to park and Arizona Game and Fish regulations apply, so you need a valid fishing license to fish. Drinking water and toilets are available.



Little Colorado

Campgrounds Available

The campground near the lake has 43



Mt. Baldy Wilderness

sites that are available on a first-come, first-served basis, or you can reserve one of thirty sites by going to www.recreation.gov or calling 1-877-6777. The Senior pass gives you 50% off the regular camping fee of \$22 for up to 6 people. An extra vehicle is \$9.

There are many more campgrounds at Mt. Lemmon, and you can find a ton of information at fs.usda.gov, or just Google Santa Catalina Mountains and click on the Forest Service link that you will see. This site is also an excellent place to get information on fire closures.

Mt. Baldy Wilderness Area

Mt. Baldy is an extinct volcano 11,403 feet high. The wilderness covers 6,814 gorgeous acres, and it’s one of the most popular hiking areas in Arizona. The mountain itself is inside the White Mountain Apache Reservation and the wilderness area is on the eastern slope of the mountain.

West Baldy Trail

One of the most popular trails is the one we took our granddaughters to just last month — the West Baldy Trail. This pretty and fairly easy trail follows the Little Colorado River for seven miles, then joins up with the East Baldy Trail near the boundary of the reservation.

So if you want to, you can make it a 14-mile loop trail. We, however, chose to simply walk a few miles along the river and enjoy the cool breezes and the beauty of the river and the forest.

There were a lot of wildflowers along



Granddaughter Trinity On West Baldy Trail

the trail, including irises, and lots of butterflies to go with them. The girls (our granddaughters) spent quite a bit of time coaxing butterflies to land on their fingers. Lots of great Instagram moments.

The trail is fairly easy for the first hour and a half or so, then it gets steeper and starts switchbacking up the mountain. It’s a popular place for waders, hikers, and fishermen. We also saw a large group on horseback (two were on mules, and we just had to laugh at the way their ears flop back and forth at every step).

The further you go, of course, the fewer people you will see. We make a pact to come back when we have more time and do the entire 14 mile loop. I’d love to see the views from the mountain.

To Get There

To get to the trailhead, go west on State Route 260 from Eagar to State Route 273. Turn left onto 273 and it’s 7.6 miles to the trailhead. We actually passed that area and drove down the road just a bit to the bridge at Sheep Crossing where you can park and pick up the Railroad Grade Trail and jump onto West Baldy Trail from there. You can find all kinds of information about camping and trails at the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest website. When we were there, we stayed at Reed’s Lodge in Springerville. It’s a super place – we had a big two-room suite that was very comfortable and quiet, plus there was a pool table in the rec room and



Grant Creek — On Road To Riggs Flat Lake

lots of games. We had a blast. We also got a discount at Booga Reds restaurant across the street. Highly recommend both places.

Caves

Finally, caves are perfect places to cool off in the summer. They are naturally cool and dark. Some of our favorites include Colossal Cave near Tucson (check for Groupons before you go!), Kartchner Caverns near Sierra Vista (make reservations online), and the Lava Tube cave near Flagstaff.

I’ve always wanted to visit the Grand Canyon Caverns as well, and someday I will. All of these caves except the Lava Tube Cave offer tours as the only way to visit the cave.

Enjoy, Have Fun Safely

So there you have it. These are just a few of the many beautiful and cool places to visit during the summer in Arizona. Just remember that the monsoon season could throw some intense thunderstorms at you, so exercise common sense when starting off on a hike in the summer. Have fun, stay cool, and be safe!

Editor’s Note: Margie Anderson hopes to re-visit and write later about the Pinaleno Mountains — another cool retreat — when she returns to the area and surveys the damage there from this summer’s Frye fire.





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Western Wildlife



Conservationists To Be Honored At Outdoor Hall Of Fame Banquet

The Wildlife for Tomorrow Foundation, together with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, will induct five individuals into the Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame.

The Foundation's 20th Annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place during the annual Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Embassy Suites Scottsdale at 5001 N. Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale.

The inductees for this year's event include the following:

- **Steve Hirsch, of Phoenix**, is being inducted posthumously. Steve was a prominent attorney, avid outdoorsman and the son of Bob Hirsch, a prior Hall of Fame inductee and acclaimed outdoors columnist. Steve's passion for Arizona and its wildlife led him to serve as a director and the president of the Wildlife for Tomorrow Foundation for more than 16 years. Steve's leadership and vision provided the driving force for Wildlife for Tomorrow as it worked closely with the department to support projects that benefited the management and enjoyment of Arizona's fish and wildlife resources, youth educational activities and projects that made a difference to wildlife habitat in our state.

