



Western Outdoor Times

FREE

Arizona Boating & Watersports™

TM



November - December 2013

www.azbw.com

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

Merry Christmas AND A HAPPY New Year



**Western
Wildlife**

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**Land
Cruising**

Pages 11-14

**Tackle &
Target**

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Happy Holidays

International Sportsmen's Expo Comes To Phoenix

Dates: February 20-23, 2014

Location

University of Phoenix Stadium, 1 Cardinals Drive, Glendale, AZ 85305

Hours

Thursday — 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday — 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday — 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday — 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Tickets

\$12, Adults; Free, Youth and Children under 16; Free, Active Military with Military ID

Parking

Free parking is included with paid admission.
No pets, please.



THIS IS THE PLACE — to be Feb. 20-23, 2014 when the International Sportsmen's Expo and Arizona Boat Show™ comes to Phoenix. For "everything outdoors," be sure to come to the University of Phoenix Stadium, 1 Cardinals Drive, Glendale, AZ 85305. You'll be glad you did!

Features

Our 14th annual Sportsmen's Expo will include the Arizona Boat Show, hosted by the valley's top dealers. Show-goers will capture the best buys on boats for fishing and family fun, accessories and more.

Plus, there will be hundreds of fishing, hunting and outdoor-product and service companies. And, come learn from experts at the giant Aquarium Tank and the Ad-

venture Theater. Two all-new trophy displays spotlight elk and deer. Watch or participate in contests: DockDogs, and Team Humphries Pop-Up Archery — bring your bow.

Check out the Youth Fair — help pass on our traditions to the next generation. ISE is proud to once again support the Boy Scouts of America, Grand

See EXPO on page 19



FREE! — Among the favorite and best-attended events of the year is Arizona Game & Fish's Outdoor Expo. Save the dates: March 29-30, 2014 and join the fun at Ben Avery Shooting Facility. One of the best parts of this family friendly, exciting event is that both admission and parking are free.

Mark Your Calendar For Game & Fish's 2014 Outdoor Expo One of Arizona's favorite outdoor events is free and free!

The Arizona Game and Fish Department Outdoor Expo will be held on Saturday, March 29, and Sunday, March 30, 2014, at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix.

The free event offers loads of activities, presentations and exhibits for everyone ranging from novices to seasoned outdoor recreationists. Activities and attractions include the following:

- Live wildlife exhibits (hawks, reptiles, small mammals, more),
- Take the kids to two huge catch-and-release fishing tanks;
- Learn target archery and get tips from experts;
- Try out different firearms in a safe, controlled environment on the shooting range;
- Navigate a field course;
- Learn from informative talks on Arizona's raptors, wildlife conservation, urban fishing, hunting tips, Arizona's reptiles, wilderness survival, and more;
- Attend thrilling mounted cowboy shooting competition at the Royce W. Anderson Family Arena;
- View off-highway vehicle exhibits, the ATV simulator, and rock crawler

See CALENDAR on page 19

AYC'S PREMIER EVENT

Birthday Regatta and Leukemia Cup Coming Soon

Join us on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Jan. 17-18-19, 2014 for the 54th AYC Birthday Regatta and 15th Leukemia Cup — three days of racing, cruising and desert hospitality! The Arizona Yacht Club Birthday Regatta has been raced continuously for over fifty years, held each year on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. It's Arizona Yacht Club's premier event.

The expected classes include Capri 14.2, Laser, Buccaneer, Portsmouth, Thistle, Catalina 22, Viper 640, Merit 25, Montgomery 17, Santana 20, PHRF spin, PHRF non-spin, Multi-Hull — or create your own one-design fleet, or just come out and cruise!

Yes, this is a Leukemia Cup event, though without the live auction of years past. We're still raising money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and invite you to sign up for the Leukemia Cup scoring on Saturday. The top-finishing Leukemia Cup entrant in each fleet will be the winner. Tony Chapman is heading up fundraising and invites you to



begin collecting money and to set up a fundraising page. If you have questions, please contact him at (602) 956-5101.

Sail with us, with over 200 sailors and "shore crew," and 70-plus boats. Sail under

See REGATTA on page 19



ON THE COVER

It's Our Christmas 'Card' To You

All of us at *Western Outdoor Times/Arizona Boating & Watersports* join in wishing you -- our readers, contributors, advertisers, family, and friends a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and overall, "Happy Holidays." As we enter our tenth year of publication, we are grateful for your support and confidence and hope you know how much we appreciate each and every one of you. Our virtual toast as we begin a new year is this: "Here's to the outdoors!"

In This Month's Issue

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Tackle & Target

Here's A Great Gift Idea For Anglers

Need a present every angler will like? Get Bill Roecker's 2014 Sportfishing Calendar today! See story Page 9.



Land Cruising

Hike Into The New Year

Take the family and start 2014 with a fun "First Day Hike" at State Parks on Wednesday, Jan. 1. See story Page 11.





For Sale

220 Pendaries Village Ln
Rociada, NM 87742
\$152,000



Easy living with expansive views. 1,161 sq. ft. home on 1.17 acres with fabulous views of the valley and mountains.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Open living area with large wet bar which includes abundant storage. 1 bedroom, 1full bath and a half bath. Additional open room could be converted to a bedroom by adding a door. Generous deck offers panoramic views. Flagstone driveway leads to a detached carport. Year round access.

- Bedrooms1
- Full Baths1
- 1/2 Bath1
- Garage Capacity.....1
- Garage Type.....Carport Detached
- Fireplaces1
- Apx Sq Ft.....1161
- Lot Land Size.....1.17 Ac.
- Year Built1996

APPLIANCES INCLUDE:
Dishwasher, Dryer, Garbage Disposal, Range-Free Standing, Refrigerator, Washer, Water Heater-Electric

CONSTRUCTION:
Frame, Siding-Wood

FIREPLACE FEATURES:
Gas Starter

FLOOR COVERINGS:
Carpet, Tile

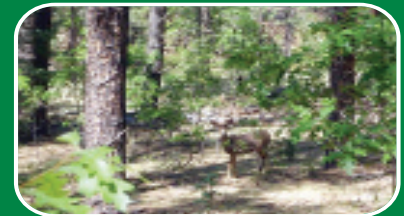
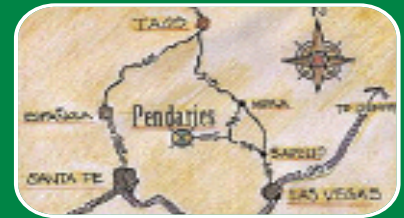
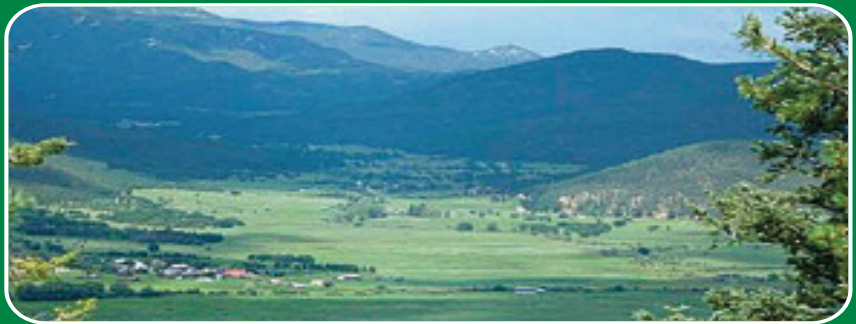
HEAT:
Baseboard, Electric

INSIDE INCLUSIONS:
Wet Bar

OUTSIDE INCLUSIONS:
Deck

ROOF:
Shingles

STYLE:
1 Story



DIRECTIONS
Hwy 105 to Pendaries Village Ln

CONTACT
Jim Allen
(480) 947-6219 or (619) 523-3091
Jim@azbw.com



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

Arizona Game and Fish: boaters and anglers must be 'good stewards'

Boaters who "Clean, Drain and Dry" can stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

PHOENIX — Preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in Arizona waters starts with Arizona boat owners and anglers. To protect Arizona lakes, rivers and streams from the devastating effects of invasive species, Arizona Game and Fish laws require boaters and anglers to be good stewards by cleaning, draining and drying their boats and pulling the boat plug when leaving an AIS-affected lake. **Failure to do so may result in a citation for the boat owner and possible fines.**

Game and Fish is stepping up enforcement because invasive species have found their way into several Arizona lakes and rivers after being transported from one body of water to another. Cleaning, draining and drying boats, trailers, waders and fishing equipment helps contain these invaders and minimizes damage to boats, water intakes, power plants, aquatic habitats, native and sport fish populations, and water conveyance infrastructure.

In 2009, the Arizona Legislature passed the Aquatic Invasive Species Interdiction Act (A.R.S. §17-255), authorizing regulatory measures known as "Director's Orders" and making the Game and Fish Department responsible for establishing mandatory protocols to stop the spread and transport of these invasive organisms, and enforcing public compliance with these protocols. The Director's Orders have identified aquatic invasive species affecting these Arizona waters:

- **Lake Powell:** quagga mussel
- **Lake Mead:** quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail
- **Lake Mohave:** quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail
- **Lake Havasu:** quagga mussel, didymo
- **Lower Colorado River below Lake Havasu:** quagga mussel, giant salvinia, apple snail
- **Lake Pleasant:** quagga mussel, large-mouth bass virus (LMBV)
- **Lees Ferry:** New Zealand mudsnail, whirling disease
- **Lower Salt/Verde River:** apple snail
- **Bartlett Lake:** LMBV
- **Roosevelt Lake:** LMBV
- **Saguaro Lake:** LMBV

It is vital that boaters and anglers avoid transporting water, live fish or fish body parts from one body of water to another. Wipe down your boat, pull your plug, and drain all water from any places in your boat where it may accumulate every time you come out of an AIS-affected water, as listed above.

"Going through the steps to prevent the spread of AIS is easy and should become as routine as securing your boat to its trailer," said Chris Cantrell, Chief of Fisheries for Arizona Game and Fish. "Doing this every time you pull your boat out of the water is the best way to protect your boat, and your favorite places to boat and fish in Arizona."

