



Western Outdoor Times

November 2016
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A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports

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

FOR THE BEAUTY OF ALL OUTDOORS

We Are Thankful

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& Target**
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Cruising**
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Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays Ahead

HOLIDAY BEAUTY

Christmas Themes Sparkle On The Waters

Editor's Note: Some of the most beautiful of holiday events are the Christmas lighted-boat parades. Although there are more in the Southwest, the ones we mention here are among the favorites. (If you know of others you would like included in our December issue, please email their information to editor@azbw.com.)

In Arizona

Lake Havasu: "Bright Ideas" Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2-3, 2016 @ 6:30pm

The Annual Boat Parade of Lights is in its 34th year and has been the must-see event of the holiday season. Lake Havasu City's Boat Parade of Lights has been repeatedly selected as one of the top 100 events in the United States by the American Bus Association.



Lake Havasu, Ariz.

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

Bundle up and take a stroll through the Channel – the only time you'll see the Channel packed full of boats and boaters in winter gear at night. Come cozy up with family and friends and create treasured memories of a favorite holiday tradition!

Boat Entry

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

Visit Docks; Have A Bonfire

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

Bonfires will be permitted throughout the Channel on the island side beach areas but must be contained in a portable, self-contained fire pit. All ashes must be removed entirely and the area left clean. Absolutely no digging of fire pits in the sand and no dumping of ashes in the water. The area will be patrolled throughout the evening.

Where To Watch

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

Bridge, and at any of the restaurants along the Channel. (If you plan on watching from the Channel restaurants, early reservations are recommended.)

More Information

There is no charge to view The 34th Annual Boat Parade. Plenty of free parking is available at the English Village and in the parking areas on the island near the Channel. Plan to get there early as traffic around the London Bridge can become congested.

Event dates and times are subject to change. Please contact event coordinator to verify information. Here are two contact points: contact information: www.lby-boatparadeoflights.com and event information: Venue: Bridgewater Channel Address: 422 English Village or 1477 Queens Bay Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Price: Free



Tempe Town Lake, Ariz.

Tempe Town Lake: "Fantasy of Lights" Saturday, Dec. 10, 6-9 p.m.

In conjunction with the Annual Tempe Festival of Lights during the holiday season, a Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade is held on Tempe Town Lake in early December each

See **CHRISTMAS THEMES**, Page 14



ON THE COVER

Wildlife Enrich All Our Outdoors

BY CAROL L. ALLEN

Whether you are an angler, a hunter, or an outdoors enthusiast, one of the treasures we share is the abundance of wildlife in the Southwest. From rainbow trout in the high country to majestic elk in the forest lands to the antelope on our open plains, to the perky Gambel quail, to the endearing little black-footed ferrets, these beings who share our world can certainly be considered precious residents of our outdoors. At Thanksgiving time, when many concentrate on expressing gratitude for the succulent turkeys on their tables, it seems appropriate to take a moment, go beyond table fare, and consider expressing thanks for all wildlife. Without all species, our outdoors would become a sterile, much-less interesting, rewarding, and magnificent place.

Motorsports Enthusiasts Gearing Up For Sand-Water-RV Expo

Lake Havasu has deservedly earned a reputation as a mecca for outdoor motorsports enthusiasts. Because of the weather and the immediate proximity to both water and desert, locals rotate between boats, off-roading and RVing with the change of each season.

Expo History

Five years ago, the "Sand - Water - RV Expo" first appeared on the Havasu scene at Lake Havasu State Park, Windsor 4, looking to fill a niche that wasn't being addressed. Bob Brown, Havasu Boat Show producer, decided to combine all three motorsports passions into a stand-alone fall special event. "It seemed pretty obvious that boating, off-roading and RVing attract a common demographic," commented Brown. "If people can afford doing all three, they will."

Now, five years later, the Sand-Water-RV Expo has matured into one of the premier motorsports shows in the southwest with over 100 exhibitors signed-up to display their products this coming Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 19-20. According to Brown,



BEYOND BOATS — Besides a large variety of watercraft, the Sand-Water-RV Expo has other outdoor-fun "foys" such as these RAW jump cars.

"The Expo has developed its own personality to fit the Havasu and Colorado River audiences. Our diversity of product for the coming November Expo is the best it's ever been.

Boats And Beyond

"I'm confident that people coming to the Expo will be pleased by what they see, everything from the newest 2017 model side by sides and custom sand cars to lots of trick

accessories and the latest aftermarket gear. And you can't have a show like this in Lake Havasu without boats, so many of the top marine dealers and manufacturers from Arizona, California and Nevada will be present, anxious to make great deals before the end of the year."

Making the Expo even better in 2016 is the recent renovation and expansion of the Windsor 4 special event area with a brand new seven-lane launch ramp and additional parking lot. "We have plenty of room to expand the Expo and accommodate more RVs, off-road vehicles and boats than ever before," said Brown.

New Dimensions

"We're also adding a new dimension to the Expo this year which all guests should enjoy — boats in-water at the demo dock ready to take prospective customers for a ride before they make a final buying decision. We should have a nice mix of demo boats ranging from pontoons, to wakesport boats to performance sportboats and deckboats."

See **RV EXPO**, Page 19

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Tackle & Target

Stuff A Shooter's 'Sock'

John Anderson does some shopping for the shooters in our lives and comes up with several great ideas/Page 7



Land Cruising

Put Some Outdoor Gifts Under The Tree

While her husband was shopping for shooters, Margie Anderson was on a hunt for presents to please outdoor enthusiasts/Page 12





As often as this election season has been exceptionally disturbing and divisive, we are thankful, as U.S. citizens, for the gift of choice. Let us remember this during the season of Thanksgiving.

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DOWNSTREAM November 2016 Events Calendar

BOATING

ARIZONA/CALIFORNIA: Christmas Lighted-Boat Parades; information begins on page 1 of this issue.

25-26 PARKER: 70th Anniversary SCSC Thanksgiving Regatta - Blue Water Resort, powerboat/speedboat racing on the Parker Strip/Colorado River, endurance, speed & circle racing, boats include Stock Outboards, Pro-Stock, Grand National (GN's), Cracker Box, Tunnel Lights and K-boats, 7 am - 7 pm, 310-318-4012 or <http://www.scsescrac-ing.com> or <http://www.bluewaterfun.com>

2/29/2017 GOAT CRUISE: Sign up now for this family fun goat cruise. Kids are welcome and nannies will be provided. Call Billy for reservations: (619) 523-3091.

LEARN TO SAIL: Current — If you know someone who would like to learn to sail, turn them on to the Arizona Sailing Foundation's Adult Beginning Sailing class.

AZ YACHT CLUB MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month 7 p.m. — in the Caddy Shack at Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe; www.arizonayachtclub.org

US SAILING/ RED CROSS ONLINE TRAINING: Ongoing — To make it easier for prospective US SAILING-certified instructors to fulfill course requirements for CPR and First Aid certification, US SAILING teams up with the American Red Cross to provide an online training program. Participants can sign up by visiting www.us-sailing.org/training and clicking on the Red Cross Online Training button (towards the bottom of the page).

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

1-2/8/17 MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS: "100 Miles in 100 Days" — www.facebook.com/MCParks100MilesIn100Days

18 WINSLOW: Star Night Party - Homolovi State Park, park staff and Homolovi's community partners in a night of community outreach and education in the field of observational astronomy, cosmology and astrophysics, telescopes from local astronomers and the Little Colorado Astronomy Club in the museum circle, picnic tables and BBQ grills, bring a flashlight, light jacket and lawn chair, \$7 day use fee per car with up to 4 adults, 7 pm, 928-289-4106 or <http://www.azstateparks.com>

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

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

CLASSES/SEMINARS

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



Thanksgiving:
November 24

COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL

11 PHOENIX: 17th Annual Veterans Day Gourd Dance & Community Potluck - Pueblo Grande Museum, Honor the memory of all Veterans who served our nation, gourd dancing at 11:30 am, bring your favorite potluck to share. free, 11 am - 4 pm, 602-495-0901 or <http://www.pueblogrande.com>

11 SEDONA: Veteran's Day Tribute - Sedona Heritage Museum, The community's annual event pays tribute to all veterans of all wars, and our active military in all branches of service. Come to honor them and stay to say "Thank you." Includes flag ceremony, "Taps" tribute to fallen soldiers, entertainment, lunch, refreshments and dignitaries and special guests. free, 11 am - 1:30 pm, 928-282-7038 or <http://sedonamuseum.org>

12 MESA: 9th Annual A Gathering of Legends - Veterans Day Open House - Commemorative Air Force Aviation Museum, military aviation veterans will relate their experiences from WWII through today, also an educational exhibit displaying our history, and flyovers, speakers, 9 am - 2 pm, 480-924-1940 or <http://www.azcaf.org>

24 FOUNTAIN HILLS: Thanksgiving Day Parade - Saguaro Blvd, the state's only Thanksgiving Day parade with up to 75 units including bands, floats & marching units, free, 9 am, 480-837-1654 or <http://www.fountainhillschamber.com>

24 PEORIA: 29th Annual ARR Thanksgiving Day Classic - Peoria Sports Complex, The Peoria Diamond Club, Arizona Road Racers and hundreds of runners will be participating in a 10-mile & 5K runs and 1-mile Fun Run/Walk, \$6-35, 6:30 am, 602-954-8341 or <http://www.arizonaroadracers.com>

25-12/31 PHOENIX: 38th 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 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

25-12/31 MESA: 35th Annual Arizona Temple Christmas Lighting - hundreds

of thousands of lights in the garden and a lighted reflection pool, free, special music performances each evening at 7 pm, lighting from 5:30 pm, 480-964-7164 or <http://www.meschristmaslights.com>

Through 11/6 GLENDALE: Pumpkin Days & Corn Maze - Tolmachoff Farms, pumpkin patch, 6 acre family corn maze with a new theme every year (search for pieces of your map as you walk through), mini corn maze (perfect for little ones), haunted corn maze (dare to enter), also petting zoo, train ride(\$2), hay pyramid, corn box, adult/child pedal cart track, jumping pillow and more, \$10 admission, 602-999-3276 or <http://www.tolmachoff-farms.com>

EXPOS/SHOWS

19-20 LAKE HAVASU CITY: 5th Annual Sand and Water Expo — Details start on page 1 of this issue. <http://www.golakehavasu.com/events/details/1767/>

FISHING

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

SHOOTING SPORTS/ ARCHERY

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

WATERSPORTS

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

Swimming
12 TEMPE: Ironcare Splash & Dash + Swim Only - Race 5 - Tempe Town Lake, presented by Tribe Multisports, splash 1000m or 2000m/dash 5km; **swim** only 1000m or 2000m, enjoy a morning of fun and racing with your friends, a unique event with a relaxed atmosphere that is suitable for all levels of athlete, whether fine tuning for that big race or getting your feet wet at your first multisport event, 7:30 am, <http://www.4peaksracing.com/>

20 TEMPE: Ford Ironman Arizona - Tempe Beach Park, features a 2.4 mile **swim**, a 112 mile bike and a complete marathon 26.2 miles in succession, 888-280-9097 or <http://www.ironmanarizona.com>

WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

CLARKDALE: Raptor on the Rails - Verde Canyon Railroad, an eagle in flight is breath-



Veteran's Day
November 11

taking, a face-to-face encounter with a raptor is also an astounding event, Scottsdale's Liberty Wildlife shares the majesty of a rescued bald eagle and other rescued raptors with visitors at the depot and on the train on select days, the only train who has an Eagle riding once a month, Sonora LOVES riding the train, everyone has the opportunity for personal interaction, 1 pm, <http://verdecanyonrr.com/>

19 PHOENIX: 2nd Annual Doggie Street Festival - Steele Indian School Park, dog and cat adopt-a-thon and celebration of our companion animals, includes pet products & services, yummy eats, vet tips, speakers, music, kids area, auction prizes and much more, bring your friendly dog, 10 am - 4 pm, 323-445-5087 or <http://doggiestreetfestival.org>

Dec. 11 SCOTTSDALE: 6th Annual Holiday Champagne Brunch & Auction: Omni Scottsdale Resort & Spa @ Montelucia Sparkling champagne! Huge silent auction! Rousing live auction! Adorable pets! Raises money for Lost Our Home Animal Rescue: <http://www.lostourhome.org/>

SOUTHERN ARIZONA WILDLIFE CALLERS: Meetings on the second Thursday of every month until Dec. 8 from 7-8 p.m.