- **Larry Voyles, of Phoenix**, has de-

voted his 43-year career to wildlife conservation and outdoor heritage, including nine years as director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. He began his career with AZGFD as a wildlife manager and in 2008 was selected as the agency's director. He worked to modernize the department and unified the 50 states' conservation agencies to improve wildlife conservation efforts nationwide. He is a national leader in shooting sports, recruitment and retention.

- **Jean Wilson, of Yuma**, who has served Yuma County readers for decades through her outdoors column in the Yuma Sun and has dedicated her life to encouraging families and children to appreciate the outdoors. She regularly runs clinics and classes designed to get people to enjoy fishing, hunting and archery.

- **Steve Clark, of Glendale**, who is a founding member of the Arizona Elk Society and has worked tirelessly for the past 17 years to carry the organization and its mission forward. He also serves on the Arizona Livestock Recovery Board and the Arizona Natural Resources Committee, was recognized as Civilian Conservationist of the Year in 2010 by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and Conservationist of the Year in 2015 by the Arizona Game

and Fish Department.

- **Warner Glenn, of Douglas**, a fourth-generation Arizona cattle rancher who operates two ranches in Cochise County. In addition to ranching, he operates the hunting guide service established by his father - legendary hunter Marvin Glenn. In 1991, Warner Glenn was among the founders of the Malpai Borderlands Group, a conservation ranching organization that established a system of scientific-based ecosystem management on more than 1 million acres of ranch land in southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico.

More Information

The Hall of Fame event will include a social hour and silent auction beginning at 5:30 p.m., with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m., followed by the induction ceremony. The evening will also feature a live auction, exciting raffle prizes, and musical entertainment by the Back Porch Bandits.

Individual tickets are \$70. A table for 10 is \$700. A table of 10 and a full-page ad in the full-color banquet brochure is \$1,200. The options for ordering tickets are:

Download a ticket ordering form, fill in the requested information, and either

scan and e-mail to aabaily6@yahoo.com or mail Wildlife For Tomorrow, c/o Anne Bailey, 145 E. University Dr. Suite 5, Mesa, AZ 85201. Call Anne Bailey, Wildlife for Tomorrow board member and ticket chairwoman, at (480) 636-8975.

Purchase your tickets on the Wildlife for Tomorrow website at wildlifefortomorrow.org.

About Wildlife For Tomorrow

Wildlife for Tomorrow was created in 1990 to enhance the management, protection and enjoyment of Arizona's fish and wildlife resources. The foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works closely with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to provide additional support for projects and education activities where traditional resources are not adequate.

The Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame was developed in 1998 by the Wildlife for Tomorrow Foundation to honor those who have made significant contributions to Arizona's wildlife, the welfare of its natural resources and the state's outdoor heritage.

For more information, visit www.wildlifefortomorrow.org.

Nominations Sought For 2017 AZGF Commission Awards

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is soliciting nominations for its 2017 Commission Awards. The deadline for submission is Aug. 24. 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.

Nominations may include individuals, organizations, clubs, foundations or government agencies. Arizona Game and Fish Department employees are not eligible for nomination.

To submit a Commission Awards nomination, download a nomination form and submit the completed form and all supplemental materials to —

Arizona Game and Fish Department
Attn: 2017 Commission Awards
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086

Nominations also can be submitted via email to lroc@azgfd.gov or faxed to 623-236-7299. The submission deadline is 5 p.m. on Aug. 24, 2017.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission will select the 2017 Commission Award recipients at its Sept. 8-9, 2017, meeting. The awards will be presented at the annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet to be held on Jan. 13, 2018.

2017 Award Categories

Award Of Excellence: Any individual, group, organization, club, foundation, or agency that has excelled in efforts to benefit wildlife, wildlife habitats, or programs of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Youth Environmentalist Of The Year: Any individual, 18 years of age or younger, who has excelled in efforts to benefit wildlife and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Media Of The Year: Any media source (radio, television, magazine, newsletter, or periodical) or professional or freelance writer that has published articles or materials beneficial to public interest about wildlife or wildlife-related topics and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Conservation Organization Of The Year: Any organization, group, foundation, or agency that has excelled in efforts to enhance the welfare of wildlife, wildlife-related recreation, and the mission of the Game and Fish Department.