To help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species, boaters and anglers should:

1. Pull out your boat plug at the ramp or parking lot.
 2. Drain any water from boats, bilge, bait buckets, and live-wells before leaving the launch area.
 3. Dispose of all unused bait in the trash, never in the water.
 4. Never transfer live fish or fish body parts (i.e., head, skin, entrails) from one body of water to another.
 5. Rinse any mud and/or debris from equipment and wading gear.
 6. Use vinegar to disinfect your equipment. Vinegar can be reused several times, if needed.
 7. Allow everything to air dry before moving to another body of water.
 8. Educate others to follow these steps.
- For more information, visit www.azgfd.gov/ais

Statewide Boating Safety Education Classes

December 2013

| Host | Date and Time | Location | Cost | Registration |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|------|----------------|
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | December 14 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Arizona Game and Fish Department 5000 W. Carefree Hwy Phoenix | \$0 | (623) 236-7219 |

January 2014

| Host | Date and Time | Location | Cost | Registration |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------|----------------|
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | January 7 4 p.m. - 10 p.m. | Arizona Game and Fish Department HQ 5000 W. Carefree Hwy Phoenix | \$0 | (623) 236-7219 |
| Arizona Game and Fish Department | January 18 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Arizona Game and Fish Department HQ 5000 W. Carefree Hwy Phoenix | \$0 | (623) 236-7219 |

Weather Emergencies

Winter boating can be fun but winter weather can change rapidly and create unexpected situations for boat operators. The best way to avoid trouble is to monitor weather conditions before you leave shore. You can also monitor weather developments on your VHF radio. If you're out on the water and the weather changes for the worse, follow these safety tips:

- Put on personal floatation devices (life jackets) and make sure they are properly secured.
- If you're in fog, sound your fog horn.
- Head the bow into the waves at a 45 degree angle (PWCs should head into the waves at a 90 degree angle).
- Head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach.
- Reduce speed.
- Seat passengers on the bottom of the vessel, as close to the centerline as possible.
- Minimize the danger of having your

vessel struck by lightning by seeking shelter in advance of a storm. If caught on open water during a thunderstorm, stay low in the middle of the vessel.

- Secure loose items and have emergency gear ready
- Keep the bilge free of water
- If the engine stops, drop anchor from the bow. If you have no anchor, use a "sea anchor." This may include a bucket on a line, a tackle box or anything that will create drag and hold the bow into the wind.

New Hunting and Fishing Licenses Coming in 2014

There will be some exciting and significant changes to Arizona's hunting and fishing licenses beginning in 2014, including a simplified structure, bundled privileges for some products, licenses being valid for one year from the date of purchase instead of just for the calendar year, and a reduced-price youth license. See more information at www.azgfd.gov/LicenseSimplification.



THE 'WEAR IT ARIZONA' BOAT, A COLORFUL DELIGHT

Look for Arizona's 'Wear It Arizona' Boat next time you are out on the water!



Arizona's Top Ten Boating Violations

Arizona boating laws are enforced by Arizona Game and Fish Department Officers, county deputy sheriffs, municipal officers, park rangers and any other state-commissioned law enforcement officer. The officers have the authority to stop and board vessels to check for compliance with state laws. Here are the most common boating violations in Arizona:

1. Not enough life jackets (personal floatation devices) for everyone on board the vessel.

2. Fire extinguisher — lack of, non-marine type, and/or out of service.

3. Riding on the bow, transom, or gunwales of a vessel operating above a wakeless speed.

4. Operating under the influence (OUI).

5. Excessive wake or speed.

6. No Type IV throwable PFD on board.

7. Child 12 years of age or younger not wearing a life jacket (PFD) while underway.

8. Reckless operation of a personal watercraft (PWC).

9. Light — specifically no or incorrect

navigation lights.

10. Water-skiing without an observer.



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





Western Outdoor Times

Arizona Boating & Watersports



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Recipients of 2008 and 2013 AZGFC Media of the Year and 2009 National Water Safety Congress Award of Merit



All of us at Western Outdoor Times/Arizona Boating & Watersports thank the Arizona Game & Fish Commission for honoring us again with their "Media of the Year" award for 2013. We are also grateful to those who nominated us for this award.

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WOT/AZBW is published monthly.

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

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$25 for 12 issues; single copies are \$2.50 prepaid.

Subscriptions are transferable, non refundable.

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Boaters, Anglers Must Be 'Good Stewards'

Boaters who "Clean, Drain and Dry" can stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

Preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in Arizona waters starts with Arizona boat owners and anglers.

To protect Arizona lakes, rivers and streams from the devastating effects of invasive species, Arizona Game and Fish laws require boaters and anglers to be good stewards by cleaning, draining and drying their boats and pulling the boat plug when leaving an AIS-affected lake. Failure to do so may result in a citation for the boat owner and possible fines.

Clean, Drain, Dry

Game and Fish is stepping up enforcement because invasive species have found their way into several Arizona lakes and

rivers after being transported from one body of water to another. Cleaning, draining and drying boats, trailers, waders and fishing equipment helps contain these invaders and minimizes damage to boats, water intakes, power plants, aquatic habitats, native and sport fish populations, and water conveyance infrastructure.

Director's Orders

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- Lake Mohave:** quagga mussel, New



Quagga Mussel

Zealand mudsnail

Lake Havasu: quagga mussel, didymo
Lower Colorado River below Lake Havasu: quagga mussel, giant salvinia, apple snail

Lake Pleasant: quagga mussel, largemouth bass virus (LMBV)

Lees Ferry: New Zealand mudsnail, whirling disease

Lower Salt/Verde River: apple snail
Bartlett Lake: LMBV
Roosevelt Lake: LMBV
Saguaro Lake: LMBV

Being Good Stewards

To help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species, it is vital that boaters and anglers avoid transporting water, live fish or fish body parts from one body of water to another. Wipe down your boat, pull your plug, and drain all water from any places in your boat where it may accumulate. According to Chris Cantrell, Chief of Fisheries for Arizona Game and Fish, being a good steward means boaters and anglers should clean, drain and dry their watercraft and equipment each and every time they come out of an AIS affected water, as listed above.

"Going through the steps to prevent the spread of AIS is easy and should become as routine as securing your boat to its trailer," said Cantrell. "Doing this every time you pull your boat out of the water is the best way to protect your boat, and your favorite places to boat and fish in Arizona."

How To Stop Spread Of AIS

To help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species, boaters and anglers should —



Zebra Mussels

- 1. Pull out** your boat plug at the ramp or parking lot
 - 2. Drain** any water from boats, bilge, bait buckets, and live-wells before leaving the launch area.
 - 3. Dispose** of all unused bait in the trash, never in the water.
 - 4. Never transfer** live fish or fish body parts (i.e., head, skin, entrails) from one body of water to another.
 - 5. Rinse** any mud and/or debris from equipment and wading gear.
 - 6. Use vinegar** to disinfect your equipment. Vinegar can be reused several times, if needed.
 - 7. Allow everything to air dry** before moving to another body of water.
 - 8. Educate** others to follow these steps.
- Don't let a citation spoil your next boat outing. Be sure to pull your boat's plug and clean, drain and dry your boat before leaving any AIS-affected water.

To view the department's watercraft decontamination protocols, visit: www.azgfd.gov/ais.

Targeted Enforcement Begins Jan. 1, 2014

Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, the State of Arizona will ramp up their efforts to stop the spread of quagga mussels and other invasive species in Arizona waters. Law enforcement officers from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, in coordination with other lake patrol agencies, will start issuing citations to boaters who don't "Clean, Drain and Dry" their boats when they leave quagga-infested lakes.

Since October, Game and Fish enforcement officers have been educating boaters leaving the Lake Pleasant and Lake

See STEWARDS on page 17



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BOATS ON BOARD IN 2014

Come Aboard ISE And Arizona Boat Show™

International Sportsmen's Expositions (ISE) and Arizona Boat Show™ is pleased to announce a major expansion to its 13-year-old Arizona consumer show, held at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, site of the 2015 Super Bowl.

The 2014 ISE event, Feb. 20-23, will feature large indoor displays of sportfishing and sport boats, with related marine products and services. Two-hundred-fifty (250) exhibiting companies from throughout North America will fill more than 160,000 square feet of stadium space.

"Valley boat dealers want to present their 2014 product lines of powerboats, fishing boats, skiing and recreational boats, and personal watercraft early in the New Year, in one convenient venue," said Brent Layng, ISE new-business manager. Recreational boat sales in Arizona are an \$80 million annual business and have increased in recent years, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association.

"The four-day ISE is Arizona's largest



selling event all year for fishing and outdoor products, services and destinations, attracting sportsmen and outdoor enthusiasts from throughout the valley and region," Layng noted.

As of press time, confirmed boat and accessory exhibitors at the ISE and Arizona Boat Show included the following:

- Action Water Sports
- Century Marine/Silver Seas
- Complete Marine
- Glendale Marine
- Marine Max
- Pleasant Harbor
- RideNow Powersports
- Ski Pro



- Sun Country Marine
- SwimPlatforms.com



About ISE

Established in 1975, International Sportsmen's Expositions owns and operates four events, in Arizona, California, Colorado and Utah. Each ISE ranges in size from 250 to more than 600 exhibiting companies and attracts 18,000 to nearly 40,000 paid attendees during a four-day run.

For more information, contact John Kirk, director of communications, at (360) 397-0209 or Info@SportsExpos.com.



COMING SOON — A new restaurant and store at Bartlett Lake is now under construction. In addition to indoor seating, large outdoor patios will provide beautiful views of Bartlett Lake and the marina. Keep checking *Western Outdoor Times* for updates and progress on this exciting new dining destination. Also in the planning stage for Bartlett Lake Marina is a wakeboat cable park. If you would like to see this take place, please sign their petition at <http://www.app.getresponse.com/click.html?x=a62b&lc=B8R5P&mc=Be&s=QsSTC&y=1&>; to show your support for this project.

BoatUS Speaks Up For Boat Owners At EPA Ethanol Hearings

The blending of ethanol into the nation's gasoline supply was the topic of a hearing held today by the EPA to discuss the 2014 Standards for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program.

Last month, EPA released the 2014 proposed standards that reduced the amount of corn ethanol mandated under the RFS for the first time since the law was implemented. This was a small but tide-changing victory for boat owners whose vessels cannot operate with ethanol above a 10 percent blend level without serious harm or safety concerns.

BoatUS Government Affairs Program Manager Nicole Payla Wood, along with a coalition of representatives from environmental groups, fuel and manufacturing associations as well as food, restaurant, poultry and meat producers testified at today's hearing to lower the Renewable Fuel Standard.

"We believe in a national renewable fuels policy, but one that is both safe for boaters and sound for the environment," said Wood, "However, until the current ethanol mandate is removed, there is little room for investment in other renewable fuels that may not have the current negative impact of corn-based ethanol."

Wood explained that the real success would come if Congress changes the law to recognize today's decreasing fuel usage in the United States.

In her testimony, Wood advised the EPA, "We want to commend the EPA for taking a giant step towards addressing the current-day realities of the Renewable Fuel Standard with the drafting of the 2014 proposed renewable volumetric obligations."

"We applaud their pivotal recognition of the shrinking demand for fuel and hope this sends a signal to Congress of the dangers



VITAL STATISTICS — This little label on a gas pump could be all that separates boaters from dangerously misfueling their boat.

that an impending blend wall presents to the average consumer. The EPA is trying to do its part for the consumer in addressing these market changes, and now is the time for Congress to do so as well."