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

RAISING MONEY FOR ANIMALS: Ongoing — Heather L. Weaver: www.azanimalliance.com

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

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



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

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

November 2016				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	November 12 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Arizona Paddle Sports Education Biscuit Tank at Ben Avery Shooting Facility 4044 W Black Canyon Blvd. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	November 19 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla	November 19 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(602) 374-7312

December 2016				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	December 10 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Arizona Paddle Sports Education Biscuit Tank at Ben Avery Shooting Facility 4044 W Black Canyon Blvd. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	December 17 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219

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



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



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

Controlled

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



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



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

Other Non-Lateral Markers

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



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

Mooring Buoy

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

Note, the following actions are illegal:

- ◆ Willfully damaging, removing, interfering with, or tying up to a navigational buoy not intended for mooring
- ◆ Mooring, anchoring, or fastening to shore for more than 14 consecutive days any vessel on public waters.

Need to borrow a life jacket?

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

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

Registration Decal



Spaces or hyphens should appear here.

Register your watercraft

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

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

Riding a personal watercraft? Pledge to be a S.A.F.E R.I.D.E.R.

Nationally, one in five accidents on the water involve a personal watercraft (PWC) and for that reason, the Arizona Game and Fish Department encourages everyone using such craft to use caution and constantly be alert to their surroundings while on the water. PWC operators should consider the acronym "S.A.F.E. R.I.D.E.R." and the following tips from the Personal Watercraft Industry Association:

- Scan the water for hazards and other boats
- Avoid aggressive maneuvers
- Follow local boating laws, including rules to prevent the transfer of invasive species
- Examine your equipment
- React to conditions
- Insist on a safe distance from other boats, swimmers and fixed objects
- Drive sober
- Evaluate weather and waterways
- Respect the environment by avoiding fuel spills and operating close to marine life



Those heading out on standup paddle boards, kayaks and canoes are also reminded that each are legally considered watercraft. Users are required to have a wearable PFD on board while on the water and must follow the same navigation laws pertaining to all watercraft.



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

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Prepare Your Watercraft As Boating Season Ends

As the Northern Arizona boating season comes to an end and many people prepare to stow their watercraft until next spring, now is the time to inspect all life jackets and safety equipment.

"Before putting your boat or watercraft away for the next several months, you should provide an overall mechanical and safety inspection of your watercraft," said Josh Hoffman, Arizona Game and Fish Department Boating Safety Education coordinator.

"This allows watercraft owners an opportunity to look for anything out of the ordinary that may need repairing ahead of next year's boating season and a chance for people to take stock of their safety equipment."

To ensure your watercraft is properly stored for the season, owners should consider performing the following inspections:

Life Jackets

Inspect them for any rips, tears, mold,



mildew and/or worn areas. Also check to see whether the label is still readable, then store in a dry location away from moisture. The Coast Guard also recommends that vessel owners and operators inspect their Type 1 unicellular plastic foam life-jackets for potential indications of failure or degradation, compression, loss of resiliency or any shrinking over time.

Fire Extinguishers

Check the fire extinguisher to ensure

it is sufficiently charged. If not, make a note to recharge or replace it before the next boating season or your next trip to the lake.

Clean, Drain And Dry Your Boat

As all watercraft owners should do every time they leave the lake, everyone must pull their vessel's drain plug, dry and clean their hull. Doing so helps to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, including mussels.

Inspect Propellers And Hull

Ensure propellers are free of dings, pitting, cracks and distortion, and that they are secured properly. On the hull, inspect for blisters, distortions and cracks.

Check The Fuel System, Belts, Cables And Hoses

Check the fuel system for any leaks or damages. Give special attention to any fuel lines and connections. Damaged fuel hoses could either be cracked, brittle or

soft. Also ensure the engine exhaust and ventilation systems are functioning properly.

As with fuel lines, inspect all belts, cables and hoses that may have been damaged during the season. Ensure belts are fitted tightly and that there are no cracks on the outer jacket of the throttle, shift and steering control cables.

Take A Safety Course

The department offers free courses in Phoenix and Lake Havasu City every month to provide water users the information and tips needed to stay safe while on the water. For more information on boating safety or to register for a hands-on or online safety course, visit www.azgfd.gov/boating and click "Boating Safety Education."

Editor's Note: Please also see the schedule of classes on page 3.



Public Swaps 300 Old Life Jackets For New

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) swapped more than 300 old and tattered life jackets with new ones during life jacket exchange events at area lakes this summer.

The AZGFD Boating Safety Education program helped to ensure 304 people

were safer on the water by swapping old, less-effective life jackets for new ones during visits to Lake Havasu, Saguaro Lake, Lake Pleasant, Lake Powell and Canyon Lake.

Check PFDs Every Season

"This program makes it possible for boaters to exchange old or incorrectly sized life jackets for brand new, fully functioning life jackets in the appropriate size," said Josh Hoffman, AZGFD Boating Safety Education program coordinator. "Our hot and dry climate in Arizona is harsh on life jackets, making it very important to check them for wear and

tear every season. And don't forget: just because the life jacket fit last year is no guarantee it will fit next year."

U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in approximately 76 percent of recreational boating fatalities in 2015 and that approximately 85 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

Just as important as wearing a life jacket is ensuring it is the correct size and fit. Users should refer to the manufacturer's label on the life jacket, which should include a recommendation for the user's

See **LIFE JACKETS**, Page 19

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KAYAKING ON THE VERDE RIVER

'Over The River And Through The Flowers'

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

If you have been reading my stories here on *Arizona Boating & Watersports* and *Western Outdoor Times* for long, you know that my husband John and I love to go outdoors adventuring with our granddaughters. We've been taking them fishing, hiking, shooting, exploring, and hunting almost since they could walk, but we had never been kayaking together until yesterday.

I found a *Groupon* for the Clarkdale Kayak Company and it was such a bargain I signed up the four of us. First off, let me tell you that I did not tell the kayak company that I'm an outdoor writer, and we did not get any special treatment or discounts aside from the *Groupon* that anybody could get. So, when I tell you that we had an absolutely incredible time and had the friendliest, best guides ever, that's nothing more than what you will get if you go out with them.



Emily is obviously having a really good time — and quite the upper-body workout too!

A Little Café In Clarkdale

The headquarters is in a little café in downtown Clarkdale, with the kayak check-in on one side and the café on the other. There were a dozen or so people in our group, and we all piled in a van and were driven to the river. They give you a dry sack to use so you can put your phone and wallet and keys and all that inside and keep them safe. There is a zipped compartment behind you in the kayak so even if you tip over (I didn't!), your stuff is safe and sound.

I brought a waterproof camera with me, but even that isn't necessary, because the guides take bunches of photos on the river, especially as you're going down the rapids, so you can just relax and have a good time and get the photos from *Facebook* later. In fact, the ones from our trip were up within just a couple of hours.

Not Just A Serene Paddle

I guess that what I expected was a serene paddle down a sort of a pond-like



Trinity (on the left) and Emily had a great time. (Trinity even gave up the NAU homecoming game for this!)



Trinity is in a "sea" of flowers.



Here's John heading into one of the rapids.

waterway, but it was not like that at all. We went through several rapids, and even though they were all class 1, they were exhilarating. Melissa, one of our guides, had us all gather before each rapid, and told us what to expect and how to take the rapids.

I think a couple people in our group



This is Cameron, one of our guides. He is getting the kayaks over the diversion dam.

tipped over and fell in, but the water is shallow so all you have to do is stand up and get out of the river. We actually went down quite a few rapids, and at one point we all got out of the river and had a break while Melissa and Cameron slid the boats down a little metal ramp so we could all get past the diversion dam.



This is me coming out of a rapids. Look at those flowers!

Rapids: Fun, Not Scary

The rapids may sound scary, but they actually are just really fun. The guides are right there — on the two most technical rapids, they actually got out and stood in the river so they could show you where to paddle and help you out if you were in the wrong place. It's very encouraging to hear them hollering out praise as you bob past, too — Cameron actually told me I was an expert level paddler — either that or just really darn lucky. I chose to take that as a compliment!

Birds, Flowers, Butterflies, And Trees

The river itself is gorgeous, and by complete accident, we managed to have our trip during the two to three weeks when the yellow flowers were blooming everywhere along the river. It was absolutely splendid. Huge trees line both banks along most the trip, and there are birds and butterflies everywhere. Cameron says they often see otters, but we didn't see them on our trip. Cameron was

great to talk to — he told us a lot about the river and the animals he's seen along it, and he's just a great guy and a blast to be around.

They include a water cannon in your kayak, so John and I and Trinity and Emily had a heck of a water battle, and I think Grandma and Grandpa won. It was just a glorious day in the outdoors, and I highly recommend you book a trip soon — you will love it.

Some Details

The kayaks are limited to 250 pounds, and they hold one person each. The Web site says that unless you are booking with a child, everyone gets a single-occupant kayak. These are the kind you sit on top of, not the kind with the hole that only your upper body pokes out of.

They fit you with a life jacket and explain how to paddle, and when you first get in the river it, it is in a nice quiet pond where everyone gets to practice. The only physical limitations besides weight is that you need to be able to paddle for at least a couple of hours, and you have to get out of the kayak, which means standing up from almost sitting on the ground. Trinity got a blister on her hand from paddling, but Cameron had Band Aids, so that was our only casualty. The girls loved the trip, and so did Grandpa and I.

What To Bring

The regular prices are \$86.40 per adult, \$43.00 per child 4-12. There is also tax of 9.35 percent, and a town of Clarkdale permit fee of \$5.50. You should wear clothes that dry quickly — I recommend the long sleeved fishing shirts with UPF built in. Also, be sure to wear a hat and sunscreen. They give you cold water. The trip is about three and a half miles, and takes around two and half hours, three and half hours if you include getting to and from the river and the headquarters. You may want to bring a dry set of clothes and shoes for the trip home.

Cameron And The Company

Cameron told us he had never been on the river until he got a job as a guide, but I have him beat because I've never kayaked the Verde before, and I'm an Arizona native! I wish I hadn't waited so long — I didn't have any idea how beautiful it is and how much fun it is. I highly recommend you book with the Clarkdale Kayak Company soon. This is their first year in business, so they're not sure how late in the year they will continue the trips. At the headquarters, they told me they'd probably keep going as long as people want to sign up. Getting wet was fun even in October because that Arizona sun is nice and warm.