Conservationist Of The Year: Any individual, not associated with a professional agency, who has excelled in efforts to enhance, conserve, and manage wildlife or their habitats.

Natural Resource Professional Of The Year: Any individual who through a professional agency affiliation has excelled in efforts to enhance, conserve, and manage wildlife or their habitats.

Volunteer Of The Year: Any individual who, as a registered volunteer with the department, has excelled in efforts to support and benefit the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Educator Of The Year: Any individual whose educational activities have advanced and supported the welfare of wildlife, wildlife-related recreation, or



the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Mentor Of The Year: Any individual who has acted in the role of a mentor and whose efforts have resulted in the promotion and support of future wildlife conservation efforts and the development of future wildlife conservation leaders in Arizona.

Advocate Of The Year — State: Any individual who has engaged in political advocacy for the betterment of wildlife conservation and in the support of the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Advocate Of The Year Federal — Any individual who has engaged in political advocacy for the betterment of wildlife conservation and in the support of the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Business Partner Of The Year: Any business partner of the Arizona Game and Fish Department that actively promotes the department through innovative approaches, community involvement and a customer service focus that benefits the citizens of Arizona and supports the Game and Fish mission of wildlife conservation.

Buck Appleby Hunter Education Instructor Of The Year: Any hunter education instructor who actively participates in hunter education activities and demonstrates the highest level of customer service, dedication and professionalism during these activities.

To Download A Nomination Form

To download a nomination form or view a list of past award recipients, visit www.azgfd.com/agency/commission/awards.



CONGRATULATIONS! — Arizona Game and Fish video producer David Majure recently received three Excellence in Craft Awards from the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA). Majure was recognized for his work on the department's Arizona Wildlife Views TV show and received second and third-place awards in the TV/Video/Webcast contest categories: "Conservation or Nature", "Family Participation/Youth Outdoor Education", and "Gear/Technical".

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Also located inside Changing Hands Bookstores and now in Lake Havasu City at Southwest Kayak Center

Volunteers Needed For Arizona Antelope Foundation Project

Group plans fence modification Aug. 12 near Flagstaff.

The Arizona Antelope Foundation is seeking volunteers Aug. 12 for a fence modification project in the Spring Valley-Government Prairie area about 17 miles west of Flagstaff and 11 miles north of Interstate 40.

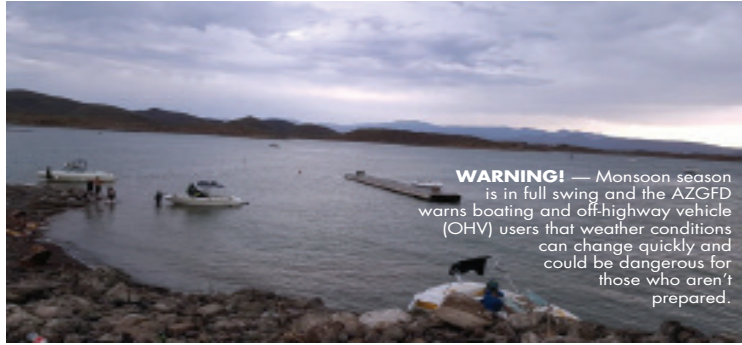
The project activity includes removing fencing around a wildlife water and modifying fencing to pronghorn-friendly standards in various locations. The project will improve an existing pronghorn movement corridor from their summer range on Government Prairie to winter habitat in the Ida and Babbitt grasslands to the north.

The project begins at 8 a.m. Aug. 12. The organization will provide dinner for all volunteers Aug. 11-12 and continental breakfasts Aug. 12-13. Volunteers are asked to provide their own lunch to eat in the field Aug. 12. Volunteers also should bring work gloves, snacks, water, person-



al gear and an orange safety vest (otherwise, one will be provided).

Sign up by Aug. 8 by e-mailing info@azantelope.org. For more information, contact Glen Dickens at (520) 247-4907. For a printer-friendly map to the campsite, visit www.azantelope.org.



WARNING! — Monsoon season is in full swing and the AZGFD warns boating and off-highway vehicle (OHV) users that weather conditions can change quickly and could be dangerous for those who aren't prepared.

QUAIL CALL

Continued from page 10

game biologist. "We're 25 percent above the 10-year average and certainly better than last year for Gambel's at 80 percent higher than in 2016.

