



Western Outdoor Times

FREE

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October - November 2013

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HIKING ARIZONA

Wander *Through The* Wonders

**Tackle &
Target**

Pages 7-9

**Western
Wildlife**

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**Land
Cruising**

Pages 11-12

PHOTO BY MARCIE ANDERSON

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The Outdoors Is Always Open

FOUR COOL HIKES WITH KIDS

Before Winter Or Next Summer, Try These Trails

By Margie Anderson

Editor's Note: Even though it is officially autumn, you know Arizona — it's often an exception to the rule of the calendar. Therefore, we decided to run Margie Anderson's great story on hiking destinations in this October/November issue. Even if you don't go this fall, perhaps her words will inspire you to make plans now for next spring and summer.

Arizona is full of great places to hike, but in the late summer, early fall, the gorgeous trails on the San Francisco Peaks are hard to beat. At elevations of 9,000 to 11,000 feet, these trails offer cool weather and green



Photos by Margie Anderson

MEANDER THE MEADOWS — The Aspen Nature Loop is a nice short trail that takes you through gorgeous meadows and past some of the most astonishing pine trees you'll ever see.

views even in the worst part of the summer. We've been taking our granddaughters hiking since they were toddlers, and we have several favorite trails on the mountain.

Alfa Fia Tank

Even very young children can hike the trail to Alfa Fia Tank. This trailhead isn't marked, but it is still easy to find. As you are heading toward the SnowBowl entrance, watch for the sign that says Aspen Corner.

It's on a bend in the road with a stand of aspens, so it's not that hard to find! Aspen Corner is on the right, and just after the turn is the trailhead, on the left side of the road. The trail is easily visible.

The first part of the trail is almost a

See **HIKES** on page 14



KID FRIENDLY — Even very young children can hike the trail to Alfa Fia Tank. This trailhead isn't marked, but it is still easy to find. As you are heading toward the SnowBowl entrance, watch for the sign that says Aspen Corner.



Maricopa County Parks

OPEN! — At press time, the U.S. government had shut down. As we print this issue, we have no idea when the national doors will open again. However, Maricopa County Parks wants all to know they are open, and you are welcome!

County Parks Remain Open During The Government Shutdown

While the National Park Service is being forced to turn visitors away due to a government shutdown, Maricopa County's regional park system is welcoming individuals seeking recreational experiences in the Sonoran Desert.

"While the folks in Washington remain at odds, we're doing our jobs and will continue to remain open to the public. Not only are we here to provide services to our regular visitors, we're also here to serve visitors who have been displaced by the shutdown of the National Park Service.

"Our regional park system is home to a wide variety of trails, campsites and we offer great educational programs," said Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Chairman Andy Kunasek, District 3.

"We have over 120,000-acres of pristine Sonoran Desert in our park system," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department director. "The great thing about our system is its diversity and our ability to connect visitors with nature.

"In our parks you can go hiking, mountain biking or horseback riding; boating, fishing or scuba diving; set-up your RV or a tent; try your hand at archery; or bring the family out for a picnic and evening of stargazing. We also have a full-service shooting range in Buckeye for those who are looking for a place for target practice.

"In addition, the trails within our parks, we also have the Maricopa Trail. This trail system, once completed, will link all of the

See **PARKS** on page 14



OUT AND BACK — Kachina is an out-and-back trail, like the Alfa Fia. But, the Kachina goes on much farther, eventually joining up with other trails.



ON THE COVER

Wonderful Walkways

We welcome back one of our most popular contributors, Margie Anderson. Over our nine years of publication, she and her husband John have provided *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* many fascinating and valuable articles on the outdoors: everything from birding to lake destinations to hunting and fishing. This issue features her family's love of hiking Arizona. Although some trails are better saved for summer, others welcome us now. If you choose to go in warmer weather, her ideas make good plans for the 2014 season.

State Parks Remain Open

From Ellen Bilbrey
Public Information Officer, Arizona State Parks

Since the Federal Government closed on Oct. 1, there are many Federal campgrounds that will close across Arizona.

In order to minimize the damage this will cause to Arizona's tourism industry, we would encourage reporters and others to explain that tent campers, RVers and trailer campers can contact the Arizona STATE Parks department to find a campsite if they have to move somewhere until the Federal campgrounds open again.

Arizona STATE Parks camping reservations can be made at www.AZStateParks.gov or call 520-586-2283. The Arizona State Parks department headquarters offices in Phoenix can be reached at 602-542-4174.

Social Media:

Follow us at: [AZStateParks](https://www.facebook.com/AZStateParks) on Facebook and Twitter. Regular updates will be posted.