Wood added: "As the Renewable Fuel Standard policy pushes higher blends of ethanol gasoline into the market, there is an increased potential for misfueling and engine failure that needs to be made clear. Not all Americans can afford to drive tow vehicles made after 2001, and for boaters, these higher blends are poison to our marine engines."

"There is a critical safety and soundness issue related to the use of higher blends of ethanol in marine engines that cannot be denied. More than half of Boat Owners Association of the United States members fuel their boats at roadside gas stations. With 11 states now approved to sell E15 — a fuel that no marine engine is warranteed to run on — the opportunity for misfueling is growing.

"And, what may result in a roadside breakdown for a car, can quickly lead to a search-and-rescue mission or search-and-recovery [mission] in a boat.

"We think it's also important to point out that EPA's role in the Renewable Fuel Standard is to implement the policy, not reform the law. Although there are implicit waiver authorities written into the law, the EPA shouldn't have to use that authority to modify policy to meet the realities of the current marketplace every year.

"It is the responsibility of the EPA and Congress, however, to ensure that the fuel they approve for our consumers is a safe and reliable fuel for our engines, all engines. It is our hope that Congress will now accept the baton, and continue their work on a permanent fix for the Renewable Fuel Standard."

For more information, a two-page 2013 E15 and the Renewable Fuel Standard Issue Brief by BoatUS Government Affairs is available at: [http://www.boatus.com/Assets/www.boatus.com/gov/pdf/Issue Brief-Ethanol.pdf](http://www.boatus.com/Assets/www.boatus.com/gov/pdf/Issue%20Brief%20Ethanol.pdf)

About BoatUS

Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatUS) is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing its over half-million members with government representation, services such as 24-hour on water boat towing as well as roadside assistance for boat trailers and tow vehicles, feature-packed boat insurance programs, money-saving benefits that include marina and West Marine shopping discounts, and vital information that improves recreational boating.

Go to BoatUS.com for more information.

for *Creative* sake

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Carol Allen
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New Ideas For Boaters' Gifts

Innovative Bow Thrusters Deliver Finesse At The Wheel

Whether cruising or performing tricky maneuvers, boating should be a pleasurable pastime. External, joystick-controlled bow thrusters from Sideshift help keep even the most intricate docking and piloting simple and stress-free. With three different models to choose from, the SS230, SS340 and SS350, Sideshift's bow thrusters fit cruisers, sailboats, sport boats, pontoon boats, houseboats, catamarans and trawlers from 20' to 50'.

This innovative product requires no tunnel, avoiding the leakage problems associated with conventional through-hull thruster systems. External mounting makes Sideshift thruster installation simple and economical, with no holes necessary below the waterline. DIY-friendly, the kit can usually be installed in under a day.

Unlike with a tunnel thruster, a Sideshift-equipped boat remains free from drag. When planing, the thruster is lifted from the water, so there's nothing to slow the craft down or cause it to veer off course.

Because it's located on a boat's forward-most location, the Sideshift bow thruster enables maximum turning power and responsiveness. This results in precision and ease at the wheel when navigating narrow channels or tight corners. Even



STRESS-FREE — Whether cruising or performing tricky maneuvers, boating should be a pleasurable pastime. External, joystick-controlled bow thrusters from Sideshift help keep even the most intricate docking and piloting simple and stress-free. With three different models to choose from, the SS230, SS340 and SS350, Sideshift's bow thrusters fit cruisers, sailboats, sport boats, pontoon boats, houseboats, catamarans and trawlers from 20' to 50'.

ward-most location, the Sideshift bow thruster enables maximum turning power and responsiveness. This results in precision and ease at the wheel when navigating narrow channels or tight corners. Even



backing into a slip is effortless and uncomplicated with Sideshift's joystick control.

Sideshift bow thrusters are anode-protected and finished in anti-fouling paint over epoxy primer to ensure their durability

in salt water. A powerful water-cooled 12V or 24V DC motor drives heavy-duty, 8" aluminum propellers, which pull the boat quietly and smoothly.

The 2.5 hp SS230 bow thruster measures 12" W x 27" L and is for boats up to 30'. It requires one 12V 850CCA starting type or gel cell battery. The 5 hp SS340, for boats up to 40', measures 24" W x 27" L, while the 7.5 hp SS350, for those up to 50', measures 22.5" W x 27" L. The SS340 and SS350 models each require two batteries. In addition to bow thrusters, Sideshift also manufactures stern-mounted thrusters.

Shipped as a complete kit, Sideshift bow thrusters come with motor, props, installation hardware, 50' joystick wiring harness, 10' motor wiring harness, motor controller and joystick. Suggested retail prices start at \$3,495.

Contact local dealers or Sideshift Inc., 3-43 Grenfell Crescent, Ottawa, ON K2G 0G3 Canada. Toll-free 877-325-4787. info@sideshift.com; www.sideshift.com.

Bench-Style Freezer/Refrigerators Bring Class Aboard

Refrigeration needs aboard every boat vary, depending on the type and duration of each outing. The supremely versatile bench-style cockpit freezer/refrigerators from Frigibar Industries do it all.

Keeping cold and frozen items ready for use at precisely the right temperature, these rugged boxes can be used as a freezer or a refrigerator.

Requested by many of today's most distinguished boatbuilders, Frigibar freezer/refrigerators are renowned for their hand craftsmanship, sleek design and high-quality finish. The top-opening bench style units include the Ensign, Skipper, Captain and Commodore models. Versatile bench models easily compliment the design of any craft while doubling as seating.

Frigibar cockpit freezer/refrigerators are built to withstand an uncovered salt air environment, while still maintaining 0° F, even under the tropical sun. All-fiberglass construction ensures their imperviousness to rust. Heavy duty compressors, high efficiency heat exchanger coils and a heated gasket seal all contribute to efficient, de-

pendable cooling.

A porcelain-smooth interior, with cooling coils hidden inside the walls, makes cleaning simple. Frigibar's careful attention to detail is evident in the heavy-duty stainless steel hinges and hardware, which add to the unit's longevity and handsome appearance. Like all Frigibar freezer/refrigerators, these units come with lights that indicate when the unit is operating, and when defrosting conditions approach; an optional audible defrost warning alarm is also available.

Numerous choices allow boat owners to customize their Frigibar unit to suit their specific needs. With the Dual Control option, users can choose to operate the unit as either a freezer or refrigerator. Optional three-piece installation fasteners secure the box when at sea; their quick-release design accommodates moving as needed. All Frigibar freezer/refrigerators operate on 115V/60Hz and a 220V/50Hz configuration is also available. Owners wishing to accommodate a special deck orientation or mount side-by-side units can request condensing unit placement on opposing sides,

with venting in a common location.

As the perfect finishing touch for its premium quality units, Frigibar offers a wide selection of matching handcrafted storage boxes. Made from waterproof fiberglass, the boxes help keep things neatly stowed away while providing a clean, built-in appearance.

Every Frigibar bench style cockpit freezer/refrigerator measures 20" W x 21" H. Depending on the length needed and the refrigeration capacity required, customers can choose from the Ensign, 40" L; Skipper, 50" L; Captain, 60" L; and Commodore, 80" L. Units weigh 90-150 lbs. Both the Ensign and Skipper models are available in a 12V DC option. A plush 3" thick custom cushion that perfectly fits the length and width of the bench is also available for each of the models.

Prices for Frigibar bench style cockpit freezer/refrigerators start at \$4,274 for the Ensign model.

Contact local dealers or Frigibar Industries, Inc., 6210 NE 4th Ct., Miami, FL 33138. 305-757-7697; Fax: 305-757-



FREEZE OR FRIDGE — Refrigeration needs aboard every boat vary, depending on the type and duration of each outing. The supremely versatile bench style cockpit freezer/refrigerators from Frigibar Industries do it all. Keeping cold and frozen items ready for use at precisely the right temperature, these rugged boxes can be used as a freezer or a refrigerator.

0250. info@frigibar.com; www.frigibar.com. Facebook: www.facebook.com/Frigibar.

ARIZONA YACHT CLUB UPDATES

Congratulations Are In Order!

From Mike Ferring

The Lake Pleasant Fall season concluded with a windy weekend. Congratulations to the fleet winners: Steve Grothe, C22; George Tingom, C22 Saturday-only; Martin Lorch, Santana 20; Brett Johnston, Multi-hull; Victor Felice, PHRF Non-Spin; Norm Anderson, PHRF Spin; Trey Harlow, Thistle; Greg Jackson, Sport Boat.

Congratulations and thanks to Peter Lehrach who earned his US Sailing Powerboat Instructor's certification over Thanksgiving weekend in California. Peter joins Rob Gibbs and me as the club's currently-certified powerboat instructors.

Finally, please plan to spend part of your New Year's Day with us sailing on Lake Pleasant with members of the Lake Pleasant Sailing Club and then watching the Rose Bowl at PHM's Waterfront Grille.

Yeah, ASU won't be playing, but it should be a good game anyway. And, imagine how jealous this will make all your northern Facebook friends!

And, More Good News

Great news! ASF President George Tingom reports that the January US Sailing level-one small-boat instructor class is full and cannot accept any further students. Now there will be the 12 new instructors available to teach the ASF classes.

It is our pleasure from time to time to present to our readers information about new products; however, the articles published in *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* are for reader interest only and do not constitute endorsement. Further, we suggest that you check first with local marine, fishing, hunting, and RV dealers/suppliers to see if they have the products mentioned in our articles. Also, please remember that the prices given are those that were in effect at press time and may have changed.

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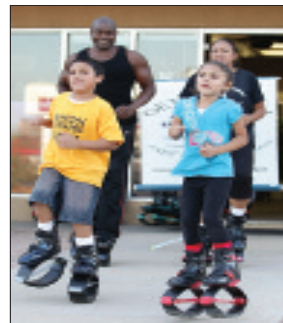
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There's Year-Round Fishing In Arizona

From AZGFD

Keep in mind that here in Arizona, there is plenty of year-round fishing. Bass and other sport fish may not be as active, but they are still catchable. In many cases, it's a matter of slowing down your presentation and going to smaller baits.

Some pro anglers, on the other hand, have been known to not only slow down their presentations, but also upsize their offerings to make it worthwhile for big bass to dine.

The Reel Deal

It's winter trout and crappie time.

First, The Trout

There are rainbow fishing opportunities galore. Topping Santa's fishing list is Lees Ferry in northern Arizona, a spectacular wild-trout fishery. A guided fishing expedition at the Ferry would be a great Christmas present.

The Urban Fishing Program lakes, as well as Tempe Town Lake, have also been stocked with rainbows. Town Lake will also get an extra stocking of trout the week of Dec. 16 right before the winter break for the kids in school.