To book a trip, call Clarkdale Kayak Company at 1-800-478-4711 or go online at clarkdalekayak.com. Don't forget to check *Groupon* for deals before you call!

Boating

Increasing Numbers Of Watergoers Trade Engines For Paddles

AZGFD offers tips for paddlesports safety.

Whether it's dipping the canoe or kayak into one of Arizona's lakes for a quiet day of fishing or it's just to enjoy some time on the water, studies show the number of people reaching for a paddle and heading outdoors is increasing.

Paddlesport activities, including canoeing, kayaking, inflatable rafting and standup paddleboards, are gaining in popularity nationally. In 2014, about 21.7 million people enjoyed the sport nationally – an increase of more than 3 million people since 2010, according to a report from The Outdoor Foundation.

Experience The Quieter Side

"Paddlesports is truly finding an audience with many people and families looking to experience the quieter side of our lakes," said Josh Hoffman, Arizona Game and Fish Department Boating Safety Education Program coordinator. "While paddlesports offers a great time on the water, the activity does offer some risk for those who are undereducated and unprepared.

“Paddlesports is truly finding an audience with many people and families looking to experience the quieter side of our lakes.”

That is why it's crucial for anyone heading out on a canoe, kayak, raft or paddleboard to always wear a life jacket and to take a safety course.”

AZGFD offers free boating and paddlesports safety courses in Phoenix and Lake Havasu City. Those interested in taking a course can register by visiting www.azgfd.gov/boating and clicking "Boating Safety Education."



Too Many Have Died

In 2015 nationwide, 68 people died while canoeing and 71 died while using a kayak, according to U.S. Coast Guard figures. The most common causes of fa-

tal accidents were capsizing, the vessel overturning or someone falling overboard. More than 83 percent of those who drowned were not wearing a life jacket.

Those heading out on standup paddleboards, kayaks and canoes are reminded that each are legally considered watercraft. Users are required to have a wearable PFD on board while on the water and must follow the same navigation laws pertaining to all watercraft.

"We can never stress it enough that life jackets do save lives," Hoffman said. "If you were to fall overboard it could be several minutes until rescue arrives. That life jacket will buy you critical time."

Know These Tips For Safety

To better prepare for a safe and enjoyable time on the water, paddlers should consider these 10 safety tips:

Take a safety course. – Courses such as the free class offered monthly by AZGFD provides paddlers the information needed for canoeing, kayaking, stand up paddleboarding.

Wear a life jacket. – You never know when your vessel will capsize or you'll be thrown into the water. A life jacket will help to keep you afloat until your vessel is turned upright or you're rescued.

Know about cold-water safety. – Water colder than 77 degrees can send a person into shock. Even in a healthy person, cold-water immersion can impact muscle movement, breathing and heart rate. Prolonged exposure to the water can lead to hypothermia, cardiac arrest and death.

Learn and follow all navigation rules. – Paddlers are each legally considered watercraft and must follow the same laws and navigation rules as any other watercraft.

Do a safety check. – Check your vessel and make sure it is properly equipped before heading out.

Consider potential impacts to wildlife and habitat. – Be mindful of how your day out on the water can impact wildlife areas and habitat. Avoid sensitive wildlife areas and check with land managers ahead of time to determine if certain areas are closed to the public.

Know your limits. – Always follow your instincts and play it safe. Avoid placing yourself into a potentially dangerous situation.

Carry a sound-producing device. – Make sure to bring a device such as a whistle or horn that is audible for at least a half mile. This will help to signal rescuers, if needed.

Keep an eye on the weather. – Follow current weather forecasts and avoid heading out if inclement weather is in the forecast. In Arizona during summer monsoon, weather conditions can change quickly and can be deadly.

Have a detailed trip plan. – Before heading out on the water, leave a detailed trip plan with location and contact information, and indicate when you could be expected back.

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Tackle & Target



BEST GIFTS FOR SHOOTERS

These Ideas Are 'Right On Target'

BY JOHN ANDERSON

Before you know it, gift-giving season will be upon us. If you have a shooter in your life — a boss, a spouse, a sibling, a best friend, a child or grandchild — I'm here to make your holiday a little easier. Here are some of my top picks: the best gifts for the shooter on your shopping list.

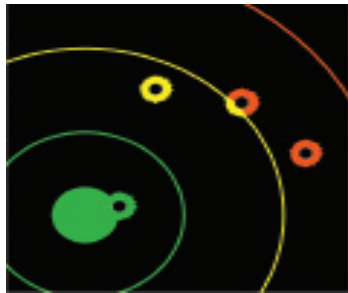
Speed Loader

One thing everyone learns quickly is that loading magazines is hard on the fingers. Loading them by hand takes strength and dexterity, and hardly anyone I know can do it quickly. Glockes come with a loader, and it is serviceable, but there is a much better way. The UpLULA is a speed loader that is easy to use and makes filling magazines quick and easy. They come in a bunch of colors (even pink!), and they are less than \$30. You can pick one up at most sporting goods and gun stores, and you can also get them from Amazon. These things are the best!



Electronic Ear Protection

Ear protection is a must when shooting, even if you are outside. Foam earplugs are better than nothing, but just barely. Earmuffs are better, but electronic earmuffs are the best. They react to sound and muffle the sounds of gunshots, and are adjustable so that if you are in a class, you can still hear your instructor. We found ours on sale at Cabelas for less than \$80. You'll want to buy the highest decibel rating you can afford — the higher the number, the better the protection. They take batteries, but those last quite a long time. Any shooter would be thrilled to find these under the tree.



Birchwood Casey Dirty Bird splatter targets provide instant gratification.

Splatter Targets

Nothing is quite as satisfying as the immediate gratification of splatter targets. These are targets that start out one color, then show different fluorescent colors around every hole you put in the target. On some brands there are different colors the farther you hit from the bullseye. These targets cost more than the plain paper ones, but they are so much more fun, plus they make it much easier for old eyes to see how the shots are impacting. Targets come in a variety of sizes and you can get packages with just a few or a whole bunch, so how much you spend is completely up to you. These are a fun gift, especially for a penny-pinching shooter who wouldn't splurge on them for himself.

Gun-Cleaning Kit For Range Bag

Every now and then, any shooter is going to wish she had a little gun-cleaning

kit in her range bag. Maybe she needs to clear a jam, or maybe something is a bit gummed up. A small gun-cleaning kit is a very good thing to have along on a hunting trip as well. One of my favorites is the Otis Tactical Cleaning Kit. You can actually get one right now on MidwayUSA.com for less than \$40, and that's a sweet deal. This little kit hardly takes up any room at all, yet it has the basics to clean up a variety of calibers. I bought these for my father-in-law and my son a few years ago, and they both loved it. The perfect stocking stuffer for any shooter!

The Otis Tactical Cleaning Kit is a great little kit that fits even the smallest range bag but has the essentials for cleaning guns of many different calibers.

Shooting Class

Odds are, there is a shooting range near you that offers classes. Some of the Game and Fish ranges offer some free classes, especially for beginners. For the more seasoned shooter, advanced courses are offered at various shooting ranges such as Shooters World, and those are usually a couple of hundred dollars or so. But, are they ever fun! Call them up and ask them about the various classes they offer. Find out if there are prerequisites, and whether the class is at the store or at an outdoor range. The ones at the range often let you shoot while moving or from cover, which is really nice because you can never do those kinds of things at a public range (except in a class). This is a bit of a splurge, but it's a first-class gift that will thrill any shooter.

Laser Training System

Ammunition is expensive, but shooting is like every other skill — if you want to be good at it, you need to practice. The best way to practice without ammo is with a laser training system. Laser guns come in different models so that you can get one that is exactly like your real gun, so practice develops all the right muscle memory. You can use them without the



Laserlyte training pistols and targets make handgun practice affordable and convenient. You can practice at home whenever you want, with no danger of accidents.



A special gun vault for the vehicle is a great gift for anyone who owns a handgun.

special targets if you want to because you can see where the laser is hitting. But, the targets make it a lot of fun because you get instant feedback. These systems can be pricey, and you can check out several different kinds on Amazon. Also, check out laserlyte.com. You can get all set up for around \$200.

Gun Vault

Every now and then, almost every shooter will find it necessary to transport a handgun in his car. If you don't carry it on your body, you need a safe place to keep it — where it won't be stolen, and where inquisitive youngsters can't get to it. I solved the problem by purchasing a locking gun vault for my car. They come with airline cable so the box can be cabled to a seat, or any immovable part of the car — most cars have big metal rings in the trunk. GunVault has a variety of models, and you can get them for as little as \$30. The GunVault NV300 NanoVault has a combination lock and goes for about \$35 on Amazon. You can also find these lock boxes at any gun store or sporting goods store.

and workmanship. Seriously good flashlights.



Airsoft pistols are great for training.

Airsoft Guns

Airsoft guns are another great way to practice shooting on the cheap. They come in many models including various pistols, AR's, etc. They shoot plastic pellets and are powered by electric, gas, or springs. The velocity isn't enough to really hurt a person but eye protection is a must. These run from about \$26 and up, plus you'll end up buying accessories and of course, pellets. You can check them out at airsoftstation.com.

Tactical Pens

The cat's out of the bag about tactical pens. They are meant to be a discreet "weapon", but they are so popular now that almost anyone who sees one knows what it is. They are pens made of metal, usually black, with textured surfaces that allow you to grip them without having them slip, and they are designed to be used as a weapon in places where you are not allowed to carry a gun. Some can break a car window; some have lock picking tools or a handcuff key inside. They are usually black and quite military looking. And, of course, they actually work as pens, although some are so thick that they are a bit awkward to write with. If you don't want to get an obvious tactical pen, visit your local office-supply store and check out the well-made metal ballpoint pens they have there. These can serve the same purpose without being overtly "tactical" looking. Tactical pens can run anywhere from \$4 to over \$100, and you can get them at gun shops and online.

Bottom Line

Well, there you have my top gift ideas for shooters. If you aren't sure exactly what to buy, you can always get them a gift card for their favorite gun store. No matter what you choose, I'm sure your gunner will be tickled pink on Christmas morning.



Fenix makes dynamite tactical flashlights that have a lifetime warranty.

Tactical Flashlight

Tactical flashlights are all the rage right now. They usually have a couple of settings, including a strobe effect and different brightness settings. They are black and military-looking and just about every shooter wants one. You can get them for as little as \$20 and as much as a couple of hundred. Some of the best tactical flashlights are made by Fenix. Tactical flashlights come in a huge variety of sizes. The latest high-tech flashlights are incredibly bright — we even bought a Fenix flashlight for the boat for night fishing and it will light up the bank from almost 400 yards away! They are very high quality and made to last, plus they are have a lifetime warranty against defects in material



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LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

Powell Fish Are In Transition Mode

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON
WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM

Lake Powell fish are in transition mode with day length getting shorter while air temperature is cooling. Water temperature and lake elevation have stayed stable during the past three weeks. Elevation is 3610 and temperature holding at 70 degrees. The main change is fish location.

Keep An Open Mind

Bass are moving up on shore, stripers are on the move and shad are split between hiding in the backs of canyons while some are going deep in open water. My best advice is to keep an open mind and an eye on the graph. The best fishing may be found in an unsuspected location that is not normally a good fishing spot.

Recently it was suggested that bass were moving up on shore in the upper 15 feet of water. A report from the Salt Lake City Bass Masters confirmed their anglers found large and smallmouth bass by tossing dark-colored jigs near big rock reefs in 15-20 feet of water from Good Hope to Halls Creek. Winning weight for 10 fish in two days was 25 pounds with big fish 4 pounds -14 ounces.