Thanks for assisting us in accommodating visitors from around the world so they will have an amazing experience in Arizona.

Editor's Note: As the U.S. government remains closed at press time, we have decided to note other options for outdoor activities, hoping, however, that federal services will have resumed by the time you receive this issue.

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Wildlife

Bear Visits Boats

On Sept. 27, a bear cub showed up on the shoreline of Lake Powell. Visitors were amazed at his behavior. See story Page 10.



Watersports (Frozen)

It's The First And Only

The Coyotes Curling Club is proud to announce they've leased property for Arizona's first and only dedicated curling club. The ribbon cutting is planned for January 2014 See story Page 6.





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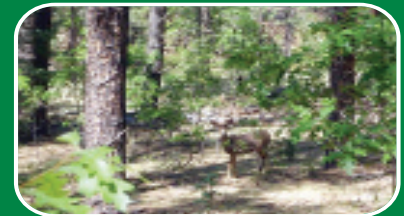
HEAT:
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INSIDE INCLUSIONS:
Wet Bar

OUTSIDE INCLUSIONS:
Deck

ROOF:
Shingles

STYLE:
1 Story



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



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

Weather Emergencies

Weather can change very rapidly and create unexpected situations for boat operators. Weather-related accidents in Arizona are on the rise, and even meteorologists have trouble predicting rapid weather changes. You should always monitor weather developments. One way is to tune a VHF radio to the frequencies listed below. Then seek a protected area before the weather becomes a threat.

What To Do If Caught in Severe Weather

- ◆ **Prepare the boat to handle severe weather**
 - Slow down, but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering
 - Close all hatches, windows, and doors to reduce the chance of swamping.
 - Stow any unnecessary gear.
 - Turn on your boat's navigation lights. If there is fog, sound your fog horn.
 - Keep bilges free of water. Be prepared to remove water by bailing.
 - If there is lightning, disconnect all electrical equipment. Stay as clear of metal objects as possible.
- ◆ **Prepare your passengers for severe weather**
 - Have everyone put on a USCG-approved life jacket (PFD). If passengers are already wearing their PFDs, make sure they are secured properly.
 - Have your passengers sit on the vessel floor close to the centerline for their safety and to make the boat more stable.
- ◆ **Decide whether to go to shore or ride out the storm.**
 - If possible, head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach. If already caught in a storm, it may be best to ride it out in open water rather than try to approach the shore in heavy wind and waves.
 - Head the bow into the waves at a 45-degree angle. PWCs should head directly into the waves.
 - If the engine stops, drop a "sea anchor" on a line off the bow to keep the bow headed into the wind and reduce drifting while you ride out the storm. In an emergency, a bucket will work as a sea anchor.
 - If the sea anchor is not sufficient, anchor using your conventional anchor to prevent your boat from drifting into dangerous area.

VHF Frequencies Broadcasting NOAA Weather Reports

- 162.400 MHz
- 162.425 MHz
- 162.450 MHz
- 162.475 MHz
- 162.500 MHz
- 162.525 MHz
- 162.550 MHz

These are the most commonly used VHF channels on United States waters.

- Channel 6** Intership safety communications.
- Channel 9** Communications between vessels (commercial and recreational), and ship to coast (calling channel in designated USCG Districts).
- Channel 13** Navigational use by commercial, military, and recreational vessels at bridges, locks, and harbors.
- Channel 16** Distress and safety calls to U.S. Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels; often called the "hailing" channel. When hailing, contact the other vessel, quickly agree to another channel, and then switch to that channel to continue conversation.
- Channel 22** Communications between the U.S. Coast Guard and the maritime public, both recreational and commercial. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation, and other safety warnings are broadcast on this channel.
- Channel 24-28** Public telephone calls (to marine operator).
- Channel 68, 69, and 71** Recreational vessel radio channels and ship to coast.
- Channel 70** Digital selective calling "alert channel."

Statewide Boating Safety Education Classes

October 2013				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	October 23 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	October 29 & 31 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. (Must attend both)	Arizona Game and Fish Department Office 7200 E University Dr. Mesa	\$8	(623) 236-7219

November 2013				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	November 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Arizona Game and Fish Department HQ 5000 W. Carefree Hwy Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game and Fish Department	November 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 East Broadway Road Tempe	\$8	(623) 236-7219