On Nov. 25, Oak Creek was stocked with trout. Oak Creek after a little snowfall can be spectacular.

Of course, winter weather can be detrimental to travel. Motorists traveling in Arizona's high country need to be aware of some annual closings. See the latest information from the Arizona Department of Transportation.

Also, Interstate I-17 south of Camp Verde was closed overnight last week — late-night drivers between Phoenix and Flagstaff need to plan ahead or allow for extra time. Before heading out on the roads, drivers are encouraged to call 5-1-1 or log on to ADOT's Traveler Information Center for the latest highway conditions around the state.

Then, The Crappie

In the desert impoundments, consider targeting sporting crappie populations at Alamo, Bartlett and Roosevelt. As the water temperatures drop, the crappie will congregate into large schools in open water that can be up to 50 feet deep or so.

The crappie formations, or schools, look like inverted pyramids (or Christmas trees, if you like), with the most active fish at the top, around 15 or 20 feet deep.

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

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

The Topock Marsh (close to Needles along the Colorado River) can provide some nice crappie fishing as well. This is also a superb place to see migrating waterfowl (maybe take along a shotgun or camera, or both).

And, The Catfish

Although Arizona is a flathead catfish destination, action at prime flathead fisheries such as Lake Pleasant and Bartlett has slowed. Flathead weighing more than 20 pounds get lethargic as the nights get colder.

Still, anglers can catch 15-18 pound flatheads with better consistency by locating bluegill in 30-35 feet of water. Find the bluegill, and you'll often find feeding flatheads looking for dinner.

Finally, Jenny Blumenstein caught the Big Fish of the Year entry in the catch-and-

keep category. It's a 16-inch white bass weighing 1-pound, 12.8-ounces and taken from Lake Pleasant on Dec. 1.

By the way, if you have some fishing reports, fishing pics or what have you, please send them via "Been Fishing?" BFishing@azgfd.gov or directly to nwalter@azgfd.gov.

Public Meeting

The Arizona Game and Fish Department will host another meeting to discuss the current and proposed management of sport fisheries on Haigler Creek and receive public comment, this time from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Arizona Game and Fish Department headquarters in Phoenix.

The meeting will be held in the Quail Room (adjacent to the main entrance). The department headquarters are located at 5000 West Carefree Highway (1.5 miles



Jenny Blumenstein

west of I-17).

The department manages portions of Haigler Creek, located in the Tonto National Forest east of Payson, as a wild rainbow trout and brown trout fishery, as well as a put-and-take rainbow trout fishery. The proposal calls for the department to reintroduce native Gila trout into Upper Haigler Creek with the goal of developing a catch-and-release fishery for this unique trout species.

Game and Fish held public meetings on this subject last month in Payson and Young.

Angler Reports

An anonymous angler had this Parker Canyon Lake report from Tuesday, Nov. 26: Fished from boat. ... Live worms and Power Bait caught few. Had great success using Z-Rays. All four on boat caught limit. All the usual stock size.

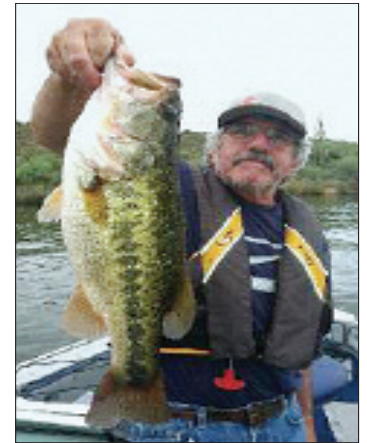
Charles S. fished Picacho State Park to Imperial Dam this past week: Water sur-

face temps have been between 59.6 and 60.4 and the winds have been creating plenty of chop, especially the closer you get to Picacho.

Even though it's already December, I will go out on a limb and say that the fishing in the current is still fair to good. We continue to catch decent smallmouth (up to 2.7 pounds), as well as decent large-mouth bass, including the 5.2-pound large-mouth (pictured) that we boated Sunday morning.

All of our fish are coming off of soft baits, though it's a bit frustrating because the smallmouth are not biting on the same

See FISHING on page 18



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GILL-NETTING RESULTS 2013

The Past Predicts The Future For Powell Anglers

By Wayne Gustaveson

Current conditions at Lake Powell during 2013 were difficult for all fish populations because of declining lake levels resulting in habitat loss. Shoreline vegetation, which had been inundated in recent years, was desiccated in 2013. Loss of brushy habitat resulted in lower than normal production of bass, crappie and bluegills.

Lack of brush also limited the survival of both gizzard and threadfin shad produced in 2013. Low forage made for difficult circumstances for adult fish of all species as they foraged for food all year long. Striped bass were at a population peak going into 2013 and found difficulty finding adequate food in their deep water habitat where forced to live after they mature.

With these adversities facing each fish species, it would seem that annual gill net results would reflect the hard times and result in lower numbers of fish captured at each of the four stations sampled. That was generally true, but there were enough

See ANGLERS on page 14



Gustaveson

GILL-NET SAMPLES — All species of fish are encountered as Lake Powell is sampled with gill nets. Razorback suckers were abundant in the Colorado River before Lake Powell was impounded and a few are still found each year near the inflowing water of the Colorado and San Juan rivers. These native fish have found a small niche in the upper San Juan arm of Lake Powell near Neskahi Canyon.



URBAN FISHING REPORT

The Trout Have Christmastime 'Stockings' Too!

Rainbow trout stockings have started and will continue all winter long at two-week intervals at all Urban Fishing waters. Trout range in size from 11-12 inches in length, with some fish up to 16 inches.



Fishing is good-to-excellent for anglers using scented dough baits (such as Power Bait), worms or a salmon egg/marshmallow combo on the bottom. Small spinners such as Roostertails and Panther Martins, or spoons such as KastMasters and Super Dupers work well for trout.

The morning bite is the best, but trout will bite throughout the day. When the bite is on, anglers are catching limits in an hour. Action for catfish and bass has slowed due to colder water temperatures.

Bluegill fishing offers good action during the afternoons for anglers using meal worms on the bottom or under a small bobber. Trout fishing is good to excellent at Green Valley lakes in Payson with Power Bait, worms and small spoons working best.

Top flies for fly fishermen have been Copper Johns, wooly buggers, simi seal leaches and pheasant tail nymphs.

Community Fishing Program Starts 2014

Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, the Urban Fishing Program will be renamed the Community Fishing Program. All current park waters in the program will become Community Fishing waters. New signage will be installed at all locations.

In addition to the current 21 waters, another 15 new waters will be added. Specific information on all the changes will be available the end of the year both online at www.azgfd.gov, or in the upcoming 2014 Community Fishing Guidebooks that will be available at all Department offices and license dealers.

New guidebooks will include lake maps and park information on all 36 waters in the Community Fishing Program.

2013 End-Of-Year Reminders

Winter stockings of rainbow trout will continue every two weeks through the

See TROUT on page 14

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GOOD NEWS!

AZGFD Simplifies, Bundles For Outdoor Sports

New 2014 Fishing and Combo licenses offer bundled privileges for better value.

One of the biggest changes coming to Arizona's new hunting and fishing license

structure in 2014 will be the bundling of privileges for Fishing licenses and Com-

bination Hunt/Fish licenses.

More Privileges

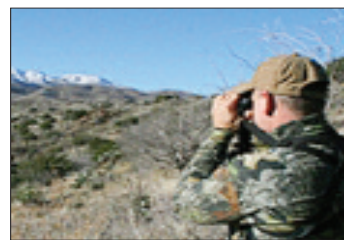
Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, the new General Fishing license will include not only the privileges of the current Class A fishing license, but also privileges for trout, two-pole fishing, and Community Fishing Program waters (formerly known as Urban Fishing Program waters).

The license may also include fishing privileges for Colorado River waters that Arizona shares with Nevada and California (currently \$3 for the stamp for each state), depending on whether negotiations AZGFD is having with those states are successful.

New Pricing For Residents

The price of the new General Fishing license will be \$37 for residents. By comparison, if residents separately bought the above-listed privileges under the current license structure, those privileges would cost \$69.75 (\$23.50 for the Class A license, \$15.75 for the trout stamp, \$6 for the two-pole stamp, \$18.50 for the Urban license, and \$3 each for the Colorado River stamps for shared waters with California and Nevada).

The new General Fishing license will



also be less expensive and include more privileges than the current Super Fishing license, which costs \$53 for residents. The Super Fishing license will be discontinued in 2014.

Non-Resident Costs

The nonresident price for the new General Fishing license will be \$55. Those privileges, if purchased separately under the current license structure, would cost nonresidents \$75 (\$63 for the nonresident Super Fishing license, \$6 for the two-pole stamp, and \$3 each for the CA and NV Colorado River stamps).

New Combination Hunt/Fish License

The price of the new Combination Hunt/Fish License will be \$57 for residents. That price is only \$3 more than the price of the current Class F Combo li-

See **SPORTS** on page 17

SPORTFISHING Calendar

GIFT IDEA — Need a present every angler will like? Get one for yourself or the angler in your life and another to give to a fisherman-best friend. Don't let the Christmas season slip past without the fishing info you need for next year. Get Bill Roecker's 2014 Sportfishing Calendar today! The fresh, colorful 2014 Sportfishing Calendar is stuffed with information and great features like the long-range record fish of the year, the most common hook knots, world records, holidays, equinoxes, long range schedules, moon phases, LA tide charts and tidal corrections for San Diego, San Francisco and Santa Barbara, with those *gotta have 'em*, copyrighted Tidelines™. It won't set your hook for you, but Bill Roecker's 2013 Sportfishing Calendar, with sharp, professional photos does just about everything else. For long range, offshore and all saltwater fishermen, this is the most interesting, prettiest and most up-to-date accurate information you can hang on your wall! <https://www.fishingvideos.com/shopping.htm>



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Western Wildlife



TIPS FOR VIEWING WILDLIFE

Let Care, Common Sense, Courtesy Be Your Guides

From AZGFD

Knowing more about where to look, how to look and what you are looking for in a given environment can greatly enhance your wildlife-watching experience. People often miss animals that are very near because they are not thinking about looking for wildlife. To begin to see more wildlife, you need to focus on looking for it using all of your senses.

Where To Look

Think like wildlife. Learning a little about what wildlife needs to survive gives clues to where you can find them. Different species have different habitat requirements for water, food, shelter and adequate space.

Look To The Edge

Watch the edges of the desert, forest or stream. Most wildlife species spend their time along habitat edges. The border between two habitats is a prime viewing spot.