Check The Rock Slides

I found similar results in the southern lake by targeting small isolated rock slides sticking out on otherwise high cliff walls. It is almost too easy to look down the main channel or canyon and see a small (less than 30 yards wide) white rock slide. Drop-shotting a shad-shaped worm worked great but success was equal with a smoke or black colored single tail grub. Larger bass were found on rock slides while open water reefs were populated

with yearling bass.

Another tagged walleye was caught, this time in Halls Creek near the gravel island in the middle of the bay. Bryan Stanton reported catching a surprising number of walleye and smallmouth bass in Halls on Oct 16th. His prize was a \$50 gift certificate from Sportsman's Warehouse.

Stripers Are Where You Find Them

Stripers are where you find them. Deep schools were reported in the back of Rock Creek from 60-90 feet. They were caught on silver spoons, both plain and hammered varieties. These fish were still below the oxygen depletion zone.

There are shallower striper schools roaming and looking for shad. This week it seemed that my graph showed no fish traces for extended periods of time and then would light up with fish traces in isolated locations. Surprisingly, one of the best spots was near Lone Rock in Wahweap Bay. This spot has not been great all year and then the fish suddenly appear. We will see how long they stay before moving on.

Other good locations were in Labyrinth Canyon about three turns in from the main channel. Padre Canyon and Kane Creek were much less productive this week than last. Trolling near Neskahi Canyon in the San Juan was another bright spot for big stripers. There are still stripers roaming in the shallow water on the Great Bend.

Pay Attention To Events

My best advice is to pay attention to the events occurring at your lake location.



A 'LUNKER' — Tom Tuthill, New Jersey resident, caught his first-ever striped bass while trolling in Wahweap Bay near Lone Rock. He said it was a "lunker" compared to the sunfish he catches in lakes he fishes in his home state.

Try trolling shallow in the backs of canyons and coves. Then move out deeper and try spoons at 60 – 90 feet where fish traces are found layered in the deep water. If stripers are not found then try for bass

in the shallows near rock slides. Walleye can be targeted by adding a bit of night crawler to a bass jig or spoon and slowing

See **LAKE POWELL**, Page 14



TONTO TROUT TIME — Our friend Catherine May had a great catching time this fall at Upper Tonto Creek. She tempted these rainbow trout with salmon eggs and, obviously, May was pleased with her catch, the largest being 12.5 inches.

DAN ABBOTT

TOP FIVE

Here Are The Best Baits For Cats (Fish, That Is)

From AZGFD

Channel catfish are being stocked by the thousands of pounds through the fall. Time to pick a lethal bait. These all have a strong scent of some sort, some are even tasty to humans — and all have a long record of catching catfish in Arizona's community waters.

Here, then, are the Arizona Game and Fish Department's top-five best baits to catch these channel catfish:

5. Marshmallows

Mallows. Mmm, marshmallows. Can you blame catfish for wanting to chomp one of these sweet, beautiful, poofy globs? Just smash a big marshmallow on a No. 2-4 hook and hang on. Yet another catfish bait that also makes for a good human snack.

4. Anchovies/Sardines

An age-old bait for catching fish just about anywhere. Keep 'em frozen and stick a piece on a No. 2 baitholder hook.



3. Shrimp

Pick up some frozen, uncooked shrimp and put one on a No. 2-4 baitholder hook. Keep 'em frozen in an ice chest while fishing. If you're like us, you might even want to saute up some of your bait — yep, the shrimp — with your freshly caught catfish.



2. Stink Bait In A Tube

Stuff some catfish stink bait — and there are many effective brands — in a baitholder tube and you've got a secure rig sure to stir up some catfish action.



1. Hot Dogs

This is no secret, and it still tops our list. Cheap and effective, a thumb-nail-sized piece fits comfortably on a size 1/0, 1 or 2 baitholder hook. Cut a frozen thumbnail-sized piece in half, hook the piece through one side, turn the hook around, and hook the point back through the skin of the dog.



The Vision Of Two Gunsmiths Has Become Reality

BY MIKE BERGER AND PAT KNIGHT

Well, the Savage Model 1899 finally had a range day, with both good and not-so-good results.

First the good news, it shot very well with both .38-55 Winchester and .375 Winchester factory ammunition. Recoil was no problem at all, and the balance of the rifle made it great handling and a bunch of fun to shoot. Accuracy was excellent with both loads.

Now the bad news. I reload for almost everything I shoot. .375-diameter bullets are mostly designed for the .375 Holland and Holland and the .375 Ruger. Lever actions were designed around the shorter, flat-nosed projectiles.

When I tried some 220 grain Hornady Interlock bullets, I experienced a problem. The loaded rounds would not cycle through the rifle's magazine. Quick analysis (and more than a little help from Pat) determined that the ogive (taper of the bullet toward the nose) was different.

In that the rifle was originally a .30-30, measurement indicated that .020 of an inch (1/2 the diameter difference at the ogive) will need to be removed from the left-feed ramp side. This will be corrected at the next opportunity to disassemble the action. In the interim, factory ammo, or single-loaded reloads will have to suffice. No matter, it is a great little rifle!

A .404 Jeffery or Two

Sometimes interesting repercussions occur as the results of a mistake, and such an event is the beginning of the second half of this story (or rifle number 2). The first rifle was an intentional, carefully thought out and executed plan over two years in the making. It was to be created to undertake an adventure. It was to be the fulfilment of another desired hunting trip (number 7) to Africa, and an interest in firearms history.

Pat had the desire to make this trip, as well as a very deep respect for the beauty of the land, the animals, and the historical significance of certain firearms.

I too have always been interested in the historical aspects of guns. As a result, I have an affinity for certain manufacturers and calibers that sometimes stray from the normal. In particular, calibers with less-frequently encountered names in their nomenclature have an appeal.

Calibers

Calibers like the .257 Roberts, .35 Whelen, .577 Snider, .275 Rigby, and anything with Holland and Holland in its name. Not that there is anything wrong with Remington, or Winchester; they too are great names.

Yet, the less-frequently encountered calibers are just fun. They present the combination of history, being different, and sometimes the allure of far-off lands. They do present certain challenges such as obtaining ammunition. Walmart is not the place to go expecting to pick up a box of .458 Lott ammo!

Rifle one starts with such history. First the caliber, .404 Jeffery, which interestingly enough, is not a .404 caliber, but a .423. Anyone versed in cartridge designations will not be surprised by this. An article could easily be written about the confusion in caliber names, but I digress.

Some History

The William J. Jeffery Company in England introduced the .404 in 1905. It was also known as the .404 Rimless Nitro Express, and by its metric designation, as the 10.75 X73 millimeter. Prior to the 1950s, it was the most popular cartridge for magazine-fed dangerous game rifles (the competitors were the .416 Rigby and the .425 Wesley Richards).

In 1956, Winchester developed the

.458 Winchester Magnum, and started the .404 Jeffery on the way to obscurity. The .458 Winchester Magnum was bigger and less expensive. The best thing about the Winchester was the old-style (pre-'64) Model 70 bolt action. This rifle is often referred to as the "Rifleman's rifle".

Quality And Beauty

Pat had a plan to build a custom rifle of exquisite quality well worthy of the trip to Africa. The action was to be a modern custom rendition of the old model 70. A best-quality barrel, beautiful walnut, and select accessories were also part of the equation. Such is the gunsmith's art, blending components into a thing of functional beauty. Parts came from their respective sources, and the vision began to take shape. It was then that the mistake was realized.

It was a small error, easily made — selecting parts over several weeks, different vendors, and an order just a mouse click away. There were not one, but two .423 barrel blanks, each a custom order, and each non-returnable. Then came the question from Pat. "Do you want to build a .404 Jeffery?" "To some, this may be an offer they can't understand. To me, it was an opportunity not to be passed up.

And so the project to build one rifle became two rifles. While the calibers would be the same, the builds would be different.

Caution!!!: Parts of this article are going to be technical in nature. Do not operate machinery after reading until you know how your body is going to react in this circumstance.

Rifle Number One

The heart of any firearm is its action. As stated above, the pre-'64 Model 70 Winchester is considered a premier bolt action. Derived from the Mauser model 1898, with a number of revisions, flowing through the earlier model 54, it is smooth, strong and classic in looks.

A company called Montana Rifle Company makes a variant called the model 1999. The long-action model has sufficient length to accommodate the .404 Jeffery Cartridge, and is absolutely a beautiful sculpture in functional metal. One of the strengths of this Mauser pattern is that the round is controlled by the extractor as it leaves the magazine instead of being pushed by the bolt.

While this may not sound too important, it becomes critical when a hunter becomes a little panicked while hunting a dangerous game animal. The controlled feed will prevent a double feed tying up the rifle, and may save the hunter's life.

Another advantage is that the extractor takes almost a third of the cartridge rim as a bite, ensuring that even the most stuck cartridge comes out of the chamber. This is followed by a solid steel post as an ejector. No spring and plunger to jam. Admittedly, these occurrences are extremely rare, but they have happened. This was a truly appropriate action for a high quality rifle.

Nothing Without A Barrel

A rifle is nothing without the barrel. If the action is the heart, then the barrel works as the body. It contains the fired cartridge, and gives the bullet its consistent direction. A quality gun barrel provides a rifle with a basis for accuracy.

The barrel for this rifle is made by Lilja, a company noted for high quality, and used by competitive shooters. The bored-out steel blank is rifled using a button with the rifling pattern that is pulled through the barrel blank, creating the pattern of lands and grooves at the predetermined twist. The smooth rifling created is then polished (called lapping) in the direction of travel of the bullet. Each barrel has this direction in which it was rifled,



Mike Berger And The 1899

which must be followed for the required accuracy.

It should be noted here that the following descriptions are basic observations of the process, and are not meant as instructions on a "do-it-yourself project." These processes, if done correctly, can result in an extremely accurate and safe rifle.

Don't Try This At Home!

Conversely, if done wrong, can have catastrophically dangerous outcomes. I would not attempt these without Pat's close supervision, and even then, some parts are extremely difficult and it's easy

to make an expensive or dangerous mistake. *In short, kids, don't try this at home!*

The contoured barrel blank (not chambered or threaded) is concentrically secured in the lathe, and the breach end so trimmed to provide a base from which to thread, in the process, ensuring that the shank (large part of the barrel) is appropriate for the cartridge to be chambered, as well as creating pleasing lines.

This type of action actually has two shoulders to be formed, so measurements are critical. There is the shoulder present

See **GUNSMITHS**, Page 14



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Arizona Wildlife Views Honored With Regional Emmy Awards

The producers of *Arizona Wildlife Views*, the Arizona Game and Fish Department's television show, took home seven regional Emmy Awards in four different categories from the Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) on Oct. 8. The awards ceremony took place at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale.

The award recipients and categories were the following:

Program Feature/Segment/Special

Arizona Wildlife Views: 2016 Show 2 featured wildlife conservation stories about saving endangered species and assisting injured golden eagles. (<https://youtu.be/FVQeJ6FJFrk>) Producers Ben Avechucuo, Carol Lynde, David Majure.



Environment — Program Special

Arizona Wildlife Views: 2016 Show 1 featured some of the state's most iconic wildlife, as well as efforts to conserve majestic bald eagles. (<https://youtu.be/ugJJxjV2E0Q>) Producers Ben Avechucuo, David Majure.

