



# Western Outdoor Times

FREE

## Arizona Boating & Watersports™



December 2014 - January 2015

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

FROM US TO YOU

Merry Christmas  
and Happy  
New Year!



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Target**

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**Western  
Wildlife**

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**Land  
Cruising**

Pages 11-14

*Handwritten signature*





# Season's Greetings, Happy Holidays

## Holiday Gifts For Outdoor Recreationists, Wildlife Lovers

*These affordable wildlife-friendly gift ideas benefit wildlife conservation.*

FROM AZGFD

What do you buy for the person who seems to have it all? Give them a gift this holiday that not only provides enjoyment for them, but also benefits wildlife conservation in Arizona.

This year, consider one of the many unique gift ideas the Arizona Game and Fish Department has to offer. Buyers are sure to find something for everyone with a variety of gift ideas and prices, including the following:

### Leftover Spring Big Game Hunt Tag

If the hunters on your holiday gift list missed the recent draw for 2015 spring hunts, a big game hunt this spring may still be in their future. Plenty of leftover hunt permit-tags for javelina are still available for purchase. A list of leftover tags and application instructions are available at [www.azgfd.gov/draw](http://www.azgfd.gov/draw).

### \$5 Youth Hunting/Fishing Combo License

For year-round enjoyment, purchase a \$5 youth hunting license for the children ages 10-17 in your family. It can lead to quality family time spent in the outdoors. The youth license allows take of all fish species statewide (in-



See GIFTS, Page 19



### ON THE COVER

## Cardinals Symbolize Our Best Wishes For The Season

Arizona is definitely associated with Cardinals (as in our football team) and, of course, with the birds that are found in part of our state.

The northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) is a North American bird in the genus *Cardinalis*; it is also known colloquially as the redbird or common cardinal.

See **CARDINALS**, Page 18



# It's ISE Time Again!

*The International Sportsmen's Expo and Arizona Boat Show are coming soon.*

ISE Phoenix and the Arizona Boat Show are coming soon to the University of Phoenix Stadium.

Last year's introduction of the Arizona Boat Show was a giant success, and we're ready for another great year. With more marine dealers and accessories scheduled to exhibit, this is your best opportunity to re-

search and buy your next fishing, wake-boarding or pontoon boat.

Check back often as we update the exhibitor list and presentations; information is at <http://www.sportsexpos.com/attend/2015/phoenix/>

ISE Phoenix is Arizona's number-one sportsmen's show, and 2015 will be no exception. Hundreds and hundreds of exhibitors will help you with everything you need to be successful in the outdoors.

See **ISE**, Page 19

### 2015 AZGFD EXPO

## At 2014 Event, 41,000 Attended Weekend Festivities



Coming early in the New Year will be one of Arizona's favorite outdoor events: the Arizona Game & Fish Department's Outdoor Expo.

### Expo Objective

The objective of this favorite outdoor event is to inform, educate, train and introduce the public through activities, demonstrations and exhibits of hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, archery, wildlife watching, off-highway vehicle and watercraft recreation, wildlife conservation, wildlife education, camping, trapping and other related outdoor activities that are consistent with the Department's mission, policies and positions.

See **EXPO**, Page 19

## Birthday Regatta, Leukemia Cup Set For Jan. 16-18

Join us Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Jan. 16-17-18, 2015 for the AYC Birthday Regatta and 15th Leukemia Cup!

The Arizona Yacht Club Birthday Regatta has been raced continuously for 55 years, held each year on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. It's Arizona Yacht Club's premier event.

Expected classes include the following: Capri 14.2, Laser, Buccaneer, Portsmouth, Thistle, Catalina 22, Viper 640, Merit 25, Montgomery 17, Santana 20, PHRF spin, PHRF non-spin, Multi-Hull, cruising!

Yes, this is a Leukemia Cup event, though without the live auction of years

See **REGATTA**, Page 18



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### Boating

## Program Produces Qualified Instructors

AYC presents the Small-boat Level 1 Sailing Instructor Certification Course/**Page 5**



### Tackle & Target

## Interest In Archery Soars

*The Hunger Games: Mockingjay 1* movie has sparked a strong interest in target archery/**Page 8**





# Western Outdoor Times

## Arizona Boating & Watersports



## THE CREW

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## DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid Dec.



### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

#### BOATING

**US SAILING NOMINATIONS FOR COACH OF THE YEAR: Dec. 31** — See story on page 6.

**LAKE PLEASANT: Jan. 16-18** — 55th Arizona Yacht Club Birthday Regatta and Leukemia Cup- Pleasant Harbor Marina, participants from all over the U.S., 100 boats in 10 classes, sailboat race, benefits Desert Mountain States Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, free to spectators, 12:30 pm, <http://www.arizonayachtclub.org>

#### COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL

**SCOTTSDALE: Jan. 11-18** — 44th Annual Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction - WestWorld, largest, most prestigious antique/classic car auction in the world, 700+ American & European classic, sports & racing cars, buyers from around the world, 9 am - 10 pm, 480-421-6694 or <http://www.barrett-jackson.com>

**ARIZONA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL: Weekends, Feb. 7** — March 29 and Mon, Feb. 16 — See story on page 14.

### In Memory of Daughter Lisa Brookes-Haws and Cousins Howard Hardy and Nancy Hardy

**TEMPE: Dec. 31** — 31st Annual New Year's Eve Mill Avenue Block Party - Mill Avenue District, a little something for everyone, a Family Fun Zone, Radio Disney's Rockin' Road Show early, local bands later, & fireworks, free, 5 pm - 12:30 am, <http://www.millavenue.com/>

**GLENDALE: Dec. 31** — 44th Annual Fiesta Bowl Football Classic - University of Phoenix Stadium, top teams play, the champion of the Big 12 Conference and another one of the nation's top college football teams, 6:30 pm, 480-350-0911 or <http://www.fiestabowl.org>

**PHOENIX: Through Dec. 28** — The Nutcracker - Symphony Hall, with more than 150 performers, hundreds of costumes and the beauty and athleticism of Ballet Arizona's nationally recognized dancers, a timeless holiday tradition for all ages, choreography by artistic director Ib Andersen danced to Tchaikovsky's famous score, with the Phoenix Symphony, 602-381-1096 or <http://balletaz.org/>

#### HANDEL'S MESSIAH: Dec. dates

— Performances are throughout the Greater Phoenix area. Handel's massive oratorio makes a profound musical statement of the Christian faith, celebrating the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the acclaimed and popular "Halleluia" chorus highlights this spiritual concert, Music Director Tito Muñoz leads the Valley's favorite holiday tradition as The Phoenix Symphony, The Phoenix Symphony Chorus and soloists perform. To find a convenient location for you, visit <http://phoenixsymphony.org>

#### SHOWS AND EXPOS

**QUARTZSITE: Jan. 17-25** — 33rd Annual Sports, Vacation & RV Show - RVs, supplies, camping equipment, food, entertainment, free, 9 am - 5 pm, 928-927-6888 or 800-969-5464 or [www.quartzsite-rvshow.com](http://www.quartzsite-rvshow.com)

**INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMEN'S EXPO AND ARIZONA BOAT SHOW: Feb. 19-22** — See story on page 1.

**ARIZONA GAME & FISH EXPO: March 28-29** — See story on page 1.

**KINGMAN: Jan. 1** — 14th Annual Kingman Polar Bear Plunge - start the new year in a "chilling" way by braving the near freezing water of Centennial Pool, several unknown prizes await brave swimmers at the bottom of the pool, noon, 928-753-7919 or <http://www.cityofkingman.gov/pages/depts/parks/>

#### WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

**WILLCOX: Jan/ 14-18** — 22nd Annual Wings Over Willcox Birding & Nature Festival - Willcox Community Center, a celebration of birds, nature and culture, includes guided tours and field trips for bird watching, photography, geology, ranching, agriculture, history and more, free seminars, a crafts and trade show, live animal educational booths, workshops, banquet, silent auction and keynote speaker, \$5-90, 800-200-2272 or [www.wingsoverwillcox.com](http://www.wingsoverwillcox.com)



## First Day of Winter December 21

**LAKE HAVASU CITY: Dec. 28-Jan. 1** — 20th Annual Festival of Lights - English Village and London Bridge, celebrate the holiday season as you stroll and view more than 650,000 lights on display, free, 6-10 pm, 928-855-0888 or 800-2HAVASU or <http://www.golakehavasucity.com>

**PHOENIX: Through Dec. 31** — 36th Annual Las Noches de las Luminarias - Desert Botanical Gardens, thousands of hand-lit luminarias line the garden pathways, musical entertainment each night, additional buffet dinner is available, \$12.50-30, 5:30 pm, pre-register, 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

#### HUNTING/SHOOTING/ ARCHERY

**YUMA: Jan. 3-4** — Murphy's Gun Show - Yuma County Fairgrounds, 928-726-4420

**WINTER HAHWG MEETING: Starts Feb. 28** — Phoenix at the Archery Center at the Ben Avery facility. We plan on having a potluck and archery shoot Friday night, and a big breakfast on Saturday before the gathering.

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

**BEN AVERY CLAY TARGET CENTER: Current** — 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 Open Water Certification Dives, San Carlos, Mexico; Lake Pleasant, and more; Saguaro can plan your diving vacation for small groups or just one person. How about Grand Cayman, Curacao, Cozumel, Belize, Roatan, Bonaire, Turks & Caicos Contact Saguaro Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or [sales@saguarosports.com](mailto:sales@saguarosports.com)

##### Swimming:

**LAKE HAVASU CITY: Jan. 1** — 42nd Annual Polar Bear Day - Nautical Inn Beach, leap into the lake to earn your Polar Bear patch, ski, tube, wakeboard or air chair behind a boat provided by the Club (skis & other equipment will be provided if necessary), no wet suits allowed! come in your shorts, swim suits & after warm up by the bonfire and enjoy a pot of hot soup to warm up your insides, with the Lake Havasu Boat & Ski Club, \$5-8 swimmers, noon, 928-486-0106 or <http://www.golakehavasucity.com>

**PHOENIX: Through Dec. 31** — 22nd Annual ZooLights - Phoenix Zoo, more than 3.5 million lights in 600 lighted sculptures unique to the Phoenix Zoo, live animals are not on exhibit, \$9-14, 6-10 pm, 602-273-1341 or <http://www.phoenix-zoo.org>

**LOST OUR HOME PET FOUNDATION: Ongoing** — Rescues, foster, has adoptions for dogs and cats whose owners have had to leave them behind: [www.LostOurHome.org](http://www.LostOurHome.org), (602) 445-7387; [info@LostOurHome.org](mailto:info@LostOurHome.org). Volunteers and adopting "parents" needed.

*Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to [editor@azbw.com](mailto:editor@azbw.com). To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the 8th 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.*





# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## Update your boating safety knowledge

### Life Jackets save lives—especially in colder water

*In water under 49 degrees, half of boating accidents are fatal*

Ask some boaters why they don't wear a life jacket and they'll most likely say they don't need one because they are a "strong swimmer." But in open water under 49 degrees, it doesn't matter how good a swimmer you are, without a life jacket you are more likely to drown.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department reminds winter boaters that their life jackets are even more important in the colder winter months. According to U.S. Coast Guard statistics, when the water temperature is 49 degrees or less, fifty percent of boating accidents are fatal. Sixty-six percent of those who drown were thought to be "good swimmers," and 55 percent of open water drownings occur within ten feet of safety.

"Wearing a life jacket before you end up in cold water and knowing what to do in the first few minutes can make the difference between becoming a statistic or a survivor," said Paul Newman, recreational boating safety specialist for the U.S. Coast Guard Eleventh District, which includes Arizona. "A life jacket can buy you time and increase your chances of survival."

The first minute in cold water can be especially deadly because the human body reacts to the cold temperature by gasping deeply. Swimmers who gasp while underwater can take more than a liter of water into their lungs, making it impossible to reach the surface to breathe. If they survive the next ten minutes, the cold water saps the body's ability for meaningful motion, making it difficult to swim, tread water, climb out or signal for help.

After an hour in cold water, hypothermia sets in, the swimmer loses consciousness and drowns. Wearing a life jacket can help keep your head above water, help keep you warm and keep you afloat even when you're exhausted. Newman said there are plenty of good reasons to always wear your life jacket, especially in the winter months.

"A life jacket can buy you time and keep you alive in cold water, but it won't help unless you're wearing it," said Newman. "Getting into the habit of always wearing your life jacket, especially when the water is cold, is the very best way to reduce the chances of drowning."

### Be a Better Boater: Take a Boating Safety Education Class.

| January 2015                     |                               |  |      |                |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------|----------------|
| Host                             | Date and Time                 | Location   | Cost | Registration   |
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | January 17<br>9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Arizona Game and Fish Headquarters<br>5000 W. Carefree Hwy.<br>Phoenix | \$0  | (623) 236-7219 |
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | January 17<br>9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Apex Arms Facility<br>2176 McCulloch Blvd. Suite 8<br>Lake Havasu City | \$0  | (623) 236-7219 |

| January 2015                     |                                |  |      |                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|------|----------------|
| Host                             | Date and Time                  | Location   | Cost | Registration   |
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | February 21<br>9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Arizona Game and Fish Headquarters<br>5000 W. Carefree Hwy.<br>Phoenix | \$0  | (623) 236-7219 |
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | February 21<br>9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Apex Arms Facility<br>2176 McCulloch Blvd. Suite 8<br>Lake Havasu City | \$0  | (623) 236-7219 |

### Alcohol and Boating: A Deadly Combination

Arizona law prohibits anyone from operating a power-driven vessel while under the influence of alcohol or any drug that causes the person to be even slightly impaired. Alcohol and drugs can cause impaired balance, blurred vision, poor coordination, impaired judgment and slower reaction time. These contribute to nearly one-third of all fatal boating accidents.

If convicted of OUI or "Extreme OUI," a person can be fined up to \$2500 and jailed for up to six months. Subsequent convictions and "Aggravated OUI" may carry even more severe penalties.

By operating a vessel on Arizona waters, you have consented to be tested for alcohol or drugs if arrested by a law officer for alleged violations under Arizona Watercraft Statutes. Just remember this simple rule: Don't Drink and Boat!



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



### Renew Your Watercraft Registration Online!

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

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# Boating



## No Keys, No Problem: Kayak-Fishing At Canyon Lake

As Arizona Game and Fish public information officer Nick Walter found out, the Boulder Creek area of Canyon Lake, because of its no-wake restrictions, is an excellent spot for beginning and expert kayak anglers.

Undulating water that rippled across Canyon Lake in November, gently rocking the kayak, was felt from head to hips.

Paddling a new Ocean Kayak Tetra 10 Angler for the first time, and during what was this angler's first time fishing this desert dandy, made for excitement that filled the head and heart with ideas of possible thrills — catching a monster largemouth bass on a 6-inch rainbow trout swimbait, carving open water, and endless other adventures.

Losing the truck keys, however, wasn't supposed to be one of them.

### A Community Of Paddlers And Anglers

A "thank you" is in order. Four gracious (and sympathetic) kayakers offered this nearly stranded stranger, who somewhere among kayaking excitement lost the truck keys, a ride from the Salt River-chain lake in the Tonto National Forest to their mobile home in Mesa.

Then, a party invitation. A full-moon bash would be happening that night at the swimming pool of their 55-and-over senior community — karaoke, conversation and wine.

### The Lesson: Fishing Can Be The Doorway To Any Adventure

All you need is to purchase a license, some tackle and poles, and maybe a kayak,



[www.cornwall-canoes.co.uk/ocean-kayak-tetra-10-angler.htm](http://www.cornwall-canoes.co.uk/ocean-kayak-tetra-10-angler.htm)

which is cheaper and more stealthy than a boat. Fish rarely are spooked by a 'yak — it's cheating.

But one tip: keep your keys. Consider carrying a carabiner. Or even sign up for one of our free paddling classes — call (623) 236-7219 for information.

Anyway, the party didn't happen — this writer was able to find a ride from the senior community back to his north Phoenix home. But still in order was a cold Bud Light and some macaroni and cheese at the courteous kayakers' Mesa mobile home. Almost made up for not catching a lunger bass.

What did redeem this whole mess two days later? Four, fresh fish tacos.

### Fishing Trout Swimbaits

Canyon Lake is the "land of lunkers," and after our first winter rainbow trout stocking, some ambitious anglers begin to throw big rainbow trout swimbaits (usually 4-10 inches) in an attempt to catch one of those plus-size bass that occasionally feed on trout.

It can be absolute hit-and-miss fishing; maybe an angler can catch one during two or three full-day trips.

No luck this day. Didn't sound like any other anglers fishing the Boulder Creek

area that day had big bass luck, either. But, one pesky bass was on the full moon feed.

### The Technique

A 13-inch largemouth bass hit a 3-inch Kamlooper orange-and-silver spoon tied to 8-pound test monofilament line kayak-trolling the Boulder Creek area of Canyon Lake.

The setup for monster bass included a 6-inch Huddleston rainbow trout swimbait tied with a uni-knot to 50 yards of 17-pound Stren fluorocarbon line (a roll of 200 yards was just \$13 at Sportsman's Warehouse), connected with a double uni-knot to 20-pound braided line as backing.

Go with a medium-heavy action rod of at least 7 feet. Purchasing components for this rig is like buying a really expensive scratch ticket (but a lot more fun.)

Canyon Lake, with its sandy-colored, arcing shoreline features, is one of the most unique fisheries in the country.

### Fishing From A Kayak

Fishing from a kayak on such an expansive and deep lake, and its being this angler's first time at Canyon Lake, trolling a spoon or crankbait and the swimbait from the kayak's two rod holders seemed to be the most effective method to cover water and possibly figure out a pattern or loca-

tion of congregated fish. (Tip: Put one line out about 10 yards farther than the other to avoid lines crossing.)

The 10 1/2-foot Ocean Kayak Tetra 10 Angler, a sit-on-top, is narrow and weighs only 50 pounds, and so is easy to transport. Stealthy and smooth on the water, it's designed for those with small-to-medium builds (the kayak has a weight capacity of 225-275 pounds.) Well worth buying if on clearance or marked down on craigslist.

Trolling from this 'yak with a 3-inch, orange-and-silver Kamlooper spoon produced the above 13-inch largemouth bass around 2 p.m. in about 20 feet of water in Boulder Creek near the fishing pier.

The bass skyrocketed from the water four or five times, a memory-making sight. Then, Mr. Bass went from the water to the table.

### Taco Time

Two days later, the bass was filleted into 1/2-inch-wide chunks, soaked in cold water, rolled in white corn meal, and fried in a shallow amount of peanut oil — then laid to rest on paper towels and sprinkled with salt and pepper — ... then finally dropped into plus-size corn tacos shells (25-percent larger!) along with shreds of Tillamook sharp cheddar cheese and homemade medium salsa (thanks to the mom of Mary at Game and Fish). Few ingredients helped highlight a fresh fish taste.

Maybe the best part of fishing is the eating!

And at this point — what keys?



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## Boating

# What To Do In A Boating Emergency

*For wakeboarders and all boaters, a few safety procedure could prevent a tragedy.*

BY BRYAN HUGHES

It's not really a subject that I like talking about, but it would be foolish not to address it. The fact is, emergencies do happen on the water. And I'll be the first one to admit it, nothing's a bigger buzz kill than reviewing safety information, but if and when disaster happens, you will be very glad you did.

It would be impossible to prepare for every single emergency that could happen on the water, but having a few safety procedures in mind could prevent an emergency from turning into a tragedy.

### Retrieving An Injured Rider

The first and most important safety plan you should have is a method for retrieving an injured or unconscious rider. It usually only takes about 3 seconds to realize that something is wrong when a rider goes down.

Within that moment, you should reduce the speed immediately and turn the boat around, ensuring that you don't generate a lot of wake which could exacerbate the situation for the rider.

As you approach the rider call out and ask what's wrong. If the rider is conscious, remind him or her to stay calm and to minimize movement. This will prevent furthering the injury.

When the rider is within three or four feet of the boat, turn the engine off and reach out to gently pull the rider by the life jacket and slowly pull the person toward the swim platform. If you have the help of other passengers, slowly roll the rider onto the swim platform and examine the injured area(s).

Ensure that you have antiseptic spray and bandages on board to treat scrapes and cuts; if you don't, then now is a good time to refresh your first aid kit. If the injury is a dislocated shoulder or suspected broken arm, you can do your best to create a makeshift sling with a towel or lifejacket — anything to give the afflicted limb support until proper medical attention can be reached.

If the rider is unconscious, make sure you get to the victim as quickly as possible and ensure the person is floating face up in the water. Once again, gently and slowly pull the rider over to the swim platform. Check to see if the rider is breathing. If the rider isn't breathing, call 911 and start CPR.

If the rider is breathing, give him or her space and try fanning the face. If the rider doesn't come to in about 30-40 seconds then call 911.