How To Look

The key to both finding and watching wildlife is "quiet, but active viewing." Use the following techniques:

- Be natural;
- Relax and make yourself small and unassuming;
- Move slowly in a consistent fashion and make frequent stops;
- Don't stare! Most animals see this as a threat;
- Wear muted colors and fabrics that don't 'rustle' when you move;
- Use the lay of the land: hills, drainages and gullies provide cover, while skylines leave you easily spotted;
- Use light to your advantage: stand or sit with the sun behind you to stay in the shadows; Talk softly only if you must;
- Look in different ways; Scan the landscape with "soft eyes" to see the landscape versus focusing on details; Look at a distance, then in the foreground and back;
- Use peripheral vision to pick up movement; Use binoculars and other optics;
- Magnify and focus your vision. Optics allow you to watch from a distance with less risk to humans or animals. Even if you don't see wildlife, use your optics to scan suitable habitat and you may catch a glimpse of an animal.



What To Look For

Shapes: Look for parts of an animal, such as its head, tail, ear, wing, or antler. Notice things out of place, such as strange shapes, or contrasts between colors, patterns and textures. Focus on lines that do not match the surroundings, such as horizontal lines in a vertical landscape or curves among straight lines.

Color: Look for color contrasts against the natural background.

Movement: Motion is the big giveaway. Look above and below you to catch a glimpse of something walking, flying, feeding or scratching.

What lives there: Look for signs that give you clues about what animals live there. Watch for tracks, trails, rubbing spots, nests, droppings, tunnels, food remains, webs, gnawed wood or dams.

When To Look

Time of day: Dawn and dusk are often the most active times for the majority of wildlife species. Some wildlife is active in daylight hours. Other species are only out at night. Nocturnal or nighttime wildlife tends to be more active during full moon periods.

Season of the year: Some wildlife appears only during certain seasons, such as when they are migrating. Some sleep through the winter cold or the summer heat.

Mating seasons make wildlife easier to find because they are more active and often preoccupied with mating rituals.

Consider The Weather

Wildlife is often active in poor weather, although most will seek cover during really bad weather. Many animals become lively again just after the inclement weather breaks. Wildlife is typically less active in the heat of the day.

Before You Go

Don't use perfumes, personal-care products with fragrance or other unnatural scents when you go out to observe wildlife.

Wear muted, natural-colored clothing. This will help you blend in with the environment. The further you go into the wilderness, the more important this is.

Dress in clothing that is quiet when you move. Rustling windbreakers, nylon knapsacks, rattling plastic bags and clanking canteens decrease your chances of seeing wildlife. Animals in parks and refuges are more accustomed to seeing people and cars and may let you get closer, even if you wear perfume, glittery jewelry, etc., but generally animals in the wild will slip away before you get a chance to see them.

For better vision, shade your eyes with a cap or visor. Leave pets at home.

When You Enter An Area

Learn to slow down! Stop and look for several minutes. Sit down and use all of your senses. Listen for movement and calls. Catch the smells of your surroundings.

Look ahead. When you walk through an area, the wildlife may slip away unseen because you're too close. Ahead, the animals may not be aware of your presence yet.

If you choose to sit in one place and wait, flatten yourself against a tree or rock to blend with the landscape. Sit in a place that provides cover for wildlife. Rarely will wildlife cross a big, open space to pass by you.

If you are close to rushing rivers or streams, look upstream and down. Often the noise of the flowing water will deaden your noise, and an animal will not realize you are there.

When You See Wildlife

If you glimpse an animal, freeze. Staying absolutely motionless is the same technique many animals use to keep from being detected. If an animal you are watching sees you, but doesn't flee, avert your eyes. "Staring" is a threatening gesture to most wildlife, so glance out of the corners of your eyes.

If the animal seems to tolerate you, try to get a little closer by focusing your attention on the ground and walking in a slow, zigzag direction, moving closer to the animal. Watch for signs that you are getting too close.

Finally, Use Respect And Common Sense

Remember to respect the environment during your wildlife watching adventures: step lightly and leave rocks, logs, flowers, nests, etc., as you found them.

Always practice responsible and safe viewing. Don't pursue wildlife. It saps the animal of its energy and causes stress. Intruding too far into an animal's space could also pose a danger for the viewer if the animal perceives the person as a threat.



Mount Graham Red Squirrel

Red Squirrel Numbers Up

Endangered Mount Graham red squirrel population in Southern Arizona shows growth.

From AZGFD

As part of a conservation program for the endangered Mount Graham red squirrel, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted an annual squirrel survey and estimated approximately 272 animals in the Pinaleno Mountains in southeastern Arizona.

This year's survey shows an increase of 59 squirrels over the 2012 estimate of 213 squirrels.

"After coming off our lowest population count ever last year, this jump in numbers is certainly encouraging," says Tim Snow, nongame specialist for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "The recovery team speculates that better cone crops the last two years may have contributed to the increase in squirrel numbers, but it's hard to say with certainty since small mammal populations fluctuate so much."

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

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

The Mount Graham red squirrel population spiked to around 550 animals in the late 1990s, but typically ranges between 200 and 300 individuals. Habitat losses caused by fire and insect infestations and poor cone crops caused by drought are considered primary factors influencing population size.

Biologists continue to explore new

See SQUIRRELS on page 19

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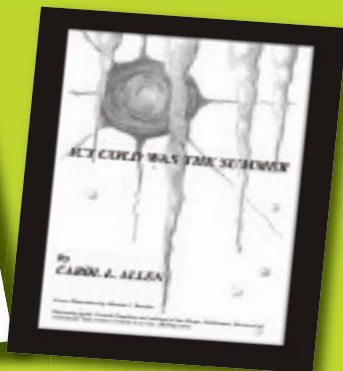
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edited by Carol L. Allen, B.A., M.A.

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JAN. 1, 2014

Hike Into The New Year

Each year America's State Parks announces a national collaboration of all 50 State Park systems across America to sponsor guided "First Day Hikes" on New Year's Day. Arizona State Parks will charge day-use entrance fees only for the First Day Hikes at 13 different parks on Jan. 1, 2014.

According to State Parks Director Bryan Martyn, "We are committed to promoting outdoor recreation as a way to get families outside and unplugged from their video games and other electronic media. This is a great opportunity to take the family on an easy hike."

Arizona's "First Day Hikes" offer individuals and families an opportunity to begin the New Year re-energizing and connecting with the outdoors by taking a healthful walk at one of these 13 State Parks. "These exhilarating hikes will get families in the swing of exercise and outdoor trekking for the upcoming year," said Martyn.

Details about hike locations, difficulty and length, terrain and tips regarding proper clothing are listed on the Arizona State Parks Web site at AZStateParks.com or call (602) 542-4174. You can also keep up with new information about activities in Arizona State Parks through [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ArizonaStateParks) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/AZStateParks) at AZStateParks.com.

As a part of this program, the Arizona State Parks listed below will offer guided hikes on Jan. 1, 2014 so get out those boots and go hike!

For All Hikes

No matter where in Arizona you are hiking, wear warm clothes in layers, bring one liter of water, hat, sunscreen, good walking shoes, walking stick, binoculars and a camera for your hike.

There are always good photo opportunities on these hikes. Also, be sure to check with the park for details about the hike before you leave to be sure there are no changes to the hike for that day due to the weather.

Some hikes require reservations and some don't allow dogs. Children under six years old may need to be carried throughout the hike so plan to hike with backpacks.

Arizona State Parks: Northern Arizona

Dead Horse Ranch SP (Cottonwood): 10 am. Meet at west lagoon parking lot. The hike will last about 2 hours and cover about 3 miles. Hikers will meander along the Verde River riparian area as well as the three lagoons on the park.

Red Rock SP (Sedona): 9 am, 10 am, and 2 pm - Meet at Visitor Center. No dogs allowed. Enjoy a 1.5-hour interpretive naturalist-led hike about either birds, nature or geology of the area.

Tonto Natural Bridge SP (Payson): 10 am and 1 pm - The hike will proceed to the Gowan Trail to the observation desk under the natural bridge. It will last about 2 hours even though it is only 1/2 mile. The trail is steep and requires steps. No pets or strollers on the hikes. Afterward a guided tour of the historic lodge will be offered. Call (928) 476-2261 for more information.

Arizona State Parks: Southern Arizona

Catalina SP (Tucson): 8 am and 10 am - For the 8 am hike, meet at main trailhead for the long 7-mile loop hike or take the one mile Romero Ruins Adventure Walk at 10 am.

Kartchner Caverns SP (Benson): 9 am - Meet at the Discovery Center to take



Roper Lake



Patagonia Lake

the 2-hour long 2.5-mile Foothills Loop Trail. Hike will include discussion of plant life, geology, and hydrology.

Patagonia Lake SP (Patagonia): 9 am - Meet at Visitor Center to take the 2.5-mile Overlook Hike with a great view of the lake or the 3-mile Petroglyph Site Hike across the lake with some rock scrambling included!! Both hikes start at 9am. Call (520) 287-2791 to register.

Roper Lake SP (Safford): 10 am - Meet at hot tub parking lot. Length of hike is 1.5 miles. Hike will take place along the Mariah Mesa Trail.

Arizona State Parks: Western Arizona

Alamo Lake SP (Wenden): 9 am - Meet at Ranger Station/Store. Moderate hike for ages 10 and up and plan to hike about a mile. The hike will showcase plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert.

Buckskin Mountain SP (Parker): 10 am - Meet at the contact station for a 1.5-

mile hike of moderate difficulty.

Cattail Cove SP (Lake Havasu City): 9 am - Hike along Whyte's Retreat Trail. There are stairs on the 2-mile hike. Learn natural history and the history of Lake Havasu and the Parker Dam.

Lake Havasu SP (Lake Havasu City): 10 am - Hike starts from the trailhead in lot #2 and through the Cactus Garden with scenic views along the lake.

Arizona State Parks:

Central Arizona

Lost Dutchman SP (Apache Junction): 9 am - Join us for a ranger-led hike starting at the Siphon Draw Trailhead to the Jacobs Crosscut intersection and finally to the Treasure Loop Trail. Some hikers wanting a more challenging hike will be able to take the Jacob Crosscut Trail with hiking leaders. Learn about desert flora and fauna and the history of Superstition Mountains and the Lost Dutchman Mine. This is a moderate hike



Picacho Peak State Park

with an elevation gain of 500 feet, is a 2.5-mile round trip, and will take about 2 hours. In case of rain, this hike will be cancelled.

Picacho Peak SP (Picacho): 10 am - Meet at Sunset Vista Trail Head for a 3-mile hike. The 2-hour hike will take you along the Western side of Picacho Peak.

For information about all 27 Arizona State Parks, the Trails and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs and State Historic Preservation Office call (602) 542-4174 (outside of the Phoenix metro area, call toll-free (800) 285-3703).

Campsite reservations can be made online at AZStateParks.com or by calling the Reservation Call Center at (520) 586-2283. Open 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. MST.