Fire Extinguisher

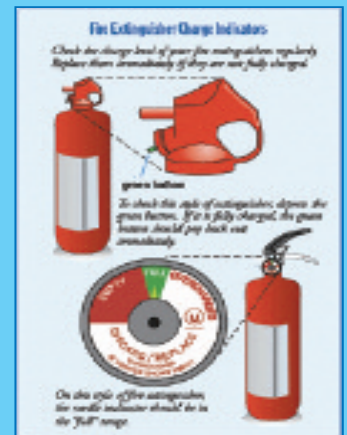
- ◆ All vessels are required to have a Type B fire extinguisher(s) on board if one or more of the following conditions exist:
 - Inboard engine;
 - Closed compartments where portable fuel tanks may be stored;
 - Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not filled completely with flotation material;
 - Closed living spaces;
 - Closed storage compartments in which flammable or combustible materials may be stored;
- ◆ Permanently installed fuel tanks (any tank where the removal of the tank is hampered by the installation of tie-down straps or clamps).
- ◆ Approved types of fire extinguishers are identified by the following marking on the label—"Marine Type USCG-Approved"—followed by the type and size symbols and the approval number.

Fire Extinguisher Requirements

Classification type & size	Foam minimum gallons	Carbon Dioxide minimum pounds	Dry Chemical minimum pounds
B-I	1½	4	2
B-II	2½	15	10

Length of Vessel	Without Fixed System	With Fixed System*
	Less than 26 ft.	one B-I
26 ft. to less than 40 ft.	two B-I or one B-II	one B-I
40 ft. to less than 65 ft.	three B-I or one B-II and one B-I	two B-I or one B-II

* refers to a permanently installed fire extinguisher system



- ◆ Extinguishers should be placed in an accessible area—not near the engine or in a compartment, but where they can be reached immediately. Be sure you know how to use them, and inspect extinguishers regularly to ensure they are in working condition and fully charged.

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.

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



THE CREW

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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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Marketing/Sales
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Game And Fish Officer Honored As MADD OUI Officer Of The Year



Luke Apfel

KINGMAN, Ariz. — Alcohol is the leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents, according to the U.S. Coast Guard.

Luke Apfel, wildlife manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Region 3 office in Kingman, is well aware of this statistic and has been active in many of the regional Operating Under the Influence checkpoints. For his efforts in removing impaired operators from the waterways, Apfel was recently awarded the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) OUI Officer of the Year award.

"It's an honor," said Apfel. "There's a lot of satisfaction in getting impaired op-

erators off the water. I consider every such arrest as a life saved. These same people operating under the influence on the water are often operating a vehicle when they come off the water as well."

Apfel has been in the Region 3 Bullhead City district since January 2012. Since that time he has been one of the department's top OUI enforcement officers. In 2012 alone, Apfel arrested nine subjects for OUI and currently has eight in 2013.

"[Apfel] is one of the most proficient OUI investigators in the Kingman regional area," said Velma Holt-Buhr, west sector supervisor for Region 3. "In addition, with his knowledge and expertise, he frequently

assists other officers with their OUI investigations.

"During the 2013 boating season Apfel participated in five OUI checkpoints along the Colorado River and has helped secure command centers at the checkpoint locations.

"There are some people who consider boating under the influence as acceptable," Apfel said. "It is not. People die on Arizona's waterways because people made a choice to drink. Before ever taking to the water people need to designate a sober operator. It's really that simple and helps keep the congested waterways safer for everyone."

BoatUS Foundation President Chris Edmonston Elected Chairman Of National Safe Boating Council

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water President Chris Edmonston has been elected Chairman of the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC).

Created in its current form by the Federal Boating Safety Act of 1971, the Council is the nation's principle public-private

boating-safety advocacy organization with a coalition of over 330 U.S. and international member organizations. Its mission is to promote a safer recreational boating experience through education, outreach and training.

"Chris has made boating-safety education more accessible for thousands of

America's boaters, contributing to the Council's effort to ensure everyone has a great, and safe, day on the water," said BoatUS President Margaret Podlich. "We are humbled by the Council's decision to select Chris to lead this prestigious organization. We also hope this shows the depth of BoatUS' commitment to boating safety."

Edmonston commented, "The industry is increasingly seeing the value of educating people on how to boat safely, and the Council is a great bridge between industry and the general public. I look forward to working with the Council to strengthen and grow this great coalition. It does a great job of bringing state and federal agencies together with industry partners to address boating safety issues."

A native Marylander, Edmonston has been boating his entire life and currently boats with his family on the Chesapeake Bay.