"We're still slightly below average in

terms of population numbers, and it still will take several years of average or better winter rains to bring us back up into the black."

More at www.azgfd.com/hunting/species/smallgame/quail/. Also, watch how O'Dell field-dresses quail at www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gRwZAcWzzk.

DREAM

Continued from page 13

ming on a USA swim club team and started ocean swimming in 1997.

Although shoulder issues prevented him from completing his first attempt at the Channel in 2014 (he made it 16 miles), he vowed to return and try again.

Now, in 2017, Willie has definitely earned his success, swimming from Shakespeare's Beach in Dover, England, to Strouann Beach, just south of Wissant, France. Willie trained on his own, with support from physical therapy to help his shoulder problems.

Next on this ambitious swimmer's list is to swim around Manhattan, a total of 26 miles.

Schulz lists past swim successes as the following:

- In 2002, he swam the Catalina Channel, a total of 21 miles;
- In 2001, he swam for the American Diabetes Association in La Jolla Cove, Calif., a distance of 10 miles;
- In 2000, he swam from Alcatraz to Chrissy Field, a total of three miles, and
- Every year for the past eleven years, he has swum around Pennock Island, Ketchikan, a total of 8.5 miles.

SENIOR PASSES

Continued from page 14

Endowment will be expended on projects and activities approved by the Secretary of Interior to further the mission and purpose of the National Park Service.

What is the National Park Centennial Challenge Fund? All revenues collected from sales by the National Park Service of National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Passes, that are in excess of \$10 million will be deposited in the National Park Centennial Challenge Fund. The funds will be used

for projects and programs approved by the Secretary of the Interior to the mission of the National Park Service and to enhance the visitor experience in National Park System units. Projects and programs will require at least a one-to-one match by non-federal donations.

Where will the money go if I purchase a Senior Pass from another agency? Eighty to one hundred percent of funds from Senior Passes sold by the other five agencies will be retained by the site where they are sold and spent on visitor-related projects and programs.

FISHING TIPS

Continued from page 11

bit, sweep and use the reel to set the hook. The longer 7-foot rod helps get you better hooksets.

Doodling isn't the best technique for finding fish, but it's one of the best ways to catch as many fish as possible off a spot. When you know they're there but you can't get them to bite, try doodling. Make as much noise with as little movement as possible.

Locating Fish

To locate fish, look for shad and determine how deep they are, then locate the best possible structure at that depth. This means things like extended reefs, sheer rocky bluffs or cliffs, and creek channels. Murray says that some of the best fish he's ever caught have been fish that he never saw on the graph.

More Doodling Tips

Some final doodling tips: Murray finds it works even better if you work uphill, especially in rising water conditions. If the water is falling, work it downhill. It's also an excellent vertical technique — his favorite is to stay right on top of the structure and move the boat instead of moving the line.

If he's fishing deeper than 30 feet this is the technique he'll try use every time, because using the trolling motor and electronics give you a better feel and more control over what your lure is doing down there.

The time of day isn't that important, but doodling is great in the middle of the day (10-2) especially when fishing is tough. Murray will generally try more aggressive tactics early and late.

Try these tips from Arizona pro John Murray when the fishing gets really tough. I bet you'll put some fish in the boat!

BOAT DOCKS

Continued from page 13

of the early warning signs of ESD.

Prevention

What can you do to prevent an electrocution or ESD fatality? Here are six tips: **Never swim** around boat docks that use electricity.

Post "no swimming" signs. **Have a qualified electrician** with experience in dock electrical service inspect your private dock annually.

Install ground-fault protection on your boat and private dock.

Ask your marina if they have installed ground-fault protection, and if the electrical system is inspected and tested annually—just in case someone falls overboard. *No one should ever swim in a marina.*

Periodically test your boat for electrical leakage into the water.

Be Careful With Rescue

What do you do if you see a distressed person in the water near a boat dock? A drowning victim often looks "playful," while an electric shock drowning victim looks "distressed." It may be difficult, however, to immediately determine either, so play it safe by not jumping in.

The first task is to shut off power to the dock at the breaker panel, and if equipped, disconnect any power cable to the vessel. If power cannot be shut down, follow the "reach, throw, row, but don't go" mantra by using an oar, boat hook or throw a flotation device to reach the stricken person.