Director (Non-Live)

"A Triumph for Pronghorn Antelope":

See the impressive results of a four-year project designed to save a diminishing herd of pronghorn antelope in southeastern Arizona. (<https://youtu.be/Bb4pyy-Hzs6Y>). Producer David Majure.

Video Journalist

"Bats and Burned Forests": See how Arizona Game and Fish is helping Northern Arizona University researchers who are looking into the impact of the State's largest wildfire on tree-roosting bats. (<https://youtu.be/4iN3T6VPsWg>) Producer David Majure

More Than 900 Entries

More than 900 entries were submitted for this year's Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter Emmy Awards by television and video production professionals in Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Wyoming and

El Centro, Calif. For more information, visit: <http://rockymountainemmy.org>.

About AWW

Arizona Wildlife Views is a half-hour original series produced by the Information Branch of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The show airs on local PBS stations, city cable channels across the state and *YouTube*. The current 13-week season is airing at 4:30 p.m. on Sundays on Arizona PBS Channel 8. More information about *Arizona Wildlife Views Television* can be found online.

Did You Know?

The Arizona Game and Fish Department receives *no* Arizona general fund tax dollars? We hold the state's wildlife in trust for the public without a dime from Arizona taxpayers.

Happy 20th Anniversary To State's Endangered Black-Footed Ferrets



Black-Footed Ferret

FROM AZGFD

Arizona's endangered black-footed ferret population celebrated the 20th anniversary of its reintroduction to Arizona with the release of more animals into a new privately owned reintroduction area. Through a new Safe Harbor Agreement, the Double O Ranch outside of Seligman yesterday became the third reintroduction site in Arizona.

Safe Harbor Agreement

"This release was made possible by a Safe Harbor Agreement, a newer conservation option that aims to enlist the help of non-federal landowners to conserve species. We hope our new partnership with the Double O Ranch will lead to the establishment of Arizona's third population and contribute to national recovery goals," said Jennifer Cordova, the Arizona Game and Fish Department's black-

footed ferret program supervisor.

Once Thought Extinct

The species was thought to be extinct until a small colony of ferrets was discovered in Wyoming in 1981. Disease outbreaks reduced this population to about 18 individuals, which were captured to begin a captive breeding program to save the species. Before reintroduction, the last black-footed ferret in Arizona was found in 1931 in an area between Williams and Flagstaff.

Descendants Doing Well

The descendants of the original 18 ferrets have now been introduced into reintroduction sites across the West, including the Aubrey Valley outside of Seligman, Ariz. In 2008, Aubrey Valley was declared a successful reintroduction site by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the population had become self-sustaining

and no longer required augmentation.

Today, biologists estimate there are a minimum of 800 to 1,000 individual ferrets living in the wild.

Resemble Domestic Pets

While they resemble domestic pet ferrets, black-footed ferrets are a different species and are the only ferret native to North America. They can grow to be up to 2 feet long and can weigh up to 2 1/2 pounds. One ferret can give birth to three to five kits each year.

A Joint Effort

The Arizona black-footed ferret reintroduction program is a joint effort of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Phoenix Zoo, U.S.D.A. APHIS Wildlife Services, Hualapai Nation, Navajo Nation, Arizona State Land Department, Babbitt Ranches and the Cholla Cattle Company.

Gartersnakes Introduced Into New Pinetop Wetland

FROM AZGFD

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) partnered this summer with Northern Arizona University (NAU) to release two male and one female narrow-headed gartersnakes into a newly created wetland adjacent to the AZGFD Pinetop regional office. Narrow-headed gartersnakes are listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The enclosed wetland was created, along with two new fish ponds, on the site of the original Pinetop Fish Hatchery that was built in the 1930s. Before the narrow-headed gartersnakes were introduced, the wetland was stocked with speckled dace and blueheaded suckers, to provide a food source for the snakes, and northern leopard frog tadpoles.

NAU provided the snakes that were raised in captivity, and provided valuable input on the wetland's role in maximizing gartersnake persistence, as well as post-release snake monitoring.

The decline of the narrow-headed gartersnake is attributed to nonnative species (especially crayfish), habitat loss, and effects from wildfires that have reduced the availability of prey fish.



Northern Arizona University (NAU) provided the narrow-headed gartersnakes.

Narrow-headed gartersnakes can grow to 34 inches in length and feed almost exclusively on small fish. They are usually tan to gray-brown with brown, black or reddish spots, lacking stripes like their more common cousin, the terrestrial gartersnake. Narrow-headed gartersnakes live near mid- to high-elevation streams, using pools and the rocky sides to catch their prey.

A viewing platform was built to allow visitors to view the wetland and ponds at the AZGFD Pinetop regional office, located at 2878 E. White Mountain Blvd, Pinetop, Ariz.

The project is a cooperative effort between AZGFD, NAU, Arizona Heritage Program and the Natural Resources and Conservation Service.

LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

Enjoy Your 'Neighbors' While Avoiding Conflicts

People who live in or visit Arizona can expect to see many species of wildlife. More and more often though, wild animals are venturing into areas where people live. Sometimes the wildlife becomes a problem, either by hammering on the side of the house, digging a den under the front porch, or eating all of your brand new landscaping plants.

You can usually enjoy wildlife watching from a distance, but sometimes wildlife encounters involve conflict.

Preventing Problems

Preventing problems with wildlife is much simpler and less aggravating than dealing with the problems after they occur. Fortunately, taking a few simple steps can help you prevent many of the most common wildlife-related problems around your home.

A number of proven methods can be used to solve the problem when it cannot be prevented. These Web pages (<https://www.azgfd.com/Wildlife/LivingWith>) were developed to provide residents of Arizona with information about how to coexist with Arizona's wildlife, especially



Mountain Lion

in urban areas.

The sites focus on mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, javelina, bears, bats, woodpeckers, and raptors. They include species-specific information (via printed brochures and videos) about description and habitat, what attracts them, what to do if an encounter occurs, how to prevent problems, and relevant laws and policies.

For more information on our wildlife "neighbors", including mountain lions, visit

<https://www.azgfd.com/Wildlife/LivingWith>.



NEWS ON THE RED ROCKS

Holiday Central Sedona Lights Up The City With Festive Events

Winter in Sedona is perfect for family and friend celebrations.

The peaceful and picturesque city of Sedona gives visitors a true holiday experience year after year, with its nationally recognized Holiday Central Sedona's lighting up the streets and the hearts with winter-inspired splendor. Whether visitors and residents cozy up in a bed and breakfast, dine at a luxury restaurant or explore the winding and twinkling streets of Uptown, guests will surely find a new holiday tradition for families and friends near and far.

Holiday Central Sedona

Holiday Central Sedona is the annual series of events that delight visitors with glowing holiday trees, decorated storefronts and a plethora of shopping options for everyone looking for holiday gifts. Whether looking for trinkets native to Sedona artists or the high-fashion shops at Hillside Sedona, holiday lists will surely thank you for visiting.

For those who may be looking to escape the hustle and bustle of the big city,

holiday gifts and festive frenzy, the annual events hosted by Holiday Central Sedona will provide holiday-goers a reason to celebrate throughout the month of December. This winter wonderland experience is offered Nov. 24, 2016, through January 9, 2017, with more than 30 events and festivals to be enjoyed throughout the season.

This year's Holiday Central Sedona affair is set to be the biggest yet, with the return of the historic Red Rock Fantasy, in addition to larger scales of the classic events Tinsel Town and Be the Peace Meditation Retreat.

Red Rock Fantasy

Nestled within the world-renowned red rocks of Sedona, Red Rock Fantasy is a festival of nearly one million lights, providing a man-made marvel returning to the city Dec. 1 through Jan. 1 after a four-year hiatus. Boasting over two dozen displays created by community organizations and businesses from the Southwest,



the festival promises never-before-seen marvels of light. It is the magic that has made Red Rock Fantasy a favorite among residents and visitors alike.

Tinsel Town

This month-long annual event features animated walk-through light displays in the heart of Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village in Uptown Sedona. There is a grove of ancient sycamore trees that dance to music every 15 minutes and on any given night, different activities will surprise visitors. The event occurs every evening in December until 9 p.m. and is free to all visitors.

Be The Peace: New Year Meditation Retreat

Bring in the New Year with medita-

tion and music at a powerful and soul-nourishing retreat. From Dec. 31 through Jan. 1 at the McLean Meditation Institute in the heart of Sedona, join internationally renowned meditation guide Sarah McLean and mystical musician and recording artist, Ani Williams. With guided and silent meditations and chanting, it's a beautiful celebration, perfect for any level meditator.

For More Information

The holidays are a special time to enjoy with friends and family, and in Sedona, groups can make it a season to never forget. For more information about events and what to explore during the holidays, view our Press Kit or visit www.holidaycentralsedona.com.

Grand Canyon National Park's North Rim Begins Seasonal Closures



JESSICA POPE, NPS

The Park will remain open for day use unless there is heavy snowfall.

North Rim operations began seasonal shut-down of most visitor services on Oct. 15. The North Rim will remain open to day-use visitors and overnight campers, until Thursday, Dec. 1 unless heavy snowfall closes State Highway 67 earlier.

Nov. 1 through Dec. 1 entrance fees are paid at the automated fee machine located behind the visitor center. Entrance fees are \$30 per vehicle, \$25 for motorcycles and \$15 for walk-ups and bicycles, all good for seven days for both North and South Rim. Nov. 1 through May 15, the North Rim Campground reverts

to primitive use without running water. Backcountry reservations from the Backcountry Information Center are required. The South Rim Backcountry Information Center remains open year round and can be reached by email at grca_bic@nps.gov or by calling 928-638-7875.

Weather Permitting

Tuesday, Nov. 1 through Thursday, Dec. 1 or until snow closes State Highway 67, the Park will remain open from dawn to dusk for day-use. Weather and road conditions permitting, visitors will

have access to Bright Angel Point, Point Imperial and Cape Royal as well as the North Kaibab trailhead.

Inner-canyon users with a valid backcountry permit will be allowed to park overnight at the North Kaibab trailhead. A limited number of campsites at the North Rim Campground will be available to hikers with advanced reservations. A backcountry permit is required and will be available through the South Rim Backcountry Information Center. No over-

See **CLOSURES**, Page 14

FALL IN FLAGSTAFF

Vets Will Be Honored, Route 66 Celebrated

FROM TRACE WARD
FLAGSTAFF CVB DIRECTOR

Fall has officially arrived and the crisp, clean mountain air and colors are here to accentuate it. There is a lot happening in terms of tourism in Flagstaff and the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) team is hard at work.

To name a few items of interest:

- We are all looking forward to the 2016 NAU Homecoming festivities;

- The team is working hard on preparing for and organizing a major FY17 initiative of producing a virtual tour of Flagstaff and the surrounding area;

- We are launching a meetings-incentive program called "It pays to meet in Flagstaff";



DEREK CASHMAN/WIKIPEDIA
Northern Arizona University's Skydome, Flagstaff

- A new creative is being produced to showcase Flagstaff as Northern Arizona's "Hub and Spoke" destination, and

- We are looking forward to celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the Mother Road, between 1 - 6 p.m., Nov. 11.

In collaboration with Veterans Day, the Route 66 90th Anniversary will be celebrated in the parking lots of Starlite Lanes and Museum Club. The family friendly event will begin at 1 p.m. with a color-guard dedication honoring our veterans followed by afternoon activities including a bounce house, live entertainment, themed food, bowling and more.