The National Safe Boating Council is responsible for the annual **National Safe Boating Week (May 17-23, 2014)** and the "Wear It" life jacket promotional program. It offers a series of safe-boating courses for instructors and the boating public, re-



NEW NSBC CHAIR — BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water President Chris Edmonston has been elected Chairman of the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC). Created in its current form by the Federal Boating Safety Act of 1971, the Council is the nation's principle public-private boating-safety advocacy organization with a coalition of over 330 U.S. and international member organizations.

search publications, educational tools, an informative boating safety newsletter, and more. Go to www.safeboatingcouncil.org



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Kudos To All Who Are Trying To Keep The Outdoors Open

As we go to press, the U.S. government is shut down, and many federally run resources are not available during this time. We certainly hope that when you receive this issue, the federal government will have resolved the current shutdown, but at this date, we have no way of knowing when that will be.

WOT/AZBW expresses its gratitude to local agencies such as the Arizona Game & Fish Department, Arizona State Parks, Maricopa County Parks, as well as other county parks and individuals who care about our access to the great outdoors.

Each is doing what it can to ensure access to outdoor recreational activities and venues. The articles

on this page (some normally placed on different pages) are the most recent we have received at press time.

Once again, we sincerely thank all those involved in efforts to preserve our access to the outdoors, looking for alternatives for all of us, and trying to "keep the outdoors open."



Arizona Game & Fish Votes To Approach Feds

The motion authorizes AZGFD to enter into discussions with federal land-management agencies to use department resources to maintain hunting, fishing access.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission met Oct. 4 in a public session to receive an update on federal closures of certain lands and facilities due to the current federal government shutdown.

Some of these closures restrict citizens' access to hunting and fishing recreation and negatively impact rural economies.

The commission voted to authorize the department to approach federal land management agencies for the purpose of discussing the possibility of using Arizona Game and Fish Department resources to maintain hunting and fishing access to certain now-closed federal lands or facilities.

The formal motion approved by the commission was as follows:

That the Commission authorize the Department to offer to enter into discussions with appropriate federal land management agencies about providing Department manpower and services for the purpose of maintaining essential access to or through federal key sites and facilities for the purpose of maintaining hunting and fishing access for our citizens. The Department will monitor any associated costs and will report to the Commission should those costs become of concern.

Earlier in the week, the commission voted to direct the department to approach the National Park Service to discuss the possibility of offering resources to maintain public access at Lees Ferry. As of this time, the department has received no response to its letter to the National Park Service director.

Despite the federal government shutdown, there are still many hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreational opportunities available in Arizona, and outdoor recreationists are encouraged to get outside and take advantage of them.

Arizona Hunters, Anglers Still Have Access

Hunting and fishing opportunities abound in Arizona despite federal government shutdown.

Many hunters, anglers and other outdoor recreationists have been wondering how the current federal government shutdown, which began Oct. 1, will impact their upcoming outings.

Despite closures by federal land management agencies of their administrative offices and some controlled access points and facilities, there are numerous opportunities available to Arizonans for outdoor recreation.

Please keep in mind that, with regard to federal lands, official information on closures is the responsibility of the respective federal land management agencies. The Arizona Game and Fish Department is providing this unofficial update as a service to constituents based on the best information we have available at this time [and at press time for AZBW/WOT], and that information is subject to change.

Hunting

Most Forest Service and BLM lands where hunting was previously allowed should still be open to hunting, as long as it is in accordance with Arizona hunting laws. Areas with controlled access points (such as developed recreational sites and campgrounds) may be closed.

Be advised that federal wildlife refuges



are currently closed, as are national parks under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Certain hunts have begun in Arizona for turkey, quail, tree squirrels, ducks (mountain zone), and juniors-only javelina. Enjoy your hunt.

Fishing

Great angling opportunities exist at these waters:

Lake Pleasant. The striper bite at this lake northwest of Phoenix is one of the state's best right now. This is a great boating lake as well. Lake Pleasant Regional Park is under the jurisdiction of Maricopa County.

Lake Havasu. This is an ideal time to visit this 19,000-acre impoundment in western Arizona that's a haven for stripers, largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. It's very popular with boaters as well. Most of the busier launch sites remain open, and Havasu is a community that welcomes and caters to anglers. For more information, visit www.golakehasvu.com and see how to "Play like you mean it."



Alamo Lake, a 3,500-acre impoundment northwest of Wickenburg, is particularly excellent for largemouth bass, crappie and catfish.

Urban Fishing Program waters in Phoenix, Tucson and Payson are excellent for fishing. Fall catfish stockings have resumed at the Phoenix and Tucson Urban Fishing Program lakes, and those lakes are being stocked again with channel catfish through Oct. 5.

Community ponds in Yuma, West Wetlands Park Pond, Fortuna Pond, Redondo Pond and the Council Park Pond in Somerton also are sure-fire fishing bets.