For more information, parents, dock owners, boaters, and marina and boat club operators can go to the BoatUS Electric Shock Drowning Resource Center at www.BoatUS.com/Seaworthy/ESD.

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GUNSMITHS

Continued from page 12

.22 s with, not to mention a fun, plinker.

Just The Ticket

The 7.62 x 39 brought other thoughts to mind. My home in Florence is located in Javelina Central. We are totally surrounded by areas that are prime Javelina habitat, and a very liberal availability of tags from the Arizona Game and Fish Department. An accurate bolt action rifle in this caliber would be just the ticket, and with a starting weight of just over 7 pounds, a lighter weight would be an added bonus.

The 5.56 x 45 rifle met and exceeded every accuracy expectation. It seemed to shoot anything well, from military surplus NATO specification ball, to the hand loads I had worked up for my old Remington 700 Varmint Special.

A Different Story Altogether

The 7.62 x 39 was a different story altogether. The steel-cased, poly coated ammo was difficult to extract, and after trying numerous reloads and types of factory ammo, to say that I was disappointed would be a gross understatement. The only load that shot well was the Winchester white box stuff. I tried getting as close to the same velocity as I could, identical bullet weights loaded in their cases. I even pulled the Winchester bullets and



tried substituting a hunting bullet of the same weight, but nothing worked.

Then Pat decided to measure the barrel. Some 7.62 x 39 barrels were made with a .308 bore, but most were bored .310. The bad news was that this barrel had squeaked past quality control at a loose .311 bore diameter. No wonder there was an accuracy problem.

What To Do?

The question was now what to do. I have no doubt that a call to Zastava would have resulted in their correcting the problem, and yet there were other more interesting possibilities. Having a rifle that is different than someone else's is a large part of the gunsmithing that we do. Looking at the barrels in stock resulted in locating a 24 inch light contour fluted stainless steel .308 diameter blank.

Having the longer barrel would allow the opportunity to play with some non-typical powders, and the Lee Precision reloading dies come with neck expanders in both .308 and .310 diameters. Also, the bullet selection for .308 diameter is phenomenal. A quick check showed that a chamber reamer with a .308 diameter pilot was available. So we were all set — wait, not so fast!

Disassembly was straight forward until it revealed the receiver threads. They

were metric 26 x 1.5 LH, and were not available on the lathe. I was very concerned, but Pat had a solution that involved cutting the threads to 18 t.p.i., and then hand lapping them to fit the receiver.

Significant Work Involved

While this is simple in theory, the work involved was significant. We took turns, and Pat made it look easy. It wasn't, and it took a full week for my wrists to stop hurting. The result was a super fit, and the remainder of the barreling operation went without incident. Finished barrel length is now 23 inches with a recessed 11 degree target crown, and a matte stainless finish.

The rifle is just slightly muzzle heavy, and balances right behind the front receiver screw. Handling is excellent, and accuracy is now where it should be, with most loads under one inch. An interesting load that I am still developing uses a Barnes 110 grain TAC-TX FB designed for the .300 AAC Blackout cartridge. Using shortened Fiocchi cases to get back to the correct overall length, this load is showing exceptional potential. I am really looking forward to development of some heavier bullet loads (150- 168 grain range).

Good luck, and safe shooting

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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.

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SUMMER NIGHTS

Continued from page 9

Saguaro Lake tournaments remain suspended.

Cluff Pond No. 3 Reopens

We reopened Cluff Ranch Pond #3 to recreational activities in mid July after it was closed in June for use by U.S. Forest Service crews to help suppress the Frye Fire. The Cluff Ranch Ponds are located in the Cluff Ranch Wildlife Area off Cluff Ranch Road at the base of the Pinaleno Mountains.

Catch of the Week

Send your fishing reports and photos to BFishing@AZGFD.gov -- one will be selected as Catch of the Week.

Stocking Reports

At press time, recent stockings (sign up for I Support Wildlife for real-time and confirmed stocking reports) were at the following: Fool Hollow Lake, Show Low Lake, Silver Creek, East Fork Black River, Little Colorado River-Greer, Christopher Creek, Canyon Creek, East Verde River, Haigler Creek, Tonto Creek, Willow Springs Lake, Woods Canyon Lake, Oak Creek, Goldwater Lake, and Rose Canyon Lake.

BEN AVERY

Continued from page 9

Dean, range manager.

The two-week closure also will apply to the adjacent specialty ranges designated for user groups — Smallbore, Rifle 2 (which also will see improvements to its berm), Pistol 3 and Pistol 4.