November is earmarked as a month of giving, and this event will support veteran organizations Military Order of the Purple Heart and Bowling for Vets.

Fall Weather Brings Changes To Recreation Sites Near Phoenix

Popular recreation sites on the Tonto National Forest near Phoenix are either opening for the season, or closing for the season, depending on the location. The Mesquite and Horseshoe campgrounds and Fisherman's Point (also known as Catfish Point) re-opened for the winter on Oct. 1.

These three areas are on the Cave Creek Ranger District near Horseshoe Lake. They are popular camping spots for fisherman.

On the Mesa Ranger District, seasonal reductions in services at some developed recreation sites went into effect on Oct. 1 and will last through March 31, 2017.

The reduction in services means there will not be any trash pick-up, drinking water, restrooms or vehicle access into these sites:

Lower Salt River Recreation Area

- Goldfield
- Pebble Beach
- Sheeps Crossing

Canyon Lake Recreation Area

- Tortilla Campground
- Laguna
- Boulder keyhole
- Acacia Keyhole (back area)

There are plenty of developed recreation sites on the Mesa Ranger District that will remain open. These sites remain open and require the Tonto Daily Pass or annual Tonto Discovery Pass per vehicle:

Lower Salt River Recreation Area

- Water Users
- Blue Point
- Coon Bluff
- Phon D Sutton
- Granite Reef

Canyon Lake Recreation Area

- Palo Verde
- Acacia (front/main area)

Saguaro Lake Recreation Area

- Saguaro Del Norte

See **WEATHER**, Page 14

GREAT GEAR FOR THE OUTDOORS

It's Not Too Early To Start On Your Gift List

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Outdoor types love gear, so if you have some outdoorsy folks on your list this year, here are some awesome gift ideas.

Revomax Vacuum Insulated Flask

Regardless of what you do for fun outdoors, water is essential. The Revomax flask will keep your beverages hot for up to 18 hours, cold for up to 36. They come in beautiful vivid colors, and the lids don't screw on — you just press the quick release buttons on the cap,



which you can even do one-handed if you need to. To close it, just slide the cap back in and pull the safety ring. A green safety button pops up to let you know you're sealed and leak-proof. These would be great for school or work, too. The 12-ounce is \$29.99 and the 20-ounce is \$34.99. Check them out at revomax.com.

Revomax flasks will keep your drinks ice cold for up to 36 hours, or hot for up to 18.

Lucid Amped Bluetooth Neckband

This is seriously the best set of Blue-

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tooth earbuds ever. I don't know how they do it, but these Lucid AMPED earbuds recognize bad sounds and cut them down to size, but they allow you to hear what's going on around you (conversations, birds, etc.). If you choose to, you can even have the outside sound amplified up to nine times — great for birders. When you wear these, it's almost as if you're listening to

the stereo in your house — you can have a conversation without having to remove them, but you can hear your music perfectly. Since they are Bluetooth, you aren't tethered to your mp3 player or phone, giving you much more freedom of movement. You can adjust the amount of outside noise as well, so if you don't want any of it, it's your choice. They are \$129 and worth every cent. See them at lucidaudio.com.



These LucidAMPED Bluetooth earbuds let you choose the level of sound from your audio source as well as from the environment around you. You can even amplify the sounds around you — excellent for birders!

Sol Pocket Survival Pak Plus



This survival kit was designed by the Executive Director of the Equipped to Survive Foundation and has just about everything you need to survive outdoors if you get lost or stranded. It includes tools, water purification tabs, signaling devices, fire making supplies and more. It's \$80 and you can see what's inside at surviveoutdoorslonger.com. They have several other kits as well, including the Traverse, which is only \$20, yet covers shelter, fire, and signaling — so check it out.

National Parks Wall Calendar

They'll think of you every time they glance at this useful and beautiful calendar. The illustrations are sort of retro, and at 10 x 13 inches, it offers plenty of space to keep your days organized. It's just \$29.99 and you can get it at andersondesigngroupstore.com.



This National Parks calendar will give 12 months of joy.



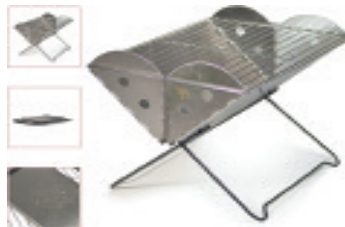
The CAIRN outdoor-gear subscription is a gift that keeps on giving month after month. These three boxes show you the kinds of gear you can expect.

Atn Binox-hd 4-16x Digital Binoculars

Okay, at \$479, this is a total splurge, but wait til you see what these babies do. These binoculars are not only state of the art when it comes to optics, they also have night-vision mode and they can record images (stills and video) in 1920x1080 full HD and play back on an HD TV. A gyroscope steadies your view and the GPS and altimeter let you geo-tag your location and help you navigate. They are also rugged and weather resistant so you don't have to worry about trashing your investment. Find out more about these incredible binoculars at atncorp.com.

Cairn Monthly Subscription

They call it "Outdoor Inspiration Delivered Monthly". For \$22/month, you receive a monthly box containing three-to-six amazing outdoor products, up to a \$50 value each month. Shipping is free, and the items can be gear, apparel such as socks, gloves, or beanies, food, skin care, or even emergency and medical supplies. Half the fun is the surprise. You can sign up for \$25 on a monthly basis, \$135 for 6 months, or \$260 for a full 12 months of delightful outdoor gear surprises. They renew automatically, but you can cancel anytime. Giving a subscription as a gift is easy; just click the "give as a gift" button! Go to getcairn.com to sign up.



The Flatpack portable grill is ideal for both camping and the back yard or terrace.

Flatpack Portable Grill & Firepit

This is one handy grill that you can use at home or out on a camping trip. It's small enough for a backpacking trip, too. Takes just 30 seconds to set up — just unfold it and put the grills on top. The base is nice and stable, and the sides help break the wind, while the ends are vented to keep the flames going. This little gem is only \$39.99, too, so it's a pretty inexpensive way to thrill your outdoorsman. Get it at ucogear.com.

Weego 44

Absolutely nothing is worse than being miles from the dock and discovering that your starting battery is dead. Seriously, the only thing worse is being right in the

middle of filming a fantastic adventure and having your phone die in the middle of it. All such disasters are easily avoided by keeping a Weego portable power station with you. The new Weego 44 is compact and incredibly simple to use. It will jump start anything you've got, plus it will charge your phones, tablets, laptops, etc. It also functions as a pro-grade 500 lumen LED flashlight. These things are the best. The price is right, too — just \$149 for peace of mind on the road and on the water. You can see all of the incredible Weego products at myweego.com.



Garmont Trail Best shoes are the best hiking shoes I've ever worn.

Garmont Trail Best GTX Hiking Shoes

These are seriously the best hiking shoes I've ever worn. They are good-looking, very light weight, and have a Gore-Tex membrane to keep your feet dry when the trail gets wet. They are perfect for hiking rough ground all day long, but they look nice enough to wear in town, too. The tread — Vibram outsole with MegaGrip compound — is aggressive enough to keep you on safe footing no matter what terrain you're in, and they are incredibly comfortable and stable. I just love these. They come in three colors and cost \$170. If you are a serious hiker, you should definitely give these a try. Buy them at garmontnorthamerica.com.

The Bushcraft Field Guide To Trapping, Gathering & Cooking In The Wild by Dave Canterbury

This is a great book for any outdoors person. Starting with the basics of what to bring with you into the wild, Canterbury goes into various ways of building a fire, finding foods that are easy to prepare, cooking in the wild, hunting and trapping, butchering, and even how to make tools and utensils. There are color photographs of common and easy-to-find edible plants, and even recipes for game and foraged foods. I especially loved the section on unconventional fuels and fuel tabs, and how to make a stove. This

See GIFTS, Page 13



The Weego 44 will not only jumpstart your car or boat; it also doubles as a powerful flashlight and will charge your electronics as well.

Come Explore Lake Pleasant Regional Park Discovery Center

(Morristown) – As the manager of more than 120,000 acres of pristine Sonoran Desert, the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department takes pride in having the resources to connect people with nature. Each year, more than 2.1 million people visit the County's regional park system and enjoy the many miles of trails, educational programs, and wide variety of park activities.



creasing the recreational opportunities of Lake Pleasant Regional Park.

Popular Park

With more than 750,000 outdoor enthusiasts flocking to Lake Pleasant Regional Park annually, the lake is easily the most popular park in the County's regional park system. As these visitors pay their fees to enjoy the park, a portion of each fee collected is set aside to help improve the park's infrastructure.

"While the department has been making improvements system wide, the lake has seen a significant number of changes over the last couple of years," said Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Chairman Clint Hickman. "In 2014, the department expanded the park's mile long trail system to just over 15 miles, and connected the trails to the Maricopa Trail. That alone gave park visitors the access to miles of trails."

Not Just For The Trails

But not everyone comes for the trails. The 23,362-acre park also houses 9,966-acres of water at the high-water mark, and 116-miles of shoreline. However, the lake hasn't always been this size. Back in 1985, the Bureau of Reclamation began construction on the New Waddell Dam to store Colorado River water for Central Arizona Project use. This expanded the surface area of the lake from 3,528-acres to 9,966-acres, thus making it the second largest lake in Arizona, and in-

Some History

"In 1990, Reclamation built an overlook at the Lake Pleasant Regional Park allowing many visitors to watch the progress as New Waddell Dam was constructed. When the dam was completed, it was transferred to Maricopa County who transformed it into a small visitors' center," said Leslie Meyers, Reclamation's Phoenix Area office manager.

Over the past 25 years, use of the small facility has been expanded to include educational programs by the park's interpretive ranger, an information center, display space for a wide variety of marketing materials, live animals exhibits, information on the parks flora and fauna, and an ever expanding inventory of retail items for sale.

"The bones of the structure were still in good condition; however, it was time to modernize and expand the facility. Several years before the renovations commenced, our department began meeting with Reclamation to discuss the project, and ensure the final product would be a good representation of both agencies' visions. I believe we achieved that mission," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Director.

See **DISCOVERY CENTER**, Page 14

GIFTS

Continued from page 12



This Bushcraft book covers all the basics and then some.

book will delight any Boy or Girl Scout as well as any survivalist or outdoorsman. I absolutely recommend this book, and at \$16.99, it's a total bargain. On Amazon, you can buy this book, plus Bushcraft 101 and Advanced Bushcraft for just \$30.62!



The Fusion is a multi-function music station with secure storage, charging, and several ways to access your music while on the water.

Fusion Stereoactive

This purpose-built floating portable watersports stereo was just selected as the "Coolest Product of the Show" in the paddlesports-accessory category at the 2016 Global Paddlesports Trade Show in Germany. The Fusion has built-in Bluetooth audio streaming, AM/FM radio with weatherband, USB audio playback and charging for smartphones, and is protected in a rugged housing with a unique Puck mount system that lets you attach it

to any paddleboard, kayak, boat, or even a hot tub. It also has incorporated the ActiveSafe, which will securely house a smartphone, keys, bank cards, or cash. If it somehow did come loose — which is unlikely in the extreme — both the stereo and the safe float. You can control the Fusion with your phone or even your Garmin fitness watch with the FUSION-Link app, or by tapping the scalloped buttons with your fingers or even a paddle. You can buy one for \$299.99 at crutchfield.com.