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Grand Canyon National Park North Rim Closed For The Season

The North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park is now closed to vehicle traffic for the season. Arizona State Route 67, leading to the North Rim closed on December 2, 2013. State Route 67 and all services on the North Rim are expected to re-open for the 2014 season on May 15, 2014.

Campground, Yurts Available

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

To camp at the North Rim during the winter months, visitors will need a backcountry permit, which can be obtained from the Backcountry Information Center located at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park.

Permit requests can be faxed year-

round to (928) 638-2125. Backcountry permits for North Rim winter camping are also available at Pipe Springs National Monument west of Fredonia, Arizona and at the Bureau of Land Management Interagency Visitor Center in St. George, Utah.

Plan And Prepare

"Although winter on the North Rim can provide a great wilderness experience, visitors are advised to plan ahead and prepare for winter conditions and weather that can change rapidly," stated North Rim District Ranger Jeff Webb.

He added, "Trails that normally are well traveled in summer, have almost no traffic during the winter. Backcountry travelers to the North Rim in winter must be self-reliant and understand that they are undertaking a difficult trip where cell phone coverage may or may not be available and where emergency response may



be limited or delayed."

For additional information on winter camping on the North Rim, please call the Backcountry Information Center at (928) 638-7875, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. MST, weekdays, excluding holidays or visit the Park's backcountry web page at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm>.

South Rim Open Year-Round

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

AZ State Parks Offers Job Opportunities For Homeless Veterans

The Arizona State Parks department, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, is launching a new program to offer opportunities for homeless Veterans to apply for jobs as temporary park specialists in rural Arizona.

"The Arizona State Parks department is highlighting these opportunities for Veterans in an effort to help them transition back into the workforce because they possess many of the skill sets we require for those jobs," said State Parks Director Bryan Martyn.

"We're looking for hard-working men and women who have learned different types of skills while in the military and would like to work at the parks in these temporary/full-time jobs."

These park specialist jobs become



available regularly in the State Parks. At this time, there are 107 temporary employees in these positions at various State Parks throughout Arizona. All specialists must have a driver's license, be willing to work in the outdoors where temperatures can be extreme, and be willing to live in rural Arizona either in or near the parks.

Arizona State Parks has been coordinating with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to identify candidates from

"at-risk-for-homeless" groups and so far have hired five new employees.

"We see great opportunities for the State Parks to assist in finding jobs for Veterans and we want these employees to learn new skills as park specialists" says Martyn.

"We have quite a few Veterans working in our parks as full-time park rangers who can help train the new staff and we have small travel trailers for temporary housing. Our goal is to be sure that these Veterans transition into productive employees who can then find full-time positions in their towns.

We hope to become a national model program for State Parks to help returning

See **JOBS** on page 17

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- 2. Drain** — Pull the plug. Before you leave the area, eliminate all water from your boat, including its livewells, ballast and engine-cooling water.
- 3. Dry** — Allow time for your boat to completely dry before you launch in any other waters. Your boat's dry time should be at least 5 days.

LONG TERM OR MARINA-BASED USERS (boat in water for 6 days or more)

- 4. Decontaminate** — Clean your watercraft with hot, high pressure water to remove all invasive species, such as quagga.
- 5. Desiccate** — After decontamination leave your dried boat out of the water for 7 days in summer and 18 days in winter.

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Please be an educated and responsible boater. Know what to do to prevent the spread of quagga mussels to other lakes and rivers. When you do, affix this "sticker" to the tongue of your boat trailer. (You must have your boat/trailer present when you receive your "sticker")



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Wonderful Winter Hikes — With Or Without Kids

Story & Photos by Margie Anderson

Things can get hectic in the winter – the kids are still in school and the holidays can make everyone feel rushed. Getting outside and taking a nice long hike can be one of the most relaxing things you can do.

Exercise reduces stress, and if your kids are going stir crazy, letting them burn off steam on the trail will go a long way toward restoring peace in your home. You don't have to take the entire weekend off, or even a whole day – there are probably places to hike right near where you live.

Gilbert Riparian Preserve

For example, if you live in the Phoenix area you can check out the Gilbert Riparian Preserve. The Preserve is at 2757 E. Guadalupe Road, east of Greenfield Road, next to the Southeast Regional Library in Gilbert. There are about 4-1/2 miles of gravel trails winding around between seven water-recharge basins that look like little lakes.

These ponds actually receive effluent water and serve to let the water settle into the aquifer.

The water attracts hundreds of migratory birds, and winter is prime time for viewing them. You will see a lot of water birds, including waders, but you will also have a chance to see a huge variety of songbirds as well as birds of prey.

Ramada rental: \$20.00 per hour for Gilbert residents, \$30.00 per hour for non-residents

Campsite fees: Smaller - \$30.00 per night, Larger - \$40 per night

Dinosaur Dig Reservation (afternoons and weekends only): \$15.00 per hour for site reservation. Additional \$45 per hour for a staff facilitated dig experience.

Full common area can be reserved, which includes both ramadas, playground, grassy turf, and dino-dig site, at a rate of \$50 per hour for residents, \$75 per hour for non-residents.

Bring The Kids

If you bring kids along, there is a lot for them to do. In addition to hiking the paths, there is a play area with restrooms and ramadas for picnics, a dinosaur dig, a garden area, weather station, and a scale model solar system.

A lot of prime bird-viewing areas even have blinds where you can relax and glass the water. Scattered along the trails are interpretive signs that help you understand what is going on around you. If you have a fishing license, you can even fish in the main lake.

Camping, Walking

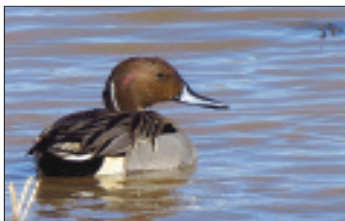
I took four teenagers to the Gilbert Riparian Preserve and they all loved it. We hiked every inch of the trails. One of the things that surprised us was the fact that there are actually campsites there.

You can camp near the ponds and the sites are off the path and very private. In fact, the vegetation and the ponds make all the paths feel isolated and private. It's just a really nice place to walk.

You can take strollers and even wheelchairs on the paths, but they are gravel and can be a bit irregular. Horses and leashed dogs are also allowed, and we also saw several bicycles.

Winter Is The Time

We spent over three hours on the trails,



Winter Visitors love the Preserve!



Ericka Ross and Emily Anderson hike the trail at Gilbert Riparian Preserve.



This dove let Emily Anderson get really close at the Preserve.

but that was because we kept stopping to photograph birds and other animals. There are also plenty of beautiful plants and flowers, and the girls even spotted a prickly pear with heart-shaped pads.

Winter is a super time to enjoy this wonderful place. To make sure you don't



Dragonfly Trail takes hikers to Jewel of the Creek.

miss anything, download a map here: <http://www.riparianinstitute.org/pdf/riparian0108%20campsites.pdf>

Jewel Of The Creek – Dragonfly Trail

Jewel of the Creek is a 26.6-acre preserve that protects a beautiful riparian area — one of the last remaining perennial streams in Maricopa County. The Desert Foothills Land Trust bought the land in 2001.

The Dragonfly Trail is simply a one-mile loop through the riparian area. It is one of the prettiest desert hikes you will ever see, with towering trees, lush vegetation and flowers near the creek, and giant saguaros and other cacti a stone's throw away. It is open from sunrise to sunset, but there are no motorized vehicles, no dogs, and no horses allowed.

An Easy Hike

The Dragonfly is a very easy hike. The first little bit, when you are descending into the creek channel, runs along the face of a rather steep drop-off, but it's a good, stable trail. As long as you are able to manage a slope and a few rocks, you'll be fine. You'll be coming back up this same stretch when you finish the hike.

Once you get down into the bottom, the trail crosses the creek fairly soon, then follows the creek channel. You can choose to turn left at the first intersection and loop back to the trailhead, or you can continue on along the trail. If you choose to keep going, you'll get to see a cave off to the right, and you'll get to pass through several "tunnels" formed by overhanging branches. It's a fantastic hike.

The day we were there we never saw

another person. This was in October and it was still a bit warm, so there may be more hikers as the weather gets cooler. It seems as if most of the hikers jet right past Jewel of the Creek and go to Spur Cross.

Keep Track

It's easy to get off the trail and end up

See **HIKES** on page 14



From left: Trinity Anderson, Lauren Miller, Emily Anderson enter Jewel of the Creek/Dragonfly Trail.

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HIKES

Continued from page 13

back after it rains.

We saw a lot of birds and cactus flowers, as well as some big spiders and large red bugs that we couldn't identify.

Teenagers are easier to keep happy if you allow them to bring a friend along. They just walk and talk and enjoy the outdoors. My teenaged granddaughters are very experienced hikers, so I feel confident even when they get out of my sight.

Keep in mind, though, that the desert does have snakes and other venomous creatures, so if your kids are younger, keep them close to you.

Getting There

To get to Jewel of the Creek, just head toward Spur Cross. From Carefree Highway and Cave Creek road, go north on Cave Creek for about 2-1/2 miles to Spur Cross Road. Turn north and drive about 4-1/2 miles toward Spur Cross.

The last mile and a half is gravel road, but it's an easy drive even for a passenger car. Just before you get to Spur Cross, start watching the left side of the road. The Jewel of the Creek entrance is sort of angled back to the left and can be easy to miss.

We simply parked and walked through the gate. There was nothing there that indicated that there was a fee to get in, and the gate was unlocked.

There was an artistically rusted sign, but that was it. The trails are marked here and there, but you'll be better off if you take a map. You can print one here: http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/spur_cross/pdf/2012/spur-cross-11x17-3d.pdf

Refresher Course

When you are hiking in the desert, you need to remember a few rules. These rules apply no matter what time of year you are



The trails at the Preserve give a sense of being alone in nature — a great opportunity for a long talk.

out there.

1. Bring plenty of water with you. Each person should carry water. If your kids are too little even for a CamelPak, then you need to carry water for them.

2. Wear sunscreen. Arizona has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the United States.

3. Have a map. A GPS is a great thing, too. But at least have a map and a compass.

4. Remember that there are snakes and other venomous creatures in the desert. Most of the time they will leave you alone. Just don't let inquisitive kids run around poking into holes and such.

5. This should probably be number one: Never go out in the desert without letting someone know where you are going and what time you will be back.

6. Know your limitations. Don't attempt a hike that you aren't physically capable of doing. Be realistic when evaluating hikes.

ANGLERS

Continued from page 8

bright spots to provide great hope for strong fish populations being present in future years.

Forage Fish

Gizzard and threadfin shad are the main forage-fish staples in the lake. Threadfin are open-water fish and not well sampled by shoreline net sets. Gizzard shad adults live along the shoreline and are depicted perfectly by net samples.

They are the most abundant fish caught in nets each year. Therefore, only gizzard shad are mentioned during a discussion of netting results.