In the Tucson area, Cluff Ranch, Roper Lake, Dankworth Pond and Patagonia Lake all remain open and are viable fishing options.

Around Cottonwood, anglers can head to the lagoons at Dead Horse Ranch State Park, as well as to the Verde River.

The striper bite has picked up in the Colorado River below Davis Dam, in the

See **OUTDOORS** on page 6

for Creative Sake

Angela Ogden, Graphic Designer for AZBW
www.angeladogden.com
580.763.7456

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For more information, contact:
 Eric Smith, Parks and Recreation, (928) 777-1590 or eric.smith@prescott-az.gov
 Kelly Tolbert, Parks and Recreation, (928) 777-1558 or kelly.tolbert@prescott-az.gov

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IT'S IN THE HOUSE!

Curling Rocks The Valley With New, Dedicated Facility

From Darryl Horsman

The Coyotes Curling Club is proud to announce we've leased property to institute Arizona's first and only dedicated curling club — in Tempe, Ariz.

Yes, the Olympic sport on ice! The ribbon cutting is planned for January 2014, just in time for the 2014 Winter Olympics.

As we're a completely volunteer-driven 501c3 organization, we are looking to the community to join us in driving excitement for our beloved sport.

Coyotes Curling Club Leagues have been popular in Phoenix, being practiced by over 4,000 members in the Valley since 2003 at North Scottsdale's Ice Den. Sharing ice with hockey teams, figure skaters and hobbyists proves challenging for curlers, who require pristine ice to successfully and properly execute skillful games.

Our new space will offer the opportunity to introduce the sport to newcomers, hone skills for seasoned players and offer future Olympians a training venue. Can you imagine an Olympic curler from Arizona? We can!

Curling is an inclusive, fun and athletic sport that has the propensity to touch all members of our community — we support numerous leagues for all ages and even plan for a wheelchair league.

We also will be able to host competitions (which we call bonspiels), enticing curlers from around the world to enjoy



IT'S 'OFFICIAL' — Curling has been an official sport in the Winter Olympic Games since the 1998 Winter Olympics. In February 2002, the International Olympic Committee retroactively decided that the curling competition from the 1924 Winter Olympics (originally called *Semaine des Sports d'Hiver*, or International Winter Sports Week) would be considered official Olympic events and no longer be considered demonstration events. Curling has been an official sport in the Winter Olympic Games since the 1998 Winter Olympics. (Pictured: Curling at Youth Olympic Games 2012)

what Greater Phoenix has to offer.

If you would like more information, I'm available for interviews and will be happy to schedule some time for you to see Coyotes Curling in action.

Good Curling!

Darryl Horsman

Note: You can like the Coyotes Curling Club on Facebook; the club is also on Twitter.

Congratulations To America's Cup Winner: Team Oracle

It's been called "one of the greatest comebacks in sports history." Oracle Team USA has won the America's Cup with its final winner-take-all Race 19 on San Francisco Bay Sept. 25.

It looked as if New Zealand would be the victors as the Kiwis had eight wins as of Sept. 18, but Jimmy Spithill steered Oracle's high-tech 72-foot catamaran to its own eighth- straight victory and crossed the finish line just seconds before Emirates Team New Zealand.

This is the first crew to win eight races in a row in an America's Cup match. Previously, there were three five-race winning streaks, but that was when the America's Cup was the best out of nine. Begun as the best-of-17, Oracle needed 11 victories, as it had been penalized two points for illegally

modifying boats in warm-up regattas.

The 2013 America's Cup, which was number 34, had all the tension of the 1983 regatta; it was then that Australia II came back from a 3-1 deficit to beat U.S.A.'s Dennis Conner and end New York Yacht Club's 132-year winning streak.

From an historical perspective, it was 1851 when the schooner America, representing the youthful New York Yacht Club, beat the British, winning the Royal Yacht Squadron's 100 Guinea Cup off the coast of England.

Since that victory, 162 years have passed and only four nations — the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Switzerland — have won the America's Cup, sailed by some to be the oldest trophy in international sports.



USA VICTORY! — BMW Oracle's USA-17 is shown here training off Valencia, Spain in late January 2010. Oracle Team USA won the America's Cup with its final winner-take-all Race 19 on San Francisco Bay Sept. 25.