Whether a rider has lost consciousness or has sustained a serious injury, the patient will need proper medical attention. Do your best to surmise the situation to determine if you can get to a medical facility in a fair amount of time. When in doubt, call 911.

### In Case Of Fire

If there is going to be a fire on a boat, there is a 90 percent chance that the fire will originate from the engine bay. Most of the time, fire or even explosion can happen when gas fumes have collected in the engine compartment and haven't been fanned out when starting the engine.

Therefore, make it a habit to run the blower on your boat for at least 30-40 seconds or open your engine compartment before starting the engine. However, if you do find that your boat has caught fire, then make sure you have an action plan and escape plan.

**The action plan:** If you catch the fire quickly enough, grab your fire extinguisher and release the pin. Spray directly onto the fire, aiming for the base of the flames. Keep

a constant flow until all the flames have disappeared and there is no more sign of spark.

**The escape plan:** If the action plan fails, then it's time to move to plan B — escape. If the fire grows to an uncontrollable scale, then immediately jump off the boat and swim away. Keep swimming until you are at least 50 yards away from the boat.

Do your best to flag down another boater and call for emergency services. It is much better to let the boat go, than to try to fight a losing battle — boats can always be replaced.

Disaster strikes when we least expect it, so don't let an emergency catch you off guard. Do your best to have plan and always stay calm. A cool head and a decisive plan can make all the difference.

## US Sailing Course Focuses On Safety



Arizona Yacht Club's George Tingom reports that six people have signed up for the January US Sailing Level One Instructor class, but he needs others to sign up now in order to reach the minimum eight needed to hold the class. Some reasons to take the course are —

- You'll learn to be a better sailor.
- You'll have fun teaching others about our great sport.
- ASF will pay half the tuition if you help out with one of its classes this next year.

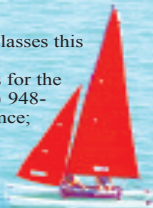
Don't be put off by the fact that there are lots of requirements for the class. Tingom will talk you through it if you call him at (480) 948-3814. Also, don't be concerned if you have limited dinghy experience; the other students and an excellent instructor will help you.

### About The Course

The US Sailing Small Boat Level 1 Sailing Instructor Certification Course is designed to provide sailing instructors with information on how to teach more safely, effectively, and creatively. The goal of the program is to produce highly qualified instructors, thereby reducing risk exposure for sailing programs.

Topics covered in the course include: classroom and on-the-water teaching techniques, risk management, safety issues, lesson planning, creative activities, ethical concerns, and sports physiology and psychology.

See more at: [www.ussailing.org](http://www.ussailing.org)



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## Boating

# Do You Have A 'Coach Of The Year' In Mind?

US Sailing's Olympic Sailing Committee (OSC) today announced that the nomination period has opened for the 2014 US Sailing Coach of the Year Awards. The OSC will honor coaches in five categories who have distinguished themselves at the youth, national and international levels.

The awards are a part of the United States Olympic Committee's (USOC) Coach Recognition Program, which highlights the accomplishments and contributions of U.S. coaches who train athletes at all levels of Olympic and Paralympic sports. In 2013, the National Coach of the Year Award was given to Mark Ivey (Tiburon, Calif.), who won it for a second time.

Nominations will be accepted from the public until December 31, 2014, via e-mail to nominations@ussailing.org

Each nomination should include the following information:

- Which of the five coaching awards (see below) the individual is being nominated for.



**RECOGNIZED** – 2013 US National Coach of the Year Mark Ivey (Tiburon, Calif., left) coaching US Olympic hopefuls at ISAF Sailing World Cup Mallorca, April 2014. Photo: Will Ricketson/US Sailing.

- The nominee's 2014 coaching record
  - Honors or recognitions received by the nominee in 2014
  - A description of the nominee's service and support to the sport in 2014
  - Contact information, including a phone number and email address, for both the nominator and the nominee
- All accomplishments eligible for review

by the panel are required to have taken place in 2014. Additionally, each nominee must be actively coaching in 2014, or be less than one year removed from his or her date of retirement.

### Categories

National Coach of the Year nominations fall into five categories:

- National Coach of the Year
- Volunteer Coach of the Year
- Development Coach of the Year
- Paralympic Coach of the Year
- "Doc" Councilman Science Award

### Announcement In Spring

In early 2015, the OSC will announce the winners of US Sailing's 2014 Coach of the Year Awards. The committee will then submit the list of honorees to the USOC for potential recognition as Coach of the Year Awards recipients across all Olympic and Paralympic sports. The USOC will announce the National Coach of the Year



**HONORED** – US National Coach of the Year and Senior Olympic Coach Luther Carpenter (La Porte, Texas) coaching US Sailing Team Sperry Top-Sider athlete Jonathan Rudich (Clearwater, Fla.) at the 2014 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Test Event, August 2014. Photo: Will Ricketson/US Sailing.

Award sometime in the late spring.

The goals of the OSC's Coaching Recognition Program are to recognize the accomplishments and contributions coaches make to sports at all levels of athlete development and to elevate the status of coaching as a profession.

For more information about these awards or to submit a nomination, please e-mail nominations@ussailing.org



## Joint Service Color Guard Attends National WWII Museum Road To Berlin Opening

**JOINT COLOR GUARD** – Members of a joint service color guard present colors before attendees of the National World War II Museum's grand opening of the Road to Berlin exhibit, Dec. 12. The color guard consisted of members from the Air Force, Navy, Marines, Army and U.S. Coast Guard. According to the museum, the new addition to the museum will allow for attendees to partake in an interactive tour intended to convey the human side of the war beginning in North Africa. (U.S. Coast Guard photograph by Petty Officer 2nd Class Seth Johnson)

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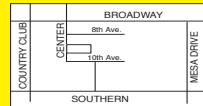


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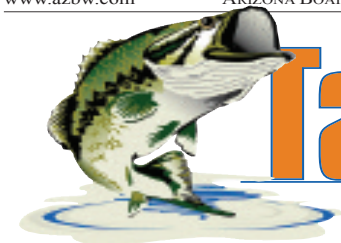
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# Tackle & Target



EXCERPTS FROM AZGFD REPORT

## As Weather Cools, Some Good Catches Reported

*Anglers give special thanks to the regional report editors.*

### Tip Of The Week

At Apache Lake, anglers have been catching a high number of largemouth bass in the 1-2-pound range on Lucky Craft rip baits.

### The Reel Deal

Some reported hot spots have been Bartlett Lake for largemouth bass, Lake Pleasant for flathead catfish, and Kinikink Lake for brown and rainbow trout.

Kudos to Rich Griner of Queen Creek, who caught this 26-inch, 8.6-pound rainbow trout from Canyon Creek on a worm in mid-November.

Griner said his fish was caught upstream of the hatchery bridge within the stocked section. Canyon Creek has a catch-and-release, fly/lure single barbless-only section from the OW Bridge downstream.

But, Griner said he was not fishing this section. The fish is a new Big Fish of the Year catch-and-keep leader in the trout category.

Don't forget to check the Arizona Game & Fish's winter trout-stocking schedule before planning a trout excursion.

### Check The Roads Before You Go

Of course, winter weather can be detrimental to travel. Motorists traveling in Arizona's high country need to be aware of some annual closings. Be sure to check the Arizona Department of Transportation Web site for the latest road closures.

### Crappies Worth A Shot

In the desert impoundments, consider targeting sporting crappie populations at Alamo, Bartlett and Roosevelt. Doesn't sound like banner crappie-fishing conditions yet — but it's worth a shot.

As the water temperatures lower, the crappie will congregate into large schools in open water that can be up to 50 feet deep or so. The crappie formations, or schools, look like inverted pyramids (or Christmas trees if you like), with the most active fish at the top, around 15 or 20 feet deep. Catch a window of stable weather for crappie fishing.

The two primary strategies for catching these crappie are to use your fish finder, locate a school, sit over it, and slowly jig a 1/16- or even a 1/32-ounce jighead with curly tail or other small grub, Roadrunner or maybe a marabou jig.

The other is slow trolling (1.5 mph) crappie jigs or even small crankbaits. Or combine the two — trolling until you get a bite, then vertically jig.



### At The Salt River-Chain Lakes

At the Salt River-chain lakes (as in this Canyon Lake photowhere an angler on braves a cold, windy day in mid-November), there's a shot at catching a lunker largemouth bass on a rainbow-trout swimbait.

### Respect The Bald Eagles

Finally, outdoor recreationists are reminded to avoid bald-eagle closure areas during breeding season.

Each year as part of its highly successful program to manage and conserve bald eagles in the state, the Arizona Game and Fish Department asks outdoor recreationists and aircraft pilots to help protect important eagle breeding areas by honoring the closure of 23 areas across the state.



Various land and wildlife management agencies close the breeding areas for part of the year to protect the state's 55 breeding pairs of bald eagles. Some of the closure areas are located near popular recreation sites, or in the airspace above.

In December, Arizona bald eagles begin rebuilding nests in preparation for laying eggs. Bald eagles nest, forage and roost at the rivers and lakes that have become some of Arizona's most popular recreation spots, and this time of year can be challenging for the birds. Leaving the nest for only a short time can render the eggs not viable.

See **WEATHER**, Page 8

## Alabama Bass Trail, BoatUS Team Up For Towing

The red towboats of BoatUS' on the water TowBoatUS towing fleet will be getting busier in Alabama in 2015 as a new presenting sponsor of the Alabama Bass Trail Tournament Series.

The partnership teams up the country's largest boat-owners group and towing fleet for on water and roadside assistance with a 13-lake, team-style statewide fishing tournament that's now drawing anglers from six states — and growing.

Discounts on BoatUS membership will be offered to competitors, and if history repeats itself and some competitors' vessels break down, TowBoatUS could likely again be assisting anglers with tows to weigh-in in the nick of time, or helping with a flat tire.

"The Alabama Bass Trail started out as a local Alabama organization with great volunteers, and they've done a fantastic job growing their series," said BoatUS Brand Engagement Coordinator Dustin King.

"It's now come to the point where they are attracting anglers from Tennessee, Mississippi, Florida, South Carolina, Ohio and Georgia — [and, hopefully, more this year]. As they continue to grow we look forward to a long and lasting partnership, and know our on water and roadside towing service will be ready 24/7 to get them back on their way. BoatUS understands the need for anglers who travel far and wide to attend these events."