Located on 1,650 acres in north Phoenix, the Ben Avery Shooting Facility is one of the nation's largest publicly operated shooting facilities, drawing more than 120,000 shooters each year. A City of Phoenix "Point of Pride," the facility has received a five-star rating from the National Association of Shooting Ranges.

For more information, visit www.azgfd.gov and click on "Shooting," or call (623) 582-8313.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Continued from page 1

And, Roosevelt Lake too offers excellent fishing: "Whether you are an experienced fisherman or just want something the whole family can do, you can't do any better than fishing at Roosevelt Lake. With more than 15,000 surface acres and near-record water levels, Roosevelt Lake is the largest man-made lake in Central Arizona — a water oasis just two hours away from Phoenix."

Finally, because there are so many waters available to us, overall, it seems that "fish to refresh" is not a bad idea at all during the Southwest summertime.

FISH REPORT

Continued from page 8

where walleye are holding. We caught a walleye on a surface lure last week in a tree top found in murky water.

More commonly a lure trolled just over the tops of a band of submerged trees is the best technique. Find trees that are at a common depth, then use a lure that runs about a foot above the brush for best results.

Catfish, Sunfish

Catfish are really big and fun to catch this year. Sunfish are in the trees and like to eat worms on a small hook with a bobber attached.

Challenging But Rewarding

Lake Powell fishing in the brush is unusual and may be challenging for those of us used to snag-free open water. The rewards are great when a new successful presentation is discovered. Lake Powell has lots of fish to catch. Sometimes trying new challenging techniques, like fishing in shallow brush, can be very rewarding.

At press time, lake elevation was 3635 and water temperature was 77-84F.

AMMONS

Continued from page 1

aged," Ammons said.

About The Commission

The commission oversees the Arizona Game and Fish Department and establishes policy for the management, conservation and harvest of wildlife. The commission makes rules and regulations for managing, conserving, and protecting wildlife and fisheries resources, and safe and regulated watercraft and off-highway vehicle operations for the benefit of the citizens of Arizona.

For more information about the commission, visit www.azgfd.gov/commission.

GRAY

Continued from page 1

the commission for the fair and thorough process they used in interviewing, vetting, and making the challenging decision of selecting a new director from among four candidates of the highest caliber, each of whom has been a tremendous asset to this agency and to the people of Arizona."

"I congratulate Ty on being selected director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department," said Governor Doug Ducey. "We look forward to working closely with Director Gray to ensure the health, abundance and variety of Arizona's wildlife."

More About The Director

Gray holds a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife Resource Management from the University of Nebraska.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department director is appointed by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, a five-member citizen board that sets policy and has broad oversight of the department. The director serves as the department's chief administrative officer and is responsible for the general supervision and control of all activities, functions and employees of the department.

FISH TALES

Continued from page 1

60 pounds have been reeled in at Roosevelt Lake.

The Arizona Fishing Guides calls Roosevelt Lake "the place to be for a serious bass fisherman. When timed right, this lake can kick out incredible numbers of largemouth bass, including some giant bass over 10 pounds." Arizona Fish and Game reports that, "For the first time in several years, schools of bluegill fish were also reported, which is a very positive sign that the fishery is improving." And with the warmer weather, larger schools of crappie are anticipated.

Enjoy A Beverage And A Bite

Roosevelt Lake Marina can make your fishing expedition even easier, as our Marina ShipStore has live bait available. After a day on the water, we encourage you to come back to the marina with your fish stories, and tell them to our guests at our Floating Bar, where you can enjoy a beverage and a bite.

Got Boat?

Freshwater fishing boats come in three main categories, according to boat.com: bass boats, multi-species boats and aluminum fishing boats. If you have your own boat, you can launch it from Roosevelt Lake Marina's ramp. In addition, by becoming a member of Roosevelt Lake Marina, you can store your boat in our dry-storage yards for added convenience.

For those who don't have their own fishing boats, you can rent one of our 18-foot pontoon boats, which are great for cruising and fishing.

Reel 'Em In At Rosie

Before heading to the lake, be sure to obtain your fishing license in advance through the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Licenses can be conveniently purchased online at Arizona Game and Fish Department website. Soon, you'll be reeling in the fish at the paradise that is Roosevelt Lake!



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Please call the Barrow Connection at 602-406-6280 for further questions.



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