Halloween October 31

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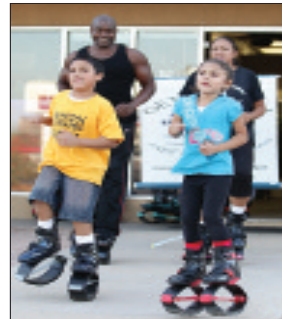
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NOMINATE NOW — US Sailing is accepting nominations for its 2013 Rolex Yachtsman and Yachtswoman of the Year awards, widely acknowledged as the foremost individual sailing honors in the nation. Through Nov. 30, each member of US Sailing may nominate the one male and one female sailor they believe has turned in the most outstanding on-the-water performance during the 2013 calendar year. For more information and/or to make a nomination, visit www.us-sailing.org.

OUTDOORS

Continued from page 5

Big Bend area.

In the Prescott Area, Fain Lake, Goldwater Lake, Watson Lake and Willow Creek Reservoir are options. It is the department's understanding that an angler can still walk into Lynx and Minguos lakes from outside the locked gates (water is off and restrooms are locked.)

Although Forest Service boat ramps are reportedly closed at Roosevelt, Apache, Canyon, Saguaro and Bartlett lakes, walk-in access is reportedly open at those lakes and on the Lower Salt River. Also, privately operated marinas and their launch facilities on those lakes are currently open, but some may involve fees. Call ahead to confirm.

Boat ramp access to most lakes on Forest Service lands on the Mogollon Rim and in the White Mountains reportedly remains open at this time, but in the event this changes, walk-in access should still be available. Developed campgrounds and associated infrastructure (restrooms, trash containers) may be closed.

Mogollon Rim creeks such as Tonto Creek are open, and fishing for trout in the fall can be excellent. Dispersed camping is still available on undeveloped sites.

Arizona state parks, such as Lyman Lake State Park near St. Johns, Fool Hollow Lake in Show Low, and Patagonia Lake near Nogales are open for camping and fishing.

All Arizona Game and Fish Department offices, shooting ranges, fish hatcheries, wildlife areas, and other department facilities and properties will remain open during their normal business hours.

Current Information Only

This is the most current information we have as of the time of this communication. Please use it as a guide, not a definitive listing.

A Reminder About Mussels

Also, it's important for boaters and anglers to remember that, under Arizona law, individuals who take their boats out of waters designated as having aquatic invasive species must clean, drain and dry. This means wiping down your boat, pulling your plug and drying your watercraft and equipment for at least five days before launching your boat into a different water.

Other quagga-infected waters are Lake Powell, Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, Lake Havasu, and all lower Colorado River waters to the international border with Mexico. These waters are listed in the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Director's Orders located at www.azgfd.gov/aia.

For More Info And Updates

For more information on how federal land management agencies are dealing with the federal government shutdown, visit www.doi.gov/shutdown/index.cfm or www.usda.gov/documents/usda-fs-shutdown-plan.pdf.

Updates will be posted at www.azgfd.gov/h_fgovt_closures.shtml as they occur.



Tackle & Target



Now Is One Of The Best Times To Fish Arizona

From AZGFD

Tip Of The Week

When trout are more active, it's sometimes better to use lures rather than bait, especially inline spinners such as Mepps, Rooster Tails and the like.

Casting spoons, such as KastMasters, can sometimes be downright lethal.

Also try rainbow-colored Rapalas. The larger, more voracious trout will often feed on the smaller ones.

The Reel Deal

The window of sunlight that blasts our waters is increasingly short-lived, leading to the first hints of fall fishing conditions.

First, before we consider conditions and what's biting, let's take a moment to recognize the foundations of wildlife management. Good a time as any because National Hunting and Fish Day has just been observed.

President Nixon, on May 2, 1972, signed the first proclamation of National Hunting and Fishing Day, writing, "I urge all citizens to join with outdoor sportsmen in the wise use of our natural resources and in ensuring their proper management for the benefit of future generations."

And with that, we recognize the hunters and anglers who, more than 100 years ago, were the most boisterous supporters of conservation and scientific wildlife management. They were led by fellow sportsman, President Theodore Roosevelt.

Let's celebrate with tight lines and successful hunts.

Falling Water Temps

With the falling water temperatures, shad in desert lakes are congregating in shallow waters, often in the backs of coves, where largemouth bass come to sate themselves. The fall bite has only just begun. There is less boat traffic, fewer anglers, and yet better fishing and refreshing air temperatures — an angler's paradise.

It's a transition phase in many senses. The final summer trout stockings are taking place at Bear Canyon, Show Low and Woods Canyon.

Bull elk should be calling like crazy. A great fall spot for elk calling is Knoll Lake on the Mogollon Rim, which not only is a nice trout lake, it's a scenic drive there along the famous Rim Road. Soon, the aspens should be showing off a new, fall wardrobe.