King added that at last year's championship final, "We helped many anglers get their boats back to the ramp or provided assistance on the side of the road with things like flat tires and blow outs. That's what we do — get folks back to fishing." King will be attending all of the 2015 events and encourages fans and anglers to stop by the BoatUS booth to learn more.

As part of the sponsorship, BoatUS will offer competitors a discounted annual membership for just \$15 that comes with a subscription to BoatUS Magazine and includes 24/7 nationwide dispatch with



\$50 of on the water boat towing assistance and \$50 of roadside assistance for a disabled boat trailer and tow vehicle. Exclusive fuel, transient slip and repair discounts, savings on fishing gear and charters, fun online learning opportunities and access to lots of trailer "how-to" information are also included.

Anglers may add BoatUS' roadside "Unlimited" Trailer Assist to a membership for an additional \$14 that provides 100 miles of free road towing for both the disabled boat trailer and its tow vehicle to a safe location or repair shop. Lockout, flat

tire, battery jump and fuel drop-off services are included in this low price.

Freshwater boaters can also add "Unlimited" on the water towing to their membership for just \$48 additional. Soft ungroundings, jump-starts, fuel delivery and tows back to a marina, home dock or launch ramp are included for any boat that is owned, rented, chartered or borrowed nationwide.

For more information on the Alabama Bass Trail Tournament Series, call Kay Davidson at 855-9FISHAL or go to [www.alabamabasstrail.org](http://www.alabamabasstrail.org).



### COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM

## Catch Some Trout In Town

FROM AZGFD

### Trout Are Back In Tucson

Trout stocking has resumed at Lakeside Park in Tucson now that water-quality issues have been resolved. Kiwanis in Tempe was stocked on Nov. 24.

Operation Game Thief callers are making a difference Following a recent stocking of trout into Silverbell Lake in Tucson, the Department received several reports of unlawful netting.

An officer responded twice to separate calls, and on the second response located a person who matched the description. The officer conducted surveillance and witnessed the person committing violations. Subsequently, the person was contacted and issued a citation.

Although officers may not be readily available to respond to each call, the information is vital. Your information will be recorded into our database, which will be used to look for patterns of reported violators so that we can catch the poachers and issue citations.

Another thing to keep in mind: Just because you don't see officers at the lake doesn't mean they aren't working with that information. Many times officers will catch violators after they leave the lake or even at their homes. Your calls are vital to assisting enforcement.

See **TROUT**, Page 8



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## Tackle & Target

# Interest In Archery Programs Soars After New *Hunger Games* Movie

## Arizona Game and Fish Department launches Web page for people wanting to learn.

With the recent release of *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1*, interest in target archery has soared, especially among young people.

To assist newcomers with getting started, the Arizona Game and Fish Department has created a new Web page, [www.azgfd.gov/archery](http://www.azgfd.gov/archery).

"We have seen an incredible influx of youngsters looking into classes and researching archery," said Tanja Washburn,

archery education coordinator for Game and Fish. "We felt it was important to have a resource page where people can go to get the most requested information on how to begin."

Game and Fish has posted archery tips and facts on the new Web page, covering such subjects as types of archery, basic techniques, types of bows, and where you can learn. New topics will be added each day for at least a week.

Updates to [www.azgfd.gov/Archery](http://www.azgfd.gov/Archery) will be announced on the Game and Fish Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/azgafd](http://www.facebook.com/azgafd), and via Twitter, @azgfd.

"Archery is a lifetime sport that can be enjoyed by both the young and the young at heart," Washburn said. "We felt it was important to have a place where people can find information to learn safe, responsible and appropriate use of archery equipment and its role in wildlife conservation."



## Nation's Best Bass Teams To Battle For Championship And Classic Berth

History is in the making as the B.A.S.S. inaugural Toyota Bonus Bucks BASSMASTER Team Championship gets under way on Degray Lake in Arkansas. Almost 9,000 anglers worked all year to qualify for the Toyota Bonus Bucks BASSMASTER Team Championship.

Arizona's finest Anglers will go head to head with some of the best anglers the nation has to offer for their chance at the championship title and a berth into the BASSMASTER Classic. Representing Arizona are the teams of Jeff Mason of Gilbert and Lyle Dalby of Apache Junction, Steve Czerniski and Dean Kreuzer of Mesa, Forrest Webb and Chad Harvey of Phoenix, as well as Scott Owens and Dave Davis, and John Griffin and John Stuart.



### TROUT

Continued from page 7

#### Trout Return To Expansion Waters

Trout are being stocked into the seven expansion waters in Phoenix during the week of Dec. 15-20. Those waters include Pacana Pond in Maricopa, Discovery, McQueen, and Freestone Ponds in Gilbert; Roadrunner Pond in Phoenix, Eldorado Pond in Scottsdale, and Bonsall Pond in Glendale.

#### Turn In Poachers!

You may notice some additional Law Enforcement Officers at CFP waters as we're working to improve compliance at CFP Waters. Please help us by reporting known or suspected violations.

Although the Department may not be able to send an officer to each reported violation, simply reporting the incident to the Department helps establish where and when we have poaching problems. Every call is logged into a database and will be used to direct enforcement activities on your Community Fishing Waters.

Call Operation GAME THIEF (1-800-352-0700) to report suspected fishing violations.

For more information, contact Specialist Joann Hill at (623) 236-7268. The full CFP stocking schedule is available at [http://www.azgfd.com/h\\_f/stocking\\_schedule.shtml#urban](http://www.azgfd.com/h_f/stocking_schedule.shtml#urban).

### WEATHER

Continued from page 7

#### More On Arizona Fishing

See our Fish&Boat Arizona map for directions to our state's primary fisheries. See the full report for more details, and please share your fishing memories and pictures with us at [BFishing@AZGFD.gov](mailto:BFishing@AZGFD.gov).

Don't forget that buying a license online helps support the Department's mission to conserve wildlife for future

generations. We do not receive Arizona tax dollars, so in order to make sure wildlife is available long term, we need to spread the word that our funding comes from a user-pay, public-benefit model, primarily from license sales, excise taxes, boat/OHV registrations and decals, and a few other sources such as the Heritage Fund.

Arizona fishing opportunities wouldn't be possible without 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 motorboat fuels, it provides grant funds for fishery conservation, boating access, and aquatic education.

Thank you, anglers!

#### Behind The Scenes

All of us who look forward to the weekly fishing reports from Arizona Game & Fish are grateful to the following report



## Galley Proof

PHOTOS FROM ALLRECIPES.COM/RECIPES/SEAFOOD/FISH/TROUT/

# It's A Fish Fry!



### Poor Man's Beer Batter Fish

It's ready in nine minutes.

This is a super easy and fast not to mention inexpensive and no-mess way to make a beer batter for your fresh fish while camping. Using only beer, your freshly caught fish, some oil for your skillet, and shake-and-pour buttermilk pancake mix containers found in your local supermarket. Great for camping!

#### Ingredients

(Original recipe makes eight servings)

- 1 cup beer, or as needed
- 1 (7 ounce) container shake-and-pour buttermilk pancake mix

#### Directions

1. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat.
2. Pour beer into the pancake mix container in place of the water it calls for. Make the batter as thick or thin as you prefer. Close the lid, give it a few shakes, and boom it's done.
3. Dip fish into the batter using a pair of tongs, or if you want to dirty a dish, pour the batter in a bowl first. If you cut your fish into smaller pieces, you can toss them into the container, close the lid and shake it a couple of times, then carefully remove the coated pieces.
4. Remove the fish from the batter using tongs, and place into the hot oil. Fry the fish until golden brown on both sides, 3 to 4 minutes per side.



### Oven Roasted Trout With Lemon Dill Stuffing

"Nothing beats fresh fish, especially when it is filled with a fresh dill and lemon bread stuffing. The fresh flavors of this dish will leave your mouth begging for more."

#### Ingredients

(four servings)

- 1 cup soft bread crumbs
- 1/2 sweet onion, minced
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
- 2 teaspoons grated lemon zest
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup olive oil, divided
- salt and pepper to taste
- 4 trout, cleaned and head removed

#### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil.
2. Toss bread crumbs with onion, dill, lemon zest, garlic, and half of the olive oil. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Press stuffing into the trout, then brush the trout with the remaining olive oil, and season with salt and pepper. Place trout onto prepared baking sheet.
3. Roast in the preheated oven until the skin of the fish begins to brown, and the flesh flakes easily with a fork, about 20 minutes.



### Pan Fried Whole Trout

"There couldn't be a better way to prepare freshly caught wild brook trout. Serve with a side of creamy mashed potatoes and steamed Swiss chard."

#### Ingredients

(Recipe makes four servings.)

- 4 whole (12 ounce) trout, cleaned with tails and heads on
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 lemons - cut into wedges, for garnish

#### Directions

1. Remove gills from fish and discard. Rinse fish under cold water.
2. In a large skillet heat oil over medium heat.
3. In shallow dish, combine the flour, cornmeal, salt and pepper. Raise heat to high. Dredge fish in flour mixture and fry in hot oil for about 4 to 6 minutes on each side or until meat flakes with a fork. Serve garnished with lemon wedges.



### Pecan-Crusted Trout

"Freshwater trout coated in a delicious crunchy pecan coating. Serve this with a savory brandy or lemon-butter sauce."

#### Ingredients

(Recipe makes four servings.)

- Cooking spray
- 1/2 cup crushed pecans
- 1 teaspoon crushed dried rosemary

See **FISH FRY**, Page 15

editors, who process and convey the news from our favorite fishing venues. Contact any of these editors when you have questions or information for their respective areas of our state.

Thank you to Nick Walter, (623) 236-7214; Mike Lopez, Pinetop Region, (928) 532-3692; Chuck Benedict, Flagstaff Region, (928) 774-5045; Gregg Cummins, Kingman Region, (928) 692-7700; Russ Engel, Yuma Region, (928) 342-0091; Don Mitchell, (520) 388-4451, and Bryant Dickens, Mesa Region, (480) 324-3544.





# Western Wildlife



## Help Protect Eagle-Breeding Areas

*Outdoor recreationists and pilots are asked to give bald eagles their space during breeding season.*

FROM AZGFD

Each year as part of its nationally-recognized and highly successful program to manage and conserve bald eagles in the state, the Arizona Game and Fish Department asks outdoor recreationists and aircraft pilots to help protect important eagle breeding areas by honoring the closure of 23 areas across the state.

Various land and wildlife management agencies close the breeding areas for part of the year to protect the state's 55 breeding pairs of bald eagles. Some of the closure areas are located near popular recreation sites.



"Cooperation from outdoor recreationists has been a major reason that the population continues to grow, and now we're working to create more awareness among pilots of all aircraft types.