Adult gizzard shad numbers caught in our nets peaked in 2004 at 700 and have fluctuated each year since. The 383 shad caught this year was the lowest number reported since 2004 but it was not low enough to be statistically significant.

On average, gizzard shad numbers were a bit lower than usual but there will be plenty of shad next spring to provide multiple spawns and produce a strong year class of shad for game fish to eat.

Striped Bass

Stripers were the second most abundant species caught with a total of 344 fish caught lakewide. This was a banner year for angler-caught fish as countless striped bass were taken on bait in deep water of the main channel throughout the year.

Stripers were abundant and hungry, quickly consuming shad spawned in the spring. As water warmed, adult stripers went deeper and found less food. Without adequate food, these fish lost weight and declined in physical condition.

Thank You, Anglers

I thank the anglers for doing their part this year. There is no limit on striped bass, so in years when adult stripers are hungry and declining in health, they can be harvested at will to reduce competition with stripers left in the water. This only happens about once per decade.

Thousands upon thousands of stripers were caught by anglers and reported to us. It is likely that well over 1 million stripers were caught and harvested this year.

We cannot confirm that since our creel census survey is only conducted every third year and was last performed in 2012. In that year almost 740,000 stripers were harvested.

What we do know is that striped bass caught in nets were mostly strong, healthy, young fish. Very few of the old malnourished adults were captured.

Some of the older fish have died but very few were seen on the lake bottom as we traveled around the lake. Angler harvest is a major factor in reducing the adult striper population.

Proven Effective

The unlimited harvest management plan has proven effective once more. In spring 2014, a young 2-pound striped bass population will grow quickly to as soon as gizzard shad spawn and young shad become available. Then young stripers will grow to 3-pounds by the end of the summer and provide exciting fishing for larger fish.

The old thin fish will be gone as the population adjustment will be completed over winter of 2013.

TROUT

Continued from page 8

winter. Trout average 11-12 inches in size and are stocked in generous amounts.

Stay on the lookout for golden alga, a microscopic organism that releases substances that are toxic to fish. Game and Fish is working with city park staff and lake consultants to regularly monitor for and control the unwanted algae.

Please do your part to prevent the spread of golden alga by not moving water or wet objects or fishing equipment from lake to lake. Clean, drain and dry all equipment.

The 2013 Class U Urban Fishing li-

Largemouth Bass

Largemouth are not caught well in gill nets because they tend to hide in vegetation and have only limited movement at night when most fish are caught. We only caught a total of 9 largemouth bass in all nets combined.

Bass are dependent on brush to replenish their population. Terrestrial vegetation is currently growing along the shoreline and exists at an elevation above 3,612 MSL. If there is a wet winter and lake level rises above the existing brush line in spring 2014 largemouth bass will rebound.

If the drought continues and lake level does not cover brush, bass will have to wait until conditions are right to recover.

Smallmouth Bass

Smallmouth do better in rocky habitat which is why they were stocked in Lake Powell. Over the length of the lake, 74 smallmouth bass were netted. Bass are caught less often than stripers because they move less and tend to stay on one stretch of shoreline instead of cruising the shoreline as stripers do.

It is not wise to measure fish abundance by comparing catch rate of different species but rather year-to-year catch rate of the same species. Most species were caught at a lower rate in 2013 but again, the difference in catch of smallmouth is not statistically significant considering the ups and downs of bass caught over the past 10 years.

Walleye

Walleye were virtually missing in action at most net-sampling locations while 115 of the 125 fish total were caught at Good Hope Bay. Shad are more abundant near the inflowing Colorado River.

We have found over the years that the walleye-limiting factor is shad abundance. If shad numbers are high at a certain spot during spring, then young walleye survive in large numbers at that spot. Without shad, walleye numbers are low.

Over most of the lake shad were scarce and walleye did not survive in large numbers. But, the inflow area always has more shad and, therefore, more walleye.

Report Concludes With Optimism

The netting report is concluded with optimism that fish populations in Lake Powell will be strong in 2014. The dominant species will be gizzard shad, striped bass and smallmouth bass.

Locally, there will be a few spots where walleye, largemouth bass and crappie will be found but these locations will be the exception rather than the rule. Lake Powell is reverting back to the days before abundant shoreline vegetation. Fishing conditions in 2014 will be similar to those found from 1996-2004.

Great Fishing In 2014

I don't know about you, but I have fond memories of fishing in those conditions and am optimistic about our chances for finding great fishing success in the coming year. Expect to mimic fishing techniques used in 2013 with one exception.

Striper fishing with bait will be much less successful while reaction baits, trolled and cast will be better. Smallmouth bass will love plastic crawdad imitations bounced on bottom. Walleye will be easy to catch in the northern lake during the month of May.

I can't wait!

cense is now 50 percent off through Dec. 31. Stop by a Game and Fish office or any of our sporting goods or retail license dealers and ask for your 2013 discount Urban license for \$9.25.

Remember the Web — www.azgfd.gov for stocking schedules, the Fish&Boat Arizona webmap, outdoor events calendar, and other great fishing and outdoor information.

Also check out the Web for Weekly Fishing Reports, to submit your fishing photos or to send us your latest fishing report. Talk with us on our Facebook page or get social with us on Twitter @AZGFD. Also, check out the Urban Fishing Bulletin on the AZGFD Web site.

Winter Begins: Dec. 21

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BEYOND ARIZONA

FUR AND FEATHER ANIMAL ASSISTANCE, INC.: Ongoing — A permanent residential facility for dogs and cats designed for comfort, well being, and CARE for LIFE. Where Every "One" Deserves a Chance. 575-772-2661 Laurie Beauchamp, 575-772-2543 Sharon Bostick, PO Box 555 Pie Town, NM 87827, e-mail to: furandfeatheranimalassistance@gmail.com Also, see story re: open position, page 14.

BOATING

ARIZONA YACHT CLUB: BIRTHDAY REGATTA, LEUKEMIA CUP: Jan. 17-19 — 54th Arizona Yacht Club Birthday Regatta and Leukemia Cup—Pleasant Harbor Marina, participants from all over the U.S., 100 boats in 10 classes, sailboat race, benefits Desert Mountain States Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, free to spectators, 12:30 pm, <http://www.arizonayachtclub.org>. See story on page 1.

US SAILING FORUM IN SAN DIEGO: Feb. 6-9 — US Sailing, the national governing body of the sport, will take the lead in hosting a groundbreaking event on Feb. 6-8, 2014 at the Hilton San Diego Resort. http://media.ussailing.org/Latest_News/2013/SLF_2014.htm

ASF SAILING CLASSES 2013 AND 2014: [arizonayachtclub.org](http://www.arizonayachtclub.org).

AZ YACHT CLUB MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month 7 p.m. — at the golf course, 1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe; www.arizonayachtclub.org

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

PHOENIX: BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN: Jan. 24-26 — Saguaro Lake Ranch, offers adventure and life skills, for women age 18 and older to learn to camp, fish, rappel, hike, cook with Dutch ovens, photograph wildlife & a range of outdoor recreation skills, "hawk talks" and nature hikes, \$420 includes meals, lodging and classes, 480-644-0077 or <http://www.azwildlife.org>

QUARTZSITE: 32ND ANNUAL SPORTS, VACATION & RV SHOW: Jan. 18-26 — RVs, supplies, camping equipment, food, entertainment, free, 9 am - 5 pm, 928-927-6888 or 800-969-5464 or <http://www.quartzsitervshow.com>

FIRST-DAY HIKES: Jan. 1, 2014 — Arizona State Parks invite all to participate in the New Year's start to enjoying outdoors. See story on page 11.

PHOENIX: Through Dec. 31 — 35th Annual Las Noches de las Luminarias - Desert Botanical Gardens, thousands of hand-lit luminarias line the garden pathways, musical entertainment each night,

additional buffet dinner is available, \$12.50-30, 5:30 pm, pre-register, 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

AZ STATE PARKS CAMP OUT SERIES: through Dec.

PHOENIX: CHIHULY: into May 2014 — Desert Botanical Garden, the exhibition will feature multiple installations and artworks on view throughout the Garden's trails by artist Dale Chihuly, Chihuly is credited with revolutionizing the Studio Glass movement and elevating the perception of the glass medium from the realm of craft to fine art, <http://www.dbg.org/>

GRAND CANYON: Through Jan. 1, 2014 — 5th Annual Grand Canyon Celebration of Art — a unique opportunity to view and purchase high-quality Grand Canyon art, features a juried art competition and show; Plein Air artists painting on the rim (9/14-21); and a Quick Draw event (9/20), see works of some of the best master artists in the nation as they seek to capture the beauty of the timeless Grand Canyon landscape on canvas, free, <http://www.grandcanyon.org>

CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

COMMUNITY

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS (All on Dec. 31, 2013):
FLAGSTAFF: New Year's Eve Pinecone Drop — Weatherford Hotel, a Flagstaff tradition, big countdown at 10 pm & 12 am, giant, LED-Lighted Pine Cone is lowered from the top of the Historic Weatherford Hotel, free, <http://www.flagstaffarizona.org>

PRESCOTT: 2013 Boot Drop — The Palace Restaurant & Saloon, a 6-foot illuminated cowboy boot will be lowered down a 40-foot flagpole to ring in the New Year, once at 10 pm for early birds and once at midnight for traditionalists, a DJ will spin tunes, food vendors, 8 pm — 1 am, 928-776-0234 or <http://www.bootdrop.net>

SHOW LOW: Deuce of Clubs Drop — Festival Marketplace, enjoy music, dancing and food and then join in on the countdown to midnight as we usher in the new year by dropping a giant electrified Deuce of Clubs at Festival Marketplace similar to the ball at Times Square in New York, the evening comes to a climax with a giant fireworks show immediately following the dropping of the Deuce of Clubs, 928-532-4140 or <http://www.whitemountainregionallchambers.com>

TUCSON: 8th Annual New Year's Eve Gala 2013 — Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa, The Tucson Jazz Orchestra reunited under the direction of Jeff Haskell, The Jim Cullum Band, stars of "Riverwalk Jazz" on NPR and XM, and George

Howard's Motown and Rhythm & Blues Show, \$199-240, doors open at 6:30 pm, 520-903-1265 or <http://www.tucsonjazz.org>

SEDONA: Navajo Ceremony Releasing the old year and opening door to new year — Sedona Creative Life Center, Native ceremonies held to bring the time-honored power of ancestral ways to the year's turning: Fire Blessing Ceremony, Drum Healing Ceremony, Navajo songs and circle dance, insight experiences, sharing circle, reservations required, \$120, 6:30-9:30 pm, 928-282-0846 or <http://www.crossing-worlds.com/newyearseve.html>

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

QUEEN CREEK (SAN TAN VALLEY) STUDENTS TO UK: Spring Break 2014 — Call Poston Butte High School re: a tax-deductible contribution to help them travel.