Stockings Resume

At the same time, the winter-trout stocking schedule has been posted. The first, Oct. 30 stockings, will go to Francis Short Pond, Huffer Pond, Beaver Creek, Mingus Lake, West Clear Creek and Fain Lake.

In the Urban Fishing Program, waters located in the greater Phoenix and Tucson areas, Mr. Whiskers is being stocked once

FISH POLITICS

Lake Powell Fish Hold Caucuses

By Wayne Gustavson
www.wayneswords.com

Individual fish species are evenly divided and are holding caucuses to decide how best to move forward from this point. Adult stripers would like to open the gates and let more anglers come in so they can reap the rewards of anchovy chum falling from the boats in all the locations that have proven to be great feeding spots all summer long.

They revel in the free food that comes to them without effort. Young stripers and smallmouth agree that finding plankton on their own without any assistance is the best way to feed their cohorts. Trophy fish with big brand names really don't care about fish politics since they can eat anything that happens to swim close by.

It's A Standoff

Largemouth bass and crappie are demanding that the lake be held at the current low level so brush can grow and provide nursery habitat for their offspring to be produced in 2014. They receive no support from stripers, carp, catfish who are doing just fine in the current fish economy.

It's a standoff. The just cannot agree on how to make the best plan to help all fish that swim in Lake Powell.

Anglers, when allowed to return to the lake, will find a big change. Dropping water temperatures have allowed a change in feeding location and habits. The standard main channel walls are not producing as they have in the past.



SIX ON SIX — Joey Soccomanno, Church Wells, Utah, really likes to catch catfish. On a recent trip to the San Juan he caught six cats on six casts with the last one being this six-pounder.

Young shad have been hiding in the backs of canyons in warm water where larger stripers could not enter. Now with temperatures near 70, game fish have free access to deep and shallow water.

flash flood event where floating debris and even brush and cattails were washed into the water.

Floods often created a sediment delta with a plunge pool behind. Shad congregate on top of the sediment delta and in the plunge pool near shore while game fish are in deep water on the opposite side.

Bass use the floating brush as cover and stripers hold out near the mouth of the cove daring any shad to swim toward open water. Graph the 60-70 foot bottom depth range to locate stationary steeper schools.

Lake-Wide Strategy

Here is the lake-wide strategy for catching bass and stripers. Since forage is not abundant, it is important to find the few locations where both shad and stripers congregate.

Narrow coves off the main channel with a dry stream bed in the back are prime locations. Look for one that had a recent

See CAUCUSES on page 19

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See FISH on page 19



Tackle & Target

COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM

The Hook Is Set For Autumn Fishing

From AZGFD

All lakes were stocked again with channel catfish the week of Sept. 30 – Oct. 5. Fishing for catfish is good to excellent now that the fall stockings have resumed.

The Sept. 19 stocking was loaded with incentive-size catfish in the 3-8 pound range. Mornings and evenings are the best times because catfish prefer to feed under dim or dark conditions.

Top baits for catfish have been stink baits, shrimp and worms fished on the bottom in the deeper lake sections.

Use smaller sinkers and 8-pound test line to get more hookups. In the Tucson area, extra catfish will be stocked this fall season into Kennedy and Lakeside lakes due to the suspension of catfish stockings at Sahuarita Lake.

Some Helpful Hints

Fishing for bluegill is good along the shorelines in 4-6 feet of water. Try mealworms under a small, thin bobber for great action. As lake temperatures fall below 76 degrees, expect better action for large-mouth bass, especially in the early morn-

ing periods.

Try finesse plastics rigged dropshot or Texas-style for the bass, and mix it up with small crankbaits, soft jerkbaits or spinnerbaits.

At Green Valley Lakes (Payson) anglers are having good luck for bluegill and crappie using worms and small jigs. The fall kick-off date for trout stockings to resume is Saturday, Oct. 19.

First Fall Stockings Loaded With Incentive Size Catfish

The initial fall stocking of catfish on Sept. 19 included a jaw-dropping array of catfish in the 3-8 pound range.

Mr. Fish, the Arkansas-based fish vendor that delivers the urban fish, loaded their trucks up with tons of huge catfish. The older ponds from which they netted the fish held incentive-size channel catfish averaging 3 pounds each. One catfish was estimated at 9 pounds and many others were in the 5-7 pound class.

Reports of 20-pound, four-fish limits have been pouring in from excited anglers. Urban fish biologists estimated that 70 percent of the delivered catfish were well

over the 1.7-pound average that the program usually orders.

"I'm thrilled to deliver a load of trophy-class catfish to our urban anglers every once in a while and create exciting memories," explained Eric Swanson, manager of the Urban Fishing Program. "Yet, since we pay for catfish by the pound, the larger fish mean fewer fish to go around."