"Bald eagles can be very sensitive to even short durations of low-flying aircraft activity near their nests and just a few minutes of disturbance can lead to nesting failure," says Kenneth Jacobson, head of the Arizona Game and Fish Department Bald Eagle Management Program.

"Pilots should maintain the FAA-recommended 2,000-foot above ground level advisory when flying over bald eagle habitat."

In December, Arizona bald eagles begin rebuilding nests in preparation for laying eggs. During this time, land and wildlife management agencies enact the seasonal breeding area closures. Bald eagles nest, forage and roost at the rivers and lakes that have become some of Arizona's most popular recreation spots, and this time of year can be challenging for the birds.

Game and Fish's bald eagle management efforts are supported by the Heritage Fund, an initiative passed more than 20 years ago to provide for wildlife education and conservation through Arizona lottery ticket sales.

### Airspace Advisory

Statewide - The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has established a 2000-foot above ground level (AGL) advisory along the Salt and Verde rivers' drainages. When traveling in these drainages or near riparian habitat statewide, aircraft should maintain a minimum of 2000-foot AGL to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

### Seasonal Closures

#### Verde River

A closure for the Verde River below Sycamore Canyon Wilderness is not planned this year unless the eagle pair resumes nesting. Contact Coconino National Forest, Sedona Ranger District for updates, (928) 282-4119.

Verde River near Chasm Creek is closed to foot and vehicle entry through June 15. Floating through is allowed. Contact Prescott National Forest, Verde Ranger District, (928) 567-4121.

Verde River near Cold Water Creek, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping on the river or landing is allowed through June 30. Contact Prescott National Forest, Verde Ranger District, (928) 567-4121.

Verde River upstream of the East Verde



confluence is closed to vehicle and foot entry through June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing is permitted. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Verde River near Mule Shoe Bend, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping in the river or landing is allowed through June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Verde River below Horseshoe Dam is closed to vehicle or foot entry on the southwest side of the river through June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing on the southwest side of the river is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Verde River below Bartlett Dam is closed to foot or vehicle entry through June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing is permitted. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Verde River at the Needle Rock Recreation area is closed to foot and vehicle entry on the east side of the river through June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing on east side of river is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

#### Tonto Creek

Tonto Creek from Gisela to 76 Ranch is closed to vehicle, floating through, foot entry through June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

Tonto Creek inlet to Roosevelt Lake is closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land, and to watercraft within 300 feet on water through June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

#### Salt River

Salt River from Horseshoe Bend to Redmond Flat allows watercraft to float through, but no stopping in the river or landing is allowed through June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Globe Ranger District, (928) 402-6200.

Salt River near Meddler Point is closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land, and to watercraft within 300 feet on water through June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

Salt River near Campaign Bay may be closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land, and to wa-

tercraft within 300 feet on water through June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

#### Crescent Lake

A portion of the entrance road may be restricted to a "no-stopping zone" and a portion of land near the parking area may be closed to foot entry from April 1 through July 30. Contact the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville Ranger District, (928) 333-4372.

#### Greer Lakes

A portion of the lake may be closed to watercraft and a portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from March 1 through July 31. Contact the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville Ranger District, (928) 333-4372.

#### Lake Pleasant

No vehicle, watercraft, or foot entry is allowed into the Lower Agua Fria Arm through June 15. Contact Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, (928) 501-1710.

#### Lower Lake Mary

This closure will not be enacted unless the eagle pair moves nesting locations. Contact the Coconino National Forest, Mormon Lake Ranger District for updates, (928) 774-1147.

#### Luna Lake

Luna Lake is closed to vehicle and foot traffic on the north side through June 30. The area adjacent to the nesting closure on the upper end of the lake is closed for nest-

See **EAGLES**, Page 10

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## Western Wildlife

# Mount Graham Red Squirrel Population Remains Stable

As part of a conservation program for the endangered Mount Graham red squirrel, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted an annual squirrel survey and estimated approximately 274 animals in the Pinaleno Mountains in southeastern Arizona.

This year's survey shows an increase of two squirrels over the 2013 estimate of 272 squirrels.

"After seeing considerable population growth in 2013, the recovery team is encouraged to see those gains have remained and the population is stable," says Tim



Snow, nongame specialist for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "The team speculates that better cone crops are contributing to the stable squirrel population

numbers."

The red squirrel survey is conducted each fall by visiting a random sample of known middens (areas where red squirrels store or cache their cones).

Mount Graham red squirrels live only in the upper elevation conifer forests of the Pinaleno Mountains and feed primarily on conifer seeds. Females produce two to seven young per year. The species was declared endangered in 1987.

The Mount Graham red squirrel population peaked at about 550 animals in the late 1990s, but typically ranges between 200 and 300 individuals. Habitat losses

caused by fire and insect infestations and poor cone crops caused by drought are considered primary factors influencing population size.

Biologists continue to explore new ways to conserve the species, including habitat improvements, squirrel research and a pilot captive breeding program.

Conservation of the species is guided by the Mount Graham Red Squirrel Recovery Team, a partnership that includes the Coronado National Forest, Game and Fish, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Arizona, Native American tribes and others.

## Information Sought In Poaching Of Two Mule Deer

*Any wildlife violation, including poaching, should be reported.*

Arizona Game and Fish is seeking information regarding the poaching of two mule deer bucks south-east of Kingman in Game Management Unit 16A. Officers with Game and Fish need the public's help, and Operation Game Thief is offering up to a \$750 reward for information leading to an arrest of those responsible for the crime.

"At first the investigating officer thought it was a single buck, but found the second after returning to the scene the next day," said Zen Mocarski, public information officer for the Game and Fish Region 3 office in Kingman. "The second was hidden in some tall grass."

The bucks were unlawfully shot between Nov. 17-19 off Blake Ranch Road on the Cane Springs Ranch. Both animals were left to waste. If found, those respon-

sible may face criminal charges, including take of big game wildlife during a closed season and waste of game meat. After the case is adjudicated, those responsible also face a potential civil assessment by the Game and Fish Commission and possible license revocation.

Mocarski said the investigating officer believes both animals were taken by the same individual(s).

"It is important to remember this is not the act of a hunter," Mocarski stated. "Poaching is a crime. We are looking for additional information and are asking anyone with knowledge of this case to come forward. The eyes and ears of the public are critically important in bringing poachers to justice."

Anyone with information regarding this case, or any wildlife violation, should call



Male Mule Deer

the OGT hotline at (800) 352-0700. Web submissions can be reported via the Internet by going to [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief). Identities will remain confidential. Anyone calling should reference case number 14-003583.



**OSTWINKLE HONORED** — Rehabilitating and handling golden and bald eagles is an art that volunteer Jerry Ostwinkle has mastered. Ostwinkle's eagle conservation work and efforts to educate the public was recognized by SAGE Society.

## First Golden Eagle Award Recognizes Jerry Ostwinkle

*Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center volunteer awarded by SAGE Society.*

Rehabilitating and handling golden and bald eagles is an art, an art that volunteer Jerry Ostwinkle has mastered. This weekend, Ostwinkle's eagle conservation work and efforts to educate the public about eagles was recognized by SAGE Society (Sonoran Antelope and Golden Eagle Society) with the first-ever Jerry Ostwinkle Golden Eagle Conservation Award named in his honor.



### SAGE Recognizes Volunteers

The award was presented by SAGE Society Executive Director Bill O'Brien during the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center's annual open house.

"SAGE Society wants to recognize the important role that volunteers play in

## Experience An African Safari In Arizona



If an authentic African safari sounds like the ultimate adventure, then head to Camp Verde, Ariz., for an unforgettable visit to Out of Africa Wildlife Park, located just 45 minutes north of Anthem and 30 minutes south of Sedona, 3 miles west of I-17.

It's not a zoo or a circus, but rather a natural wildlife habitat where owners Dean and Prayeri Harrison have adopted a unique and respectful way of interacting with hundreds of wild-by-nature animals on a 104-acre setting replicating Africa. While many of its inhabitants are indigenous to Africa, the park features many other animals from around the world.

What makes Out of Africa so special is the carefully nurtured human/animal rela-

See **SAFARI**, Page 15

See **AWARD**, Page 15

### EAGLES

*Continued from page 9*

ing waterfowl from Feb. 15 to July 31. Contact Apache National Forest, Alpine Ranger District, (928) 339-4384.

#### Lynx Lake

This closure will not be enacted unless the eagle pair moves nesting locations. Contact Apache National Forest, Alpine Ranger District for updates, (928) 339-4384.

#### Show Low Lake

A portion of the lake may be closed to watercraft and a portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from approximately March 1 through July 31. Contact the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest, Lakeside Ranger District, (928) 368-2100.

#### Whitehorse Lake

A portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from March 1 to Aug. 31. Contact the Kaibab National Forest, Williams Ranger District (928) 635-5600.

#### Woods Canyon Lake

A portion of the lake is closed to watercraft and a portion of the shoreline is closed to foot entry from April 1 through Aug. 31. Contact the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest, Black Mesa Ranger District, (928) 535-7300.

### Tips For Visiting Eagle Areas

If you are visiting bald eagle country, an advance call to the local land management agency (U.S. Forest Service district, etc.) or the Arizona Game and Fish Department may help you plan your trip to avoid disturbing bald eagles. By following these simple guidelines, we can all help ensure that our living wildlife legacy will last for generations to come:

- Enjoy bald eagles from outside the closures, which are marked with signs and/or buoys. Watch from a distance using a spotting scope, binoculars or telephoto camera lens.
- Anyone approached by a nestwatcher

and asked to cease an activity or leave a closed area should comply. A few good places to see bald eagles without disturbing them (during December and January) are at Lake Mary and Mormon Lake near Flagstaff or on the Verde Canyon Train in Clarkdale.

- Bald eagles protecting an active nest will let you know if you are too close. If a bald eagle is vocalizing and circling the area frantically, you are too close and need to leave the area quickly. Bald eagles incubating eggs or brooding small young should never be off the nest for more than 15 minutes.

- Pilots should maintain the FAA-recommended 2,000-foot AGL advisory when flying over bald eagle habitat such as along the riparian areas of the Salt and Verde Rivers and Lakes such as Lake Pleasant, Roosevelt lake, and Alamo Lake. These areas are designated on the Phoenix Sectional Aeronautical Map. Special brochures for pilots regarding this advisory can be obtained by calling the Ari-

zona Department of Transportation or the Arizona Game and Fish Department's nongame branch, (623) 236-7506.