FISHING

LITCHFIELD PARK: Winter Trout Fishing Derby: Jan. 25 — Tierra Verde Lake Park, fish with more than 500 lbs of trout stocked in the lake, food, prizes and giveaways, license not required for this event, must provide your own fishing equipment and bait, \$4 per pole 15 and under; \$6 per pole 16 and over, 7 am — 3 pm, <http://www.litchfield-park.org>



COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM: Starts Jan. 1, 2013 — Arizona Game & Fish has re-named the Urban Fishing Program. See story on page 8.

FISH C.C. CRAGIN FOR RAINBOW TROUT: Until April 1, 2014; AZGFD

HUNTING

NEW FISHING AND HUNTING COMBO LICENSES: Available 2014 — See story on page 9.

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

SHOW AND EXPOS

ARIZONA GAME & FISH EXPO: March 29-30 — At Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix; see story on page 1.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMEN'S EXPO AND ARIZONA BOAT SHOW: Feb. 20-23 — For "everything outdoors," be sure to come to the University of Phoenix Stadium, 1 Cardinals Drive, Glendale, AZ 85305. See stories on pages 1 and 5.

WATERSPORTS

Diving:
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Frozen Watersports:

FLAGSTAFF: 2014 DEW DOWNTOWN FLAGSTAFF FESTIVAL: Feb. 8-9 — The 3rd annual Dew Downtown Urban Ski and Snowboard Festival will return to the streets of historic downtown Flagstaff on February 8-9, 2014. For participant registration information and schedule of events visit dewdowntown-flagstaff.com. There is still availability for featured listings on the accommodations page of the Web site.

NEWS FROM THE COYOTES CURLING CLUB: It is time for the Coyotes Curling Club to call on members and non-members in an effort to help us build a list for volunteer labor and contractor contacts for the construction of our new curling facility. We are counting on as many volunteers as possible to help keep construction cost down through sweat equity and to meet our opening target date of January 2014!

Swimming:

KINGMAN: Jan. 1 — 13th Annual Kingman Polar Bear Plunge — start the new year in a "chilling" way by braving the near freezing water of Centennial Pool, several unknown prizes await brave swimmers at the bottom of the pool, noon, 928-753-7919 or <http://www.cityofkingman.gov/pages/depts/parks/>

WILDLIFE-RELATED

WILLCOX: Jan. 15-19 — 21st Annual Wings Over Willcox Birding & Nature Festival — Willcox Community Center, a celebration of birds, nature and culture, includes guided tours and field trips for bird watching, photography, geology, ranching, agriculture, history and more, free seminars, a crafts and trade show, live animal educational booths, workshops, banquet, silent auction and keynote speaker, \$5-90, 800-200-2272 or <http://www.wingsoverwillcox.com>

PRESCOTT: Through Dec. 28 — Wildlights at Night — Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary, open after hours for this holiday light display, Fridays & Saturdays, 6-9 pm, <http://www.heritageparkzoo.org>

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

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SAILING

ARIZONA YACHT CLUB — Interested in the Arizona Yacht Club? Attend the monthly membership meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the 19th Tee, at the Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe. E-mail membership@arizonayachtclub.org.

LAKE PLEASANT SAILING CLUB — If you own a sailboat and are looking for a fun group of people to sail with, consider The Lake Pleasant Sailing Club. Held every monthly except for July at Rolling Hill's 19th Tee (Rolling Hills Golf Course) 1405 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, Az. (where Van Buren turns into Mill Ave near Phoenix Zoo). info@lakepleasantsailing.com

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SPORTS

Continued from page 9

cense, and the new license will now include all of the added privileges of the new General Fishing License (trout, two-pole, Community fishing, and possibly the CA and NV Colorado River stamps). The price for the new Combination Hunt/Fish license for nonresidents will be \$160.

Simpler Structure

The new hunting and fishing license structure is simpler than the current struc-

ture, with more than 40 license and stamp options being condensed down to just six license options and a single state migratory bird stamp.

Another change is that the new licenses will be valid for one year from the date of purchase rather than just for the calendar year.

Enjoy!

The new license structure and pricing becomes effective Jan. 1, 2014. Make 2014 a great year by getting outside and enjoying the outdoors!

JOBS

Continued from page 12

Veterans find physical and challenging outdoor jobs that match the work ethic, skills and environment they had been assigned to in their military jobs."

The Arizona Department of Veterans Services and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, in partnership with the agency and in support of this program, provide vocational assistance, job devel-

opment, placement, and ongoing support to improve employment outcomes for Veterans and Veterans at-risk of homelessness.

For more information about this new Arizona State Parks Veterans program, call the Phoenix headquarters at (602) 542-4174. If you are a Veteran looking for employment opportunities, go to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Web site at www.azdvs.gov or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

STEWARDS

Continued from page 4

Havasu boat ramps, and distributing literature on the danger of quagga mussels. Some boaters were given written warnings and told to "Clean, Drain and Dry" their boats. Starting Jan. 1, boaters who don't comply won't get a warning, they'll get a citation, a mandatory court appearance, and if found guilty, a fine.

"Boat owners must clean, drain and dry their boats every time they visit and leave Lake Mead, Pleasant, Havasu and Mojave," said Arizona Game and Fish Department Invasive Species Program Coordinator Tom McMahon. "You'll be protecting your boat, protecting Arizona waters and protecting native species. And starting Jan. 1st, you'll also be protecting your wallet."

Unless a boater empties his bilge, ballast tanks, live well and engine of all water before leaving the lake, young micro-

scopic quagga mussels can hitch a ride in any standing water and spread their havoc statewide. Quagga mussels and other invasive species out-compete sport fish and native species for the nutrients in lake water.

They multiply quickly, grow into large colonies and attach to structures in the lake, water pipes, marina infrastructure, boats and even marker buoys. The potential cost implications for the Western United States are likely to range in the billions of dollars.

"Boaters on Lake Havasu, Mead, Mohave and Pleasant are the most likely to spread quagga mussels, and we need their cooperation," said Tyler VanVleet, law enforcement program manager for the Game and Fish Department's Mesa District.

"If paying a fine makes you pay attention to the danger of quagga mussels, it's a small price to pay for keeping our Arizona recreational waterways and water conveyance infrastructure free of this destructive pest."

New Years Day: Jan. 1, 2014



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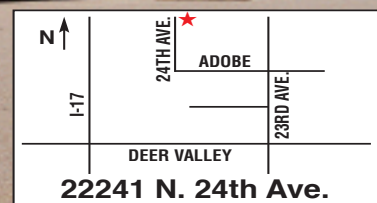
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FISHING

Continued from page 7

baits as the largemouth, even though they are sharing the same areas.

My advice for anyone who is planning on fishing this area is to keep trying different styles of baits from the same family.

Many times just making a simple change from something like a paddle tail or curly tail worm to a straight stick worm can make a world of difference. Ditto for colors: put down your go-to summer and fall colors and try something new.

We have been launching out of Fisher's Landing and the low water levels

have wreaked havoc on the launch area. If you have a boat that requires a significant amount of water to launch, consider launching at the Martinez Lake ramp — it's a little longer and deeper.

Embedded is a largemouth bass picture sent in that reportedly was caught on a spoon by the no-wake buoys in

Saguaro Lake.

Russ T. fished Tempe Town Lake on Tuesday, Dec. 3: Caught a 3-pound largemouth bass at 12:04 p.m., a 2-pound bass at 12:08 p.m. and another 2-pounder at 12:18 p.m. Not bad for 14 minutes of fishing with a silver Fat Rap. Happy fishing.



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Phoenix - 602-231-9090
4139 East University Drive -
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15812 North 32nd Street -
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8337 East Highway 69 - Prescott

Valley - 928-772-9118
www.communitytireaz.com/
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TRADE ORGANIZATIONS

Arizona Trade Exchange
www.arizonatradeexchange.com

ValueCARD Alliance

www.valuecardalliance.com

TRAILERS

Kokopelli Trailers
www.kokopellitrailers.com

WEB SITES

**Arizona Boating & Watersports/
Western Outdoor Times**
(480) 947-6219
jim@azbw.com
www.azbw.com
www.westernoutdoortimes.com
950 East Baseline Road, 104-901
Tempe, AZ 85283 U.S.A.

Tour Clare

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**CALENDAR**

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demonstrations;

- See fishing demos and get tips from pros at the Fishing Demonstration Tank;
- View boating exhibits and learn about watercraft safety;
- See hunting/sporting dog demonstrations;
- Learn specialty shooting disciplines such as clay target, cowboy action, practical pistol, black powder, air gun, and

more;

- Visit with more than 150 exhibitors, including outdoor organizations, government agencies, and vendors of outdoor products and services.

Free And Free!

Admission and parking are free, but you might want to bring a little cash to purchase food and beverages from the variety of concessionaires who will be on the Expo grounds, or if you are interested in purchasing outdoor-related products from

REGATTA

Continued from page 1

blue skies in front of the Black Mountains near Castle Hot Springs, Buzzard Neck and Humber Bay. Celebrate with us under the stars, between the saguaro and ocotillo, with the burros and coyotes on our little slice of "Sailing Heaven," Lake Pleasant,

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Emory Heisler (602.679.0462)

AYC 2014 Birthday Regatta Chairman

EXPO

Continued from page 1

Scout-o-Rama takes place Saturday, outside the stadium's giant silver dome.

Latest

- Camping and survival seminars by inventor and owner of Scottsdale-based Gear Up, Tim Ralston, from National Geographic's *Doomsday Preppers* TV
- Expanded sales of camping, hunting and boating products
- Finest-ever lineup of experts in RMEF's Adventure Theater, including the hosts of Davidson's Gallery of Guns TV and The Outfitters, plus Arizona top hunters Randy Ulmer and Steve Chappell
- Shooting-safety clinics, hosted by

Shooter's World

- Two new trophy displays — Eastmans' Deer and RMEF's Great Elk

Greatest:

- DockDogs Pool & National Contest
- Team Humphries Pop-Up Archery Range and Contest, presented by Eastmans' Hunting Journals
- Adventure Theater, sponsored by Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Aquarium Demonstration Tank
- Youth Fair with catch-and-release fishing pond, archery and shooting ranges
- RMEF Gear Raffle

For More Information

Visit <https://www.google.com/#q=international+sportsmen%27s+expo+phoenix>

SQUIRRELS

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ways to conserve the species, including habitat improvements, squirrel research and consideration of a pilot captive breeding program.

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

the vendors who will be on site.

The 2014 Outdoor Expo hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 29, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 30.

The Ben Avery Shooting Facility is located at 4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd. in Phoenix (located on Carefree Highway, about 1/2 mile west of I-17 – just follow the signs).

LAKE POWELL Yacht Club

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

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