Gobi Gear Segsac 15l

If you've ever packed a backpack, then had to dig through it on the trail looking for a poncho, your extra socks, that red bandana you packed — whatever — you know what a pain it can be to find stuff in that big pocket. That's where the Segsac comes in really handy. It's a 15-liter stuff sack that has four internal compartments that run the length of the bag to keep your gear organized and easy to find. Just pack it up and stick it inside your backpack. It's only \$20, too, so you can get one for everybody. Go to gobigear.com to order.

It's not too early to start ordering gear for your outdoors lover, so check out this stuff and have a great holiday!



The Gobi Gear Segsac will keep your gear organized and accessible.

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TripleWall Productions specialize in outdoor video production as well as all your video-production needs.

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

WEATHER

Continued from page 11

• Butcher Jones

Camping sites on both the Mesa and Cave Creek ranger districts currently require a Tonto Daily Pass, or annual Tonto Discovery Pass per vehicle. Fee machines will be installed in the near future. Once the fee machines are operational, each campsite will charge a camping fee per night, per site.

The following information may be

helpful for planning winter activities on the Mesa Ranger District:

- Overnight use is allowed at Coons Bluff on Friday and Saturday nights, and Sunday nights before the following holidays: Christmas Day observed (Dec 26), New Year's Day observed (Jan 2), Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday observed (Jan 16), and Presidents Day observed (Feb 20). Overnight use will also be allowed at Coons Bluff on Thanksgiving Day through Saturday night, November 26.

- Non-forest camping areas include Canyon Lake Marina and Campground, Lost Dutchman State Park, and Usery Mountain Regional Park.

- Fishing locations on the Lower Salt River include Water Users, Blue Point, Coons Bluff, Phon D. Sutton, and Granite Reef.

- Kayaking opportunities on the Lower Salt River include Water Users, Blue Point, and Coons Bluff (water levels permitting); and Phon D Sutton and Granite

Reef (year-round).

- Equestrian Access on the Lower Salt include the Bulldog entrance on Bush Highway, Bulldog entrance on Usery Pass Road, Water Users, Coons Bluff, and Phon D. Sutton.

For further information and alternative recreation sites, please visit the forest Web site at www.fs.usda.gov/tonto, or contact either the Cave Creek Ranger District at 480-595-3300 or the Mesa Ranger District at 480-610-3300

CHRISTMAS THEMES

Continued from page 1

on Tempe Town Lake in early December each year. This is a spectacular event for the entire family.

The festivities begin late afternoon with activities, exhibits and entertainment at Tempe Beach where over 50 tons of man-made snow gets the crowd in the holiday and Christmas spirit. The boat parade with lighted decorations begins at approximately 6-7 p.m. with boats parading the shores of Tempe Town Lake followed by a brilliant display of fireworks as a grand finale.

Nearly 30,000 residents, visitors and vacationers attend this unique, spectacular annual event produced by the Downtown Tempe Community, which manages the Mill Avenue District. The boat parade is free to the public.

For more information, call (480) 921-2300 x19.

Editor's Note: There are other smaller parades on some residential lakes. For example, one favorite is on The Lakes in Tempe (south of Baseline, between McClintock and Rural on Lakeshore Drive). For information on each, contact the neighborhood associations.

6:15 p.m. with fireworks at Newport Pier, and parade continuing through Saturday, Dec. 17

Closing Night: Sunday, Dec. 18 with 9 p.m. fireworks at Balboa Pier
Beginning At 6:30 PM Each Evening

San Diego: "It Began with a Roar" Sundays, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is a time-honored holiday tradition brought to San Diego by the boating community. Join us this December for our 45th annual Parade on San Diego Bay, with more than 80 boats lavishly decorated according to a new theme each year.

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is held two consecutive Sundays each year in December. The parade proceeds from Shelter Island past Harbor Island,



San Diego, Calif.

The procession will start at 5 p.m. and will follow a predetermined parade route. The 2016 theme — "It Began with



San Diego, Winner's Prize

a Roar" — honors that the San Diego Zoo is celebrating its 100-year anniversary.

Whether a participant or spectator, the Parade of Lights is a festive and delightful experience for all.

Winners Receive Incredible Prizes

This year's grand prize is a luxury cruise package for two with Star Clippers, whose fleet includes three of the largest full-rigged sailing ships in the world — each with all of the amenities of a private mega-yacht.

The "Best in Theme" award is from Uncruise Adventures and will be announced closer to the parade dates. Everyone who participates in both nights of the parade and passes both sets of judges will be eligible to win the above prizes.

There are dozens of other prizes donated from our sponsors that participants can win. Don't miss the parade fun and a chance to win a great prize!

Awards Presentation Dinner

The Awards Presentation dinner will be at Tom Ham's Lighthouse on Harbor Island. One's parade registration includes two complimentary tickets that will be held at the door. Additional Awards Banquet admission tickets can be purchased online. These tickets will also be held at the door in your boat name / name.

(More 2012 boat photos are available from Marv Sloben, the official photographer, who can be contacted via email at MarvSloben@san.r.r.com)

More California Parades

There are other lighted-boat parades throughout California. A listing of these can be found at the following URL:

www.google.com/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instant&ion=1&espv=2&ie=UTF-8#q=2016+Holiday+Boat+Parades+in+California



Newport Beach, Calif.

In California

Newport Beach: "Ring of Lights"

Wednesday, Dec. 14- Sunday, Dec.

18

Join over a million viewers as you watch beautifully decorated yachts, boats, kayaks and canoes sail along the harbor in the 108th Annual Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade, hosted by the Commodores Club of the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Opening Night: Wednesday, Dec. 14,

the Embarcadero, Seaport Village, the new pier and then across the bay to Coronado and Ferry Landing in Coronado.

San Diego Bay Parade of Lights will announce the winners of the best-decorated boats at the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights' Awards Dinner held at Tom Ham's Lighthouse on Jan. 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. The "Best of Parade" award winner in 2015 was Scotts Landing, who walked away with the *Star of India* Perpetual Cup.

GUNSMITHS

Continued from page 9

are critical. There is the shoulder present in most rifles, where the barrel meets the receiver. There is an additional shoulder on the inside of the receiver that actually helps controls a critical dimension called headspace. The barrel is carefully threaded to the exact dimensions of the receiver, insuring full contact of the inside shoulder, with a more aesthetic contact with the outside of the front receiver.

Chambering Process

The next process involves the chambering process. A specialized tool called a "chamber reamer" is used for this process. Each caliber requires a separate reamer, and the reamer is made based upon the standardized caliber specifications. At the front part of the reamer is a guide that follows the rifling of the barrel to keep the chamber concentric to the bore.

The reamer also has grooves that allow the metal shavings removed in the

process a place to go. The chambering process requires frequent cleaning and lubrication. As the chamber approaches final dimensions, frequent measurements are taken to ensure against cutting too deep, and making sure the chamber is still cut to the full depth allowing a cartridge to be fully seated.

This process involves a number of trial fittings, as well as the measuring process. The careful fitting and chambering of the barrel is a critical part of the accuracy equation. The barrel is then joined to the action, tightened in a barrel vice, and the headspace (measurement of the chamber, with the bolt closed) is again verified. We now have our barreled action to work with.

Barrel Length

The next step is to cut the barrel to the final length. A number of factors apply

here.

Magnum calibers require a longer barrel to fully burn the larger powder charge; however the penalty is weight and portability. A long barrel is difficult to maneuver in deep woods, or heavy brush.

Another consideration is the possible installation of a muzzle brake. This is a device which redirects gasses from the burnt powder to the front and sides to reduce felt recoil and muzzle rise. The penalty here is length and a significant increase in noise for the shooter.

The barrel on this rifle was originally cut at 26 inches due to the planned trip to Namibia, which has large, open plains, and the tradition of the long barrel from the open-sight era. It looked awesome, but will soon be shortened to about 22 inches, as this length is adequate to attain good velocity with the .404 cartridge.

DISCOVERY CENTER

Continued from page 13

Now, Much More

The newly renovated 4,321 sq. ft. facility includes a reception area, informative interpretive displays and wildlife exhibits, a fish tank, retail space, a meeting room and administrative offices. Restrooms are easily accessible located adjacent to the building's entrance. Next to the Discovery Center, guests will find an amphitheater for outdoor programs and presentations, desert tortoise habitat, and the Discovery Center Trail.

For additional information on the Lake Pleasant Regional Park Discovery Center Grand Opening, phone (928) 501-1710 or visit the Maricopa County Park and Recreation Department's website at www.maricopacountyparks.net/events/discovery-center-grand-opening/.

CLOSURES

Continued from page 11

night parking or car camping will be allowed.

All North Rim operations will close for the season at 8 am on Thursday, Dec. 1. Hikers and cross country skiers will still be able to enter the North Rim of the park through the winter months with valid backcountry permits.

Jacob Lake Inn, restaurant and gas station located 45 miles from the North Rim remains open year-round. Through Dec. 31, the Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center at Jacob Lake may be open on weekends from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call ahead to ensure the visitor center is open: 928-643-7298.

Call For Road Conditions

Arizona Department of Transportation officials intend to keep State Highway 67 open through Dec. 1 but a major storm with heavy snowfall could close the road earlier. Even now, visitors should be prepared for winter driving and travel conditions and are encouraged to call Arizona Highway Information at 888-411-7623 in advance of their trip to check on the status of State Highway 67. Visitors to the area are reminded that State Highway 89A remains open year-round.

The South Rim and inner canyon facilities of Grand Canyon National Park are open year-round. Additional Park information can be obtained by calling 928-638-7888 or by visiting the park Web site at www.nps.gov/grca.

LAKE POWELL

Continued from page 8

down the presentation.

Lake Powell weather is still great with warm days and cool nights. Fish are active and angling success will peak in the next two weeks as water temperature hits the mid 60s.

New Products Featured For Boaters, Anglers, RVers

ELCI Shore-Power Inlet Adapter Kits Deliver Added Protection

Shore power systems must be well-designed and carefully built to prevent electricity and water from forming a hazardous dockside combination. Equipment Leakage Circuit Interrupter (ELCI) shore power inlet adapter kits from Hubbell Marine allow boaters to easily integrate a variety of third-party ELCI sensors and breakers into Hubbell's dependable shore power inlet housings. This provides an additional level of safety with ground fault protection for the entire AC shore power system.

Available in 30 amp and 50 amp versions, the advanced ELCI adapter kits include a Hubbell shore power inlet, a matched housing and stainless steel mounting hardware. They accept a variety



ety of ELCI sensors and breakers from suppliers such as North Shore Safety and Sensata Technologies.

Hubbell's ELCI interface kits are built to last. They're designed to stand up to severe use by the most demanding boaters worldwide, including Captain



Dave Carraro from the popular National Geographic Channel series *Wicked Tuna*. Captain Carraro uses the Hubbell ELCI interface and 50 amp inlet on his vessel *FV-Tuna.com*.

Suggested retail prices for Hubbell's ELCI shore power inlet adapter kits be-

POWER! — Shore power systems must be well-designed and carefully built to prevent electricity and water from forming a hazardous dockside combination. Equipment Leakage Circuit Interrupter (ELCI) shore power inlet adapter kits from Hubbell Marine allow boaters to easily integrate a variety of third-party ELCI sensors and breakers into Hubbell's dependable shore power inlet housings.

gin at less than \$200.

Contact local dealers or Hubbell Marine Electrical Products, 40 Waterview Dr. Shelton, CT 06484. 475-882-4838; Fax: 203-783-9195. www.hubbell-marine.com.