- Help from anglers is especially needed. Fishing line and tackle have killed two nestlings and been found in two-thirds of all bald eagle nests in the state. Every year biologists remove these lethal hazards from nests and/or entangled nestlings. Discard any fishing line properly in specially-marked recycling containers or at fishing stores. Also, use fresh line that isn't old and brittle. Use the correct test line for the fish you are trying to catch. Also, do not cut the line when an undesirable fish is caught and return it to the water with the hook and line attached.

You can help bald eagle research and recovery efforts by reporting any harassment or shooting of bald eagles. Call the Arizona Game and Fish Operation Game Thief Hotline at (800) 352-0700 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement at (480) 967-7900.



# RV Land Cruising



## It's A Great Time For Winter Hikes

*There are some perfect close-to-home places to enjoy the outdoors.*

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

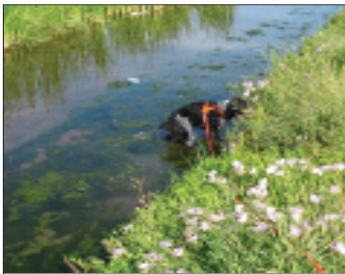
Although we love our annual summer hiking trip to Flagstaff, snow is not my thing. Fortunately, there are a lot of great hikes in and around Phoenix, and since the winter is such a great time to be outside in the desert, we do a lot of hiking close to home. Even if it's just a quick trip to Thunderbird Paseo Park to walk the dog, hiking in Phoenix is awesome this time of year.



Margie And John Anderson

### Thunderbird Paseo

Thunderbird Paseo is in Glendale, and it is a long (around four miles) narrow park that is actually a flood-control feature. Thunderbird Paseo has bike and pedestrian trails, disk golf, playgrounds, restrooms, and believe it or not — wildlife. I've seen up to five coyotes at a time at Thunderbird Paseo. Keep your dog on a leash!



Thunderbird Paseo: Rosie Anderson enjoys a dip in the stream.

I've also seen plenty of hawks, jackrabbits, tons of doves, ducks, and even snipe. There is a narrow waterway that meanders down the middle of the park, and there is almost always water in it somewhere, which is why the wildlife flourishes.



Thunderbird Paseo: Margie Anderson has seen up to five of these guys in a pack here.

My favorite time is when the city hasn't mown the tall grasses down and Rosie (my French Brittany) and I can "bird hunt." We walk through grass that is higher than my waist, and she points birds for me and chases them when I flush them. It's a blast. In fact, that's how I discovered the snipe there one winter. Rosie pointed them for me.

The soccer fields are kept nice and short and green, but other areas can get quite wild and you can almost forget you are in town. There are plenty of trees and if you don't want to walk on the sidewalk trail, venture out into the center and you can follow the dirt trails. It's impossible to get lost, so go for it.

Thunderbird Paseo runs from 51st Avenue and Cactus northwest to 73rd Avenue and Greenway. It's open sunrise to sunset and parking is available at 59th Avenue

just south of Thunderbird Road and at 67th Avenue just south of Greenway Road. Rosie and I met a Friesian horse named Mace there one morning — he actually waved at her! Find out more at <http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksand-recreation/ThunderbirdPaseoPark.cfm>.

### Thunderbird Conservation Park

Another wonderful place to hike is Thunderbird Conservation Park, which is also in Glendale. It's in the Hedgpeh Hills and has about fifteen miles of multi-use trails ranging from easy to difficult. Some of the trails are moderate, but difficult in a couple of places.

We like to take the grandkids and meet friends there and just wander around the hills. There are a lot of really fun hikes and plenty of opportunities to see wildlife. There are even viewing blinds in the park. You can find trail maps and a lot more information at <http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksand-recreation/thunderbirdpark.cfm>.

There are three different entrances to Thunderbird Conservation Park — one on 59th Avenue, one on 67th Avenue, and one on Pinnacle Peak Road.

The address to the park is 22600 N 59th Avenue, Glendale. The best way to decide where to enter is to go to the website and find a hike, then enter the park close to the trailhead. They have a nice downloadable map on the website.

### South Mountain Park

South Mountain Park in South Phoenix is a fantastic place to hike. Whether you like to stroll along fairly level ground or you want to test your knees on mountain trails, you're sure to find the perfect trail here. South Mountain has 70 miles of trails! It's an easy park to get to — just get on Central Avenue and head south. Central becomes the park road eventually. Even just driving through the park is fun.

You can visit the education center, have a picnic, watch the birds and animals, and just enjoy being outside in the desert. If

you have out of state visitor, be sure to bring them here — they'll get a real taste of the desert, especially if you take them on a little hike.

Download the map here: <https://www.phoenix.gov/parkssite/Documents/062880.pdf>, and mark yourself out an easy loop if you're with beginners.

If you're up for a bit more walking, try the Bajada Trail. It's about 3.5 miles, but it's out and back — so seven miles. Plan on at least two to three hours unless you



South Mountain Park: Out-of-state visitors will love being in the desert with you here.

See **WINTER HIKES**, Page 12



South Mountain Park: The trails beckon you to go hiking.

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# RV/Land Cruising

## Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Announces Winter Hours

National Park Service (NPS) and concessioner-operated facilities will reduce hours of operation at some facilities, while closing others. Please contact concession services directly for further information.

The following facilities are closed or operating on a reduced schedule.

### Wahweap

- Lake Powell Resort – open
- Rainbow Room restaurant and Wahweap grille – closed
- Latitude 37 – closed
- Driftwood Lounge – open 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. for dinner only
- Canyon Coffee – open 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- RV park, campground, campground store – open – check-in at store 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Lake Powell gift shop – open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Lake Powell Sports – closed
- Marina Store – open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Boat Rental retail store – closed
- Stateline fuel dock – closed
- Wahweap Marina fuel dock – open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Sinclair gas station – open 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
- Marine service center – open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Wahweap Marina offices – open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Boat Rentals – 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Boat Tours – open
- Oasis and Driftwood swimming pools – closed



**GCNRA GEOLOGY** – The Permian through Jurassic stratigraphy of the Colorado Plateau area of southeastern Utah that makes up much of the famous prominent rock formations in protected areas such as Capitol Reef National Park and Canyonlands National Park. From top to bottom: Rounded tan domes of the Navajo Sandstone, layered red Kayenta Formation, cliff-forming, vertically-jointed, red Wingate Sandstone, slope-forming, purplish Chinle Formation, layered, lighter-red Moenkopi Formation, and white, layered Cutler Formation sandstone. Picture from Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Utah.

- Stateline launch ramp – closed September 29th
- Wahweap launch ramp – open
- Lone Rock Beach – Vault toilets, restrooms, and showers – closed. No potable water will be available. *Micro-flush toilets and RV dump are open. Primitive camping will be available throughout the winter months. Fees apply and may be paid at the self-service machine located at the*

*entrance station.*  
Carl Hayden Visitor Center — open 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Antelope Point

- Dry Storage – October 20, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Market Place store – October, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Fuel Dock – October 20, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- p.m.
- Boat Tours – October 20, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Boat Rentals – 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Welcome Center gift shop – 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Gramma Betty's – closed
- Ja'di'Tooh restaurant and Sand Bar – October 20, Friday – Sunday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### Dangling Rope Marina

- Dangling Rope snack bar – closed
- Dangling Rope marina store, fuel dock, boat repair – closed

### Bullfrog

- Defiance House Lodge and family units – open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Upper and lower gift shops – open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Dock N Stock – open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Boat N Go – closed
- Corner Store & gas station – open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- RV and campground – open – check-in at Corner Store
- Anasazi restaurant and Kiva lounge – closed
- Bullfrog fuel dock – open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

See **WINTER HOURS**, Page 13

## Rainbow Bridge National Monument To Close For Trail Repair

Rainbow Bridge National Monument will be closed for the month of January to complete repairs to the trail from Lake Powell. On Jan. 5, 2015 crews will begin work to repair segments of the trail that were damaged in the monsoon floods that occurred in late September 2013.

Because of the nature of this work there will be no access for visitors coming from Lake Powell. Hikers who have obtained permits from the Navajo Parks and Recreation Department to hike from Navajo Mountain will be able to access the viewing area but not the remaining trail going to Lake Powell.

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### WINTER HIKES

Continued from page 11

really like to walk fast. I prefer to ramble, and stop to take lots of photos.

The Web site lists all the trails and gives difficulty ratings and distances. Beware, though — many of the trails start a ways down another trail. This means that you might have to walk quite a way before you even reach the 3-mile trail you are looking for. Plan carefully.

### Be Prepared

As always, even though the weather is cool, bring plenty of water. If you aren't strong enough to carry water you shouldn't be hiking. A walking stick really helps on the rough and downhill spots. I have a TrekPod, which is a walking stick that turns into a tripod simply by unfastening the Velcro strip at the bottom. On top, a round cork handle pops off to reveal a strong magnet that securely holds even a big camera.

The TrekPod comes with two mounts that screw into the bottom of the camera. The mount swivels on a ball, so it's easy to get perfect framing. I absolutely love it. I can set it up in seconds because the camera just sticks on magnetically, set the timer, jump into the picture — and voila! Selfie! Check them out at <http://www.trektech.com/products/trekpods.html>.

### Some Things To Bring

Nothing ruins a hike like sore feet, so make sure your hiking shoes are comfortable and they fit well. On the trail is not the place to break them in. Just in case, bring along a few of those new special blister bandages — they are great. I carry a backpack even on short hikes, and although the family likes to poke fun, they are happy that Grandma always has sunscreen, Band-aids, granola bars, maps, water, etc.

I always throw a bandana or two in there as well — they come in really handy for lots of things. If you are bringing along your four-footed best friend, pack along a metal-toothed comb. It's just the ticket if your pooch steps on a piece of cholla. Just flick that darn thing right off.

### Now's The Time To Hike

If you've put off hiking because you live in the lowlands and it's too hot to even think about being outdoors, now is the time to get out there and have some fun. We are so blessed with this great winter weather! Find some great trails near your home and stretch your legs.





## RV/Land Cruising



**PLEASANT AMENITIES** — Pleasant Harbor is open to the public 365 days a year and features a lakeside restaurant, boat, sailing and Jet Ski rentals, kayak and paddle boards, fishing guides, slip rentals and storage, as well as a full service RV resort with 254 spaces, featuring a clubhouse, store, heated pool and Jacuzzi.

## Pleasant Harbor — Living The Life! (At Lake Pleasant)

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Open daily to the public, Pleasant Harbor affords amazing views of Lake Pleasant and a full array of lakeside activities. Pleasant Harbor Marina includes boat and Jet Ski rental, a daily passenger cruise, slip

rentals, boat repair and storage, kayak and paddle boards, sailing, as well as fishing guides.

The Pleasant Harbor RV Resort features 254 fenced sites with full hookups, a clubhouse with heated spa, convenience store, 24-hour security, laundry and shower facilities, and breathtaking views

See **PLEASANT HARBOR**, Page 14

## Grand Canyon National Park North Rim Now Closed For The Season

The North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park is now closed for the season. Arizona State Route 67, leading to the North Rim closed on Dec. 1. State Route 67 and all services on the North Rim are expected to re-open for the 2015 season on May 15, 2015.

The North Rim campground and yurt will still be available for winter camping and are accessible via inner canyon trails from the South Rim or by cross-country skiing and snowshoeing — a 45-mile trip from Jacob Lake.

To stay at the North Rim during the

winter months, visitors will need a backcountry permit, which can be obtained from the Backcountry Information Center located at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. Permit requests can be faxed year-round to (928) 638-2125.

Backcountry permits for North Rim winter camping are also available at Pipe Springs National Monument in Fredonia, Ariz., and the Bureau of Land Management Intercountry Visitor Center in St.

See **NORTH RIM**, Page 14

## Grand Canyon National Park Seeks Input Re: Entrance Fees

Grand Canyon National Park is proposing to increase entrance fees into the park.

The proposed increase would change from \$25 to \$30 for a single vehicle for a seven day pass. The park's annual pass would increase from \$50 to \$60. The current rate of \$12 per individual or motorcycle would increase to \$15 per individual and \$25 for a motorcycle.

The additional revenue from the fee increase will be used to enhance visitor services, including repair and maintenance of park facilities, restoration and rehabilitation of visitor service buildings, additional park programs and transportation services, and increase resource protection. Examples of projects where fee revenue was used include the Bright Angel Trailhead renovation, the re-design of Mather Point, and the Grand Canyon Visitor Center. The park's free shuttle bus system, projected to have 6.8 million boardings in 2014, is also funded by entrance fee income.

A 60-day public engagement period on the proposed fee increase opened Nov. 7, and will close on Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2015.



Winter Scene At South Rim Of Grand Canyon

Feedback will be accepted via email at [gcrca\\_fee\\_increase@nps.gov](mailto:gcrca_fee_increase@nps.gov) and via U.S. Mail at: Grand Canyon National Park, Attention: Proposed Fee Increase P.O. Box 129 Grand Canyon, AZ 86023.

Entrance fees are not charged to persons under 16 years of age or holders of the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Senior, Access or Military Passes. These passes may be ob-

See **GRAND CANYON**, Page 14

### WINTER HOURS

Continued from page 12

- Marina services — open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Boat Rentals — open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Bullfrog Visitor Center — closed
- Bullfrog Urgent Care — open 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. every Friday, except holidays

### Halls Crossing

- Halls Crossing RV park, campground — open — Check-in at marina store after November 15
- Halls Crossing family units — open — Check-in at marina store.

- Village store — closed
- Halls Crossing marina store — open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Snack bar — closed
- Halls Crossing fuel dock — closed
- Halls Crossing/Bullfrog ferry — Call (435) 684-3088 for rates and hours of operation

### Hite

- Hite convenience store — closed. Hite convenience store fuel — Open 24 hours; pay at the pump with credit card.
- For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/glca](http://www.nps.gov/glca)

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# RV/Land Cruising

## 2015 ARIZONA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

# 'AZ Ren Faire' Celebrates 27 Years Of Cheers

Celebrating 27 years of cheers, the Arizona Renaissance Festival opens every weekend on Saturday and Sunday, from Feb. 7 through March 29, 2015 and Presidents' Day, Mon., Feb. 16, 2015. Ye Olde Faire is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., rain or shine. And, there's always free parking.

The AZ Renaissance Festival is a medieval amusement park, attraction with a 13-stage theater, 30-acre circus, arts and crafts fair, and jousting tournament — all rolled into one non-stop, day-long family adventure. The Renaissance Festival is held near Apache Junction, Ariz., — between Phoenix and Tucson.

For visitor information call (520) 463-2700 or visit [RenFestInfo.com](http://RenFestInfo.com)

### The Pleasure Feast

A most special event within this giant event is The Pleasure Feast. This is a one-and-a-half hour, five-course medieval feast with live music and comedy entertainment, fine food and ample drink, plus festival gifts and souvenirs. With limited seating twice daily, advance feast reservations are recommended.

### Interaction On The Street

The most unique experience at the Renaissance Festival is the interaction with actors on the street who make everyone a part of the Village at Play.

Kids will love the interactive games and people-powered rides, Da Vinci's Fly-



ing Machine, The Slider Joust, Piccolo Pony—a rocking horse bigger than an elephant! There is also the Dragon Climbing Tower, Castle Siege, the Maze, Archery Range and much more!

Those washer wenches don't just act silly on the stage; they make sure their audience members make fools of themselves too. The King is not just some guy in a crown; when you meet royalty at the Festival, it is hard not to bow with everyone else.

Maybe you will be asked to carry a secret message for the Lord Sheriff, or you may find yourself the object of a poet's admiration or scorn. Don't shy away from these encounters — you'll have so much more fun if you jump right in! Find out what events are happening this year at the Az Ren Fest.

### Renaissance Faire Costumes

Visitors can choose from over 100 medieval costumes in children, adult and plus

sizes. There are clearance prices on some costumes. See more Renaissance Shoppe Costumes at [BuyCostumes.com](http://BuyCostumes.com)

### What To Do At The Festival

There are so many things to do at the AZ Renaissance Festival that one needs to spend an entire day to experience the full event. Browse over 200 elaborately adorned shops offering an array of traditional goods surrounded among 13 stages of entertainment.

Walk among more than 2,000 brightly costumed actors, dancers, and musicians who roam the medieval replica village providing entertainment.

The Renaissance Festival experience is meeting and interacting with these colorful characters, shopping for arts and crafts, and taking in a selection of over 150 shows every event day.

There is a great variety of food for feasting, and a bevy of beverages including Medieval Margaritas, Da Vinci Coladas, Dukes of Daiquiri, wine, turkey legs, honey mead, beers and ales, along with soft drinks and lemonade.

### Renaissance Street Shows And Entertainment

One of the most popular attractions at the AZ Ren Fest is the live jousting tournaments held three times daily, complete

See **RENAISSANCE**, Page 19

## GRAND CANYON

Continued from page 13

tained at the Park. I

Interagency Passes, which are honored at all federally managed land units, are not affected by the proposed fee increase and will remain at \$80 for the Interagency Annual Pass, \$10 for the Senior Pass and free for the Access or Military passes.

Grand Canyon National Park is a strong economic engine for the surrounding area. In 2013, 4,564,841 visitors to Grand Canyon National Park spent over \$476 million in communities near the park. That spending supported 6,238 jobs in the local area.

Comments received during the 60-day public comment period will inform the agency's decision on how or if a fee increase will be implemented.

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)  
Public Affairs Office  
Grand Canyon National Park  
Kirby-Lynn Sheddowski  
Acting Public Affairs Officer  
928-638-7958

## PLEASANT HARBOR

Continued from page 13

of Lake Pleasant.

The Waterfront Bar and Grille is open to the public and has regularly scheduled entertainment. Living the Life! comes easy at Pleasant Harbor, whether you experience a boat cruise and lunch, rent a jet ski, kayak, fly board or plan an extended stay in an RV or on your boat. Pleasant Harbor offers one-stop convenience and an unsurpassed recreational experience that will keep you coming back.

For more information, visit [www.pleasantharbor.com](http://www.pleasantharbor.com). Or, call —

Pleasant Harbor Marina, (928) 501-5269

Pleasant Harbor RV Resort, (928) 501-5253

Pleasant Harbor, Toll Free: (800) 475.3272

## NORTH RIM

Continued from page 13

George, Utah.

Visitors considering the idea of hiking, skiing, or snowshoeing to the North Rim are reminded that winter conditions

are highly variable. Extreme snowfall and bitterly cold temperatures are not uncommon at 8,000 feet.

For additional information on winter use on the North Rim, please call the Backcountry Information Center at (928) 638-7875, between the hours of 8 a.m. to

noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. MST, weekdays, excluding holidays.

The South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park is open year-round. Additional park information can be obtained by calling 928-638-7888 or by visiting the park website at [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca).

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**AWARD***Continued from page 10*

wildlife conservation and encourage all Arizona citizens to consider the role they can play in helping conserve and protect Arizona's wildlife," said O'Brien. "We felt that Jerry's tireless efforts should be publicly acknowledged and that there should be an award to express appreciation for individuals who demonstrate significant contributions towards conserving the state's wildlife."

**Master Eagle Falconer**

Ostwinkle is a master eagle falconer that is nationally known for his expertise in working with and rehabilitating bald and golden eagles. He is the volunteer eagle education and rehabilitation coordinator for Arizona Game and Fish Department's Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center in Phoenix.

He has been volunteering at the center for nearly 30 years and annually spends more than 300 days per year there. Among many other efforts, in early 2014, he helped rehabilitate three golden eagles and prepare them for release back into the wilds of Arizona.

"The Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center is incredibly fortunate to have Jerry's expertise at hand and his willingness to volunteer so many hours towards helping rehabilitate and conserve Arizona's eagles," said Mike Demlong, Game and Fish's wildlife education program manager.

**SAFARI***Continued from page 10*

tionship developed from the animal's point of view. All shows and habitats were designed to stimulate natural behavior. In the simplest terms, the animals can be themselves. This respectful approach allows visitors to discover how instincts, intellect, and feeling combine to form this spontaneous behavior.

At the Tiger Splash show, the staff interacts with majestic tigers as they "hunt"



colorful toys in a predatory/prey relationship and take breathtaking leaps in their aquatic playpen.

Like all shows, education and entertainment are never at odds. Visitors to the Giant Snake show can pet or hold a giant anaconda and a huge python. Grizzly bears, laughing hyenas, and others thrill audiences during the Wonders of Wildlife show. Some of the best photos come during the Predator Feed, when 800 pounds of raw food is fed to hungry carnivores.

Hitch a ride on the African Bush Safari, where park experts narrate as they drive visitors through the spacious Serengeti preserve of giraffe, zebra, antelope, and many more. Get your cameras ready, be-

cause this is as close and personal as it gets! Giraffe are more than eager to grab a treat from your hand or even from your mouth for the brave of heart.