2NM Anchor Pole Lamps Deliver Unmatched Performance



Delivering superior efficiency, durability and reliability, Hella marine introduces its NaviLED 360 2NM Anchor Pole Mount Lamps. They are fully certified to provide brilliant LED illumination to a range of 2 nautical miles, available in fixed and fold-down models to meet users' mounting requirements.

The NaviLED 360

Anchor Pole Mount Lamp series is completely shock- and vibration-proof thanks to its no-filament design. Advanced Multivolt™ circuitry draws less than 1W of power, yet operates from 9-33V DC with full reverse polarity, spike and over-voltage protection for reliable operation and long life.

BRILLIANCE — Delivering superior efficiency, durability and reliability, Hella marine introduces its NaviLED 360 2NM Anchor Pole Mount Lamps.

Constructed with only the highest quality materials, the Hella marine NaviLED 360 series is built to withstand the harsh marine environment. Each housing is completely sealed with an IP67 rating. Hella marine uses an impact-resistant Grilamid lens and ultra-resilient acrylics that are UV-, impact- and chemical-resistant. The maintenance-free lamps won't fade, yellow, become brittle or corrode. They meet all international approvals, including the requirements of COLREG, USCG, ABYC A-16, Wheelmark, RCD, Maritime NZ, CE and RCM.

NaviLED 360 Anchor Pole Mount Lamps are available with black or white bases. Fixed pole models are 6" and 8" H, with two counter-sunk mounting holes in the base. Fold-down versions, which swing 180° then secure into position with a locking collar, come in 12", 24" or 40" lengths. They include a removable wedge to accommodate different surface cambers. These new pole mount models complement the company's proven surface mount 2NM LED Anchor Lamp.

Hella marine products are designed and manufactured in New Zealand. Supported with a full 5-year warranty, NaviLED 360 2NM Anchor Lamps are competitively priced, ranging from \$97 for the surface mount model to \$185 for the 40" fold-down version. Contact local dealers or Hella marine Inc., 201 Kelly Dr., Peachtree City, GA 30269. 770-631-7500. SOE.sales@hella.com; www.hellamarine.com.

Quality Sanitation Hose New From Thetford Marine

The scent of boating is crisp, clean air. Thetford Marine's top-quality Tecma-branded rubber and PVC sanitation hoses maintain that freshness throughout the boat. They'll provide years of odorless and maintenance-free service.

Tecma premium HosePlus 38 for head and holding tank connections has a unique odor shield that provides permeability of less than 1%. So sure of its performance, Thetford Marine backs it with a five-year warranty. The vanilla-scented hose is also built to last, using highly flexible butyl rubber that's resistant to abrasion, ozone, seawater and marine chemicals, and reinforced with double steel wire. It comes in the very common 1.5" i.d. size for use on most marine toilets and has a removable protective band



CRISP AND CLEAN — The scent of boating is crisp, clean air.

Thetford Marine's top-quality Tecma-branded rubber and PVC sanitation hoses maintain that freshness throughout the boat. They'll provide years of odorless and maintenance-free service.

to avoid damaging finishes when installing.

For boat owners who prefer PVC, or have a unique installation, crush-re-

sistant Tecma HoseHelix 38 is an ideal choice. Developed specifically for a marine environment, its advanced odor shield provides maximum resistance to permeation. The ultra-flexible hose has a smooth, white finish, and resists weathering and most chemicals.

Tecma toilets and equipment are found on some of world's most prestigious yachts. Whether DIY or specifying a yard project, boat owners who choose Tecma are assured a product of superior quality and reliability. Tecma HosePlus 38 has an MSRP of \$10 per foot, Tecma HoseHelix 38 \$3 per foot.

Contact local dealers or Thetford Marine, 7101 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Toll-free 800-543-1219 or 734-769-6000. www.thetfordmarine.com.

Optimal Trolling Speeds Easy To Achieve With Happy Troller

Even at their lowest throttle, stern-drives and outboards can rarely power a boat at an optimal trolling speed. Many gamefish simply won't chase and strike at a lure that's moving too fast. The updated Happy Troller from Davis Instruments slows even large engines when deployed, increases stability when cruising, and now has a 45° setting for added flexibility.

Built to last in fresh and saltwater, the Happy Troller is made from high-quality stainless steel components and hardware, and anodized marine aluminum. It mounts permanently on the anti-cavitation plate in 15 minutes. It comes with a one-year warranty.

To use, anglers simply pull the operating cable, locking the plate down behind the prop. The Happy Troller then disrupts the water flow, slowing the boat, while the engine runs at normal low RPMs.

If the down position moves the boat too slowly due to wind, current or other factors, the 45° setting can be used. It provides increased steerage and better handling, with less throttle.



GET THE GAMEFISH — Even at their lowest throttle, stern-drives and outboards can rarely power a boat at an optimal trolling speed. Many gamefish simply won't chase and strike at a lure that's moving too fast. The updated Happy Troller from Davis Instruments slows even large engines when deployed, increases stability when cruising, and now has a 45° setting for added flexibility.

dling, with less throttle.

Returning the Happy Troller to the up position is just as easy with a tug on the cable and a bit of throttle. It then smooths the ride in rough water by reducing porpoising and cavitation, and adding stability, especially in bow-light boats.

Davis Instruments' large Happy Troll-

er for engines 50 hp-plus, runs \$149.99; the small for 20-50 hp motors, \$145.99.

Contact local dealers or Davis Instruments, 3465 Diablo Ave., Hayward, CA 94545. 510-732-9229; Fax: 510-732-9188. info@davisnet.com; www.davisnet.com.

Final Polish Pad Upgraded For Professional Use



FOR A SHINY RV — A freshly waxed RV reflects everything, from a scenic campsite to the pride in its owner's face. Now, waxing is easier than ever with Shurhold's popular Brite Bonnet PRO Final Polish Pad. Designed to work with the company's powerful Dual Action Polisher Pro and Rotary Pro, it quickly removes excess wax and leaves an incredible shine.

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The Brite Bonnet PRO Final Polish Pad is a durable, shaggy microfiber pad that quickly buffs off excess wax and brings out a showroom-like shine. The numerous cords quickly get into the tightest crevices. Easier and less tiring than buffing by hand, it works with the machine to apply consistent pressure for a deep and even shine. A

sturdy, hook-and-loop backing helps keep the pad in place on even the most powerful polishing machine. A video showing its use is at bit.ly/2bDKVOU.

Shurhold's Brite Bonnet PRO Final Polish Pad sells for \$11.98; polishers start at \$149.99.

Shurhold is dedicated to educating owners on RV value preservation. Inventor of the One Handle Does It All system, Shurhold manufactures specialty care items and accessories to clean, polish and detail.

Contact local dealers or Shurhold, 3119 SW 42nd Ave., Palm City, FL 34990. 800-962-6241; Fax: 772-286-9620. www.shurhold.com/rv.



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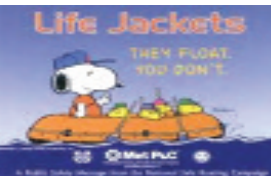
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Business Spotlight

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Ed Hale is the proud owner of Hales Marine Services and Transports. Ed began his journey in boating while serving in The United States Coast Guard for 10 years. After his service to our country was completed, he landed in Lake Havasu and knew that Arizona was the place he was meant to be. (It didn't hurt that MTV was filming Spring Break that week) Ed soon realized that there was a need for good, honest and reliable boat repair

See HALE'S MARINE, Page 19

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RV EXPO

Continued from page 1

As bonus attractions for 2016, the Sand - Water - RV Expo will also be the host venue for the 4th Annual "FAB 50" Hot Boat" Show & Shine" featuring classic restored flatbottoms, hydros and jets from yesteryear on Saturday plus a separate "Hot Lot" area where privately owned off-road vehicles, boats, RVs, trailers, motorcycles and personal watercraft are for sale.

Also On Tap

Also on tap for Saturday evening is the Expo "Rock-It" After-Party sponsored by KJJJ radio starting at 5:00 p.m. on the Windsor 4 greenbelt with live music by

CrossCutt, catered BBQ food favorites by Pirates Den Resort, a cocktail bar and beer garden. Visitors with their paid admission ticket on Saturday to the Expo automatically receive free admittance to the after-party. Walk-ups that evening without tickets pay a nominal \$3 cover charge for the After-Party that also includes a free admission pass to the Expo on Sunday.

And, for Expo attendees of all ages, don't forget the Havasu Fall Classic Cornhole Tournament with classes for adults, seniors and juniors with over \$500 in prize money on the line for winners sponsored by Black Bear Diners. If you know how to toss the bags, you ought to enter and show us your skills; you might go home with some cash.

More Details

The Sand - Water - RV Expo will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19 and on Sunday, Nov. 20 from 9 p.m. to 3 p.m. Adult admission is only \$3.00, children 6 and under are free and on-site parking is also free. Food, beverage and beer garden concessions are on-site; dogs are okay on a leash. The Lake Havasu State Park, Windsor 4 venue is located on London Bridge Road approximately one-half mile north of the London Bridge directly behind the Hampton Inn.

For additional information and the latest updates on Expo exhibitors and special attractions/entertainment, please visit <http://www.sandandwaterexpo.com> or email info@sandandwaterexpo.com.

LIFE JACKETS

Continued from page 4

size and weight.

To make sure the life jacket is worn properly, keep in mind:

- A life jacket should fit snugly. It shouldn't rise more than 1.5 inches when lifting it up on a child.

- Raise both arms straight up and if the life jacket hits your chin or ears, it may be too big or the straps may be too loose.

- You should also be able to fit your fingers in the back of the life jacket on a child. If you can't, then it's likely too tight.

All boats in Arizona must have a life jacket aboard for every passenger and those 12 years old and younger must wear a life jacket at all times, under state law.

HALE'S MARINE

Continued from page 18

and so began the creation of Hales Marine Services in 1996. With a Red Van, his tool bag, mechanical knowledge and good customer service instincts, Ed changed the standard for quality boat repair in the Valley. After long hours, running a tight ship and lots of blood, sweat and hard work, Ed became well known as one of the most reliable boating-repair shops in town.

While working hard in the boat repair industry, Ed soon realized that he could provide the same qualities he was providing in boat repair to the transporting of his customers' boats. In his typical "Hale style", Ed went straight out and bought a semi-truck and trailer and taught himself

to drive it so that he could get a C.D.L. and begin transporting his customer's boats.

With word of mouth and proven attention to detail, the demand for Hales Marine Services/Transport began to increase and the birth of a transport division was born. Along the way, there have been many trucks and specialized trailers not only to transport the Hale's Marine Services repair boats to and from the shop, but also to transport boats across the nation.

There is no-one else in the area who has the experience, knowledge and equipment that Ed Hale has, which is why he is known as the "go-to guy" for transporting the big and beautiful cruisers, pontoon boats, and house-boats.

It is with much appreciation and gratitude to his loyal customers, incredible hardworking team, family and friends that Ed says, "Thank you so much!"

If you haven't had the experience and satisfaction of being a Hales Marine Services customer yet, they look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the Hale's family.

This way to Hale's Marine: 2101 W Williams Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85027 or give them a call: (623) 879-7236.

Editor's Note: Jim and Carol Allen have called on their friend Ed Hale many times over the years to move "old wooden boats" from San Diego for the "Rock The Boat" project and most recently, to help them move their Balboa to Lo Lo Mai Springs near Page Springs, Ariz.



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