Speaking of cameras, you will notice many photo platforms around the park. These unobstructed platforms allow you to photograph some of your favorite animals without the fence. All of this is covered with your general admission.

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**Caring For Wildlife**

Over thirty years ago, Arizona Game and Fish opened the first state-run wildlife rehabilitation and education center in the nation. Today, the center has provided wildlife triage, treatment and rehabilitation to more than 30,000 sick or injured animals and delivered wildlife education programs to millions of people at events and schools.

Its original focus, when founded in 1983, was on treating and rehabilitating sick and injured wildlife. While the center still continues to provide care to wild animals, it also focuses heavily on educating the public about Arizona's diverse native wildlife. Ultimately, the center strives to rehabilitate wildlife for return to the wild, but in instances where an animal cannot be rereleased, the center may use them as educational wildlife ambassadors.

**About SAGE**

SAGE Society (formerly the International Sonoran Antelope Foundation) is a non-profit Arizona corporation established in 1995. Its mission is to conserve and protect Arizona's wildlife; provide the public with information and resources on wildlife conservation; and support and encourage public participation in this worthwhile endeavor. SAGE Society is a member of Teaming with Wildlife Coalition, the largest and most diverse U.S. coalition ever assembled in support of wildlife conservation legislation.

For more information, resources, and opportunities on how you can help conserve and protect Arizona's wildlife, please contact SAGE Society at [SAGE@cox.net](mailto:SAGE@cox.net) or visit [www.azgfd.gov/wildlifecenter](http://www.azgfd.gov/wildlifecenter).

**FISH FRY***Continued from page 8*

- 1 teaspoon salt
- Black pepper to taste
- All-purpose flour, or as needed
- 4 (4 ounce) fillets trout
- 1 egg, beaten

**Directions**

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Spray a baking sheet with cooking spray.

2. Mix pecans, rosemary, salt, and black pepper in a shallow bowl. Place flour in a separate shallow bowl. Dip trout fillets in flour and shake off excess; dip fish into beaten egg, then into seasoned pecans, lightly pressing pecan coating onto fish. Arrange fillets on the prepared baking sheet.

3. Bake in preheated oven until fish flakes easily with a fork, 10 to 12 minutes.



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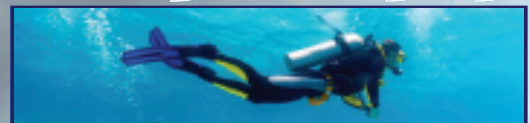
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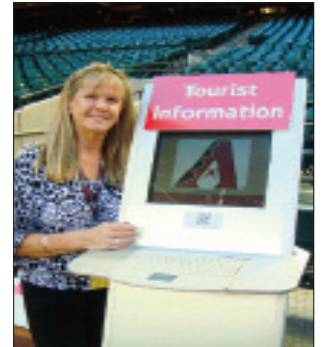
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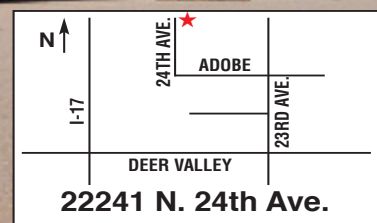
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**CARDINALS**

*Continued from page 1*

It can be found in southern Canada, through the eastern United States from Maine to Texas and south, including in parts of Arizona, and through Mexico. It is found in woodlands, gardens, shrublands, and swamps.

The northern cardinal is a mid-sized songbird with a body length of 21 cm (8.3 in). It has a distinctive crest on the head

and a mask on the face which is black in the male and gray in the female. The male is a vibrant red, while the female is a dull red-brown shade. The northern cardinal is mainly granivorous, but also feeds on insects and fruit.

The male behaves territorially, marking out his territory with song. During courtship, the male feeds seed to the female beak-to-beak. A clutch of three to four eggs is laid, and two to four clutches are produced each year.

It was once prized as a pet, but its sale as a cage bird is now banned in the United States by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918.

*Editor's Note: For years my late mother sent Christmas cards that almost always featured cardinals. Consequently, from a very early age, I associated these lovely birds with holiday wishes for family and friends — and in this issue, especially for you.*

**REGATTA**

*Continued from page 1*

past. We're still raising money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and invite you to sign up for the Leukemia Cup scoring on Saturday.

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Chapman is heading up fundraising and invites AYC membersto begin collecting money and to set up a fundraising page.

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www.westernoutdoortimes.com

(480) 947-6219  
(619) 921-5480  
john@azbw.com

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**Angela Ogden**  
Production and Design  
950 East Baseline Road, 104-901  
Tempe, AZ 85283  
www.azbw.com  
www.westernoutdoortimes.com

(480) 947-6219  
(602) 885-6540  
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## GIFTS

Continued from page 1

cluding at Community Fishing waters), small game, fur-bearing animals, predatory animals, certain nongame animals, and migratory and upland game birds. You can also buy licenses as gifts for the adults in your family. For more information and prices, visit [www.azgfd.gov/license](http://www.azgfd.gov/license).

## Ben Avery Shooting Facility Discount Pass

The daily fee at Ben Avery Shooting Facility Main Range is \$7, but shooters get an extra day at the range as a bonus with the 11-visit discount shooter's pass for just \$70. Range visits need not be consecutive and the pass has no expiration date. Call (623) 582-8313 to order the \$70 discount pass as a special holiday gift or stocking-stuffer, or you can buy it at the range. The pass is good for the Ben Avery Main Range and Archery Ranges, but not for the Clay Target Center (see below for Clay Target Center gift certificates).

## Ben Avery Shooting Facility Apparel

The Ben Avery Shooting Facility has a variety of shirts, hats, mugs, pins and patches for sale at the main range shooting sports center. To see the choices, visit

[www.azgfd.gov/outdoor\\_recreation/ben\\_averyTShirts.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/ben_averyTShirts.shtml).

## Ben Avery Clay Target Center Gift Certificate

There's no better place for trap, skeet and sporting clays than the Ben Avery Clay Target Center. Gift certificates are available in any dollar amount at the CTC office or by calling (623) 434-8119. Gift certificates may be redeemed within one year of date of purchase and are good for targets only, not for ammo.

## Sponsor Turtle Conservation

Help support the monitoring and study of Arizona's native desert tortoises, box turtles, mud turtles, and painted turtles. The Turtles Project at Game and Fish monitors these species, and you can help biologists ensure their long-term survival by sponsoring turtles in the name of your family member or friend. Sponsorship revenue will directly support turtle conservation and research in Arizona. Learn more about the program by contacting Game and Fish at (623) 236-7767, or visiting the Turtles Project website at [www.azgfd.gov/turtle](http://www.azgfd.gov/turtle).

## Wildlife Center Donation

The department's wildlife rehabilitation center treats more than 1,000 sick and injured animals annually and provides

wildlife education to local schools. Consider sponsoring an education animal or contributing to the care of injured wildlife in the name of your family or friend. For more information on the many sponsorship options, contact [mdemlong@azgfd.gov](mailto:mdemlong@azgfd.gov) or call (623) 236-7269.

## Maps And Books

For fans of watchable wildlife, geocaching, hiking, hunting, fishing, OHVs and other outdoor pursuits, stop by any Game and Fish office statewide and check out the broad selection of affordable maps, books, charts, guides and other products for sale.

Two books of special interest to the anglers and hunters in your life are *Arizona's Official Fishing Guide* and *An Introduction to Hunting Arizona's Small Game*, both by experts in their fields.

Angler and information specialist Rory Aikens wrote his guide for fishing enthusiasts of all skill levels who want to explore Arizona's rivers, streams and lakes to catch fish and enjoy the outdoors.

Randall D. Babb brought a lifetime of experience as a hunter and biologist to his guide to hunting small game birds, squirrels, rabbits, ducks and geese in Arizona. His book includes tips on field-tested firearms and other gear, plus ways to prepare and cook a small game harvest.

The *Fishing Guide* is \$29.95, and the *Introduction to Hunting Arizona's Small Game* is \$16.95. Both books can be purchased at Game and Fish offices or by calling (623) 236-7224.

## Gift Subscription To Arizona Wildlife Views Magazine

The department's award-winning magazine is packed with photos and articles about wildlife and outdoor recreation. During our holiday sale, gift subscriptions are just \$7 for seven issues (the regular price is \$8.50 for one year/six issues). Order by Dec. 31, and your gift will include the 2015 calendar issue, featuring spectacular images of Arizona's wildlife by winners of this year's photo contest, plus more than three-dozen stunning photographs that received honorable mention.

Order a gift subscription by calling (800) 777-0015. The calendar issue is also sold separately at all Arizona Game and Fish offices for just \$3.

## Did You Know?

Arizona hunting and fishing licenses are a great value. You can get combination hunting and fishing licenses for a family of four for less than the price of one night in a motel. Great Outdoors, Great Value! [www.azgfd.gov/eservices/licenses\\_newFes.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/eservices/licenses_newFes.shtml)

## ISE

Continued from page 1

**Dates:** Feb. 19-22, 2015

**Location:** University of Phoenix Stadium, 1 Cardinals Drive, Glendale, AZ 85305

### Hours:

Thursday — 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Friday — 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Saturday — 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Sunday — 10:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Tickets:

Adults: \$12.00

Youth under 16 FREE

Buy tickets online or at the door.

**Parking:** Free Stadium Parking

## EXPO

Continued from page 1

### Many Activities Featured

The annual Expo showcases wildlife-related and outdoor recreation activities, including wildlife viewing, fishing, hunting, archery, shooting sports, camping, off-highway vehicle recreation, and boat-

ing recreation. Many activities are kid-friendly.

In addition to the hands-on activities, more than 170 exhibitors were on hand in 2014, including sportsmen's and conservation organizations, government agencies, and commercial vendors of outdoor products and services.

If you weren't able to attend the 2014

Outdoor Expo, be sure to put the 2015 version on your calendar: March 28-29, 2015, at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix. More information will be posted on this Web page as it becomes available. [http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor\\_recreation/showcase.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/showcase.shtml)

We hope to see you there!

## RENAISSANCE

Continued from page 14

with knights on charging horses, clanging weapons and a great deal of braggadocio.

The 16th century Festival is home to many popular traditions including chomping down on a giant roasted turkey leg, and

also features demonstrations of time-honored crafts such as weaving, glass blowing, blacksmithing and pottery throwing.

### Thank You, Robert Zucker

Photos and text courtesy of the Arizona Renaissance Festival and Robert Zucker, EMOL.org



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