The next three fall deliveries of catfish are expected to include fish closer to a 2-pound average. The fish supplier plans to load fish from different ponds that contain a majority of regular size catfish with a mix of some 3-4 pounders.

Commission Approves More Community Fishing Program Waters

On Sept. 7, the Game and Fish Commission unanimously approved the addi-

See HOOK on page 9



The Goals: To Conserve, To Simplify And Streamline

Game and Fish Commission approves a dozen amendments to fishing regulations.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission recently approved 12 amendments to Commission Order 40 (fish regulations) that are expected to conserve sport fish populations and simplify and streamline regulations. The amendments will take effect Jan. 1, 2014.



One amendment of particular benefit to anglers is a change in the statewide possession limit to twice the daily bag limit, applying to all statewide and special-regulation seasons. The regulation will now give the angler the ability to continue fishing on subsequent days when bag limits are met.

In addition, special regulations have been established for daily bag limits at newly designated Community Fishing Program waters, formally known as Urban Fishing Program waters. Tempe Town Lake will now be included in the Community Fishing Program.

Finally, the amendment that received the most public support was the reduction of the crappie daily bag limit from unlimited to 15 daily at Bartlett and Roosevelt lakes.

- Other approved amendments are —
- All catch-and-release trout waters have been designated as artificial fly and lure only, single barbless hooks.
- Artificial fly and lure regulations have been simplified at waters with limited trout harvest to "artificial fly and lure only, two trout daily bag limit."
- Statewide daily bag limit for white amur decreased from unlimited to one with a 30-inch minimum.
- A year-round bow-fishing season was approved for Salt River-chain lakes Saguaro, Apache, Canyon and Roosevelt with a special regulation bag limit of five catfish in any combination. This season will end Dec. 31 of 2016, but can be continued upon commission approval. Department data showed catfish populations in these fisheries are robust in sizes and populations.
- A special regulation was designated at Goldwater Lake, reducing the daily bag limit to one bass with a minimum length of 13 inches.
- Statewide regulation for roundtail

See GOALS on page 9

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Tackle & Target

Seventeen Projects Receive Funding Awards

AZGFD continues investment in new-hunter recruitment through Local Sportsmen's Group Grant Program.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's Local Sportsmen's Group Grant Program awarded 17 projects totaling \$75,000 for hunter recruitment efforts in the state.

The purpose of the grant program is to help local sportsmen's groups fund projects that promote wildlife conservation through hunter recruitment and retention. Eligible projects often include events like mentored, hands-on hunting for youngsters and their families.

Incredible Response

The program received 37 applications this cycle totaling nearly \$240,000 in project requests.

"We had an incredible response this year," said Doug Burt, hunting and shooting sports manager for Arizona Game and Fish. "The recruitment and retention of

hunters, anglers, shooters and trappers is essential, and we strongly encourage projects that involve partnering among groups and organizations."

Reaching out to Arizona residents who might not be familiar with the fishing and hunting opportunities in this state is essential to preserving the future of our outdoor traditions, and it is no small task.

Investment In The Stewards

"This grant program is an investment in the local organizations that are critical in bringing important lessons about traditional outdoor recreational pursuits to our communities," Burt said. "Hunters and anglers are stewards of wildlife and a primary funding source for wildlife conservation efforts in Arizona and in most of the U.S."

The following projects have been awarded the 2013 Local Sportsmen's Grant Awards:

- Angler's United Lake Havasu City Chapter for the project "Lake Havasu Youth Fishing Education Program," in the amount of \$3,063.
- Arizona Elk Society for the project "Arizona Elk Society Youth Camp Pro-

gram, SAMI insurance, and Media Promotions," in the amount of \$9,000.

• Arizona National Shoot to Retrieve for the project "Southeastern AZ Youth Quail Camp," in the amount of \$2,000.

• CouesWhitetail.com for the project "Women's Javelina Hunting Camp 2014," in the amount of \$4,775.

See AWARDS on page 17

GOALS

Continued from page 8

chub will be catch-and-release only.

• Fishing regulations on the Colorado River from the I-40 Bridge to the southern international boundary with Mexico were consolidated to simplify and make regulations easier to understand.

• Special regulations were removed from Home and Wildcat creeks, allowing these fisheries to have general statewide regulations.

HOOK

Continued from page 8

tion of 15 more lakes to the Community (Urban) Fishing Program, effective Jan. 1, 2014. This represents a 70 percent increase in the number of urban/community fishing waters that anglers will be able to choose from.

The Commission action included designating the waters as Community Fishing waters that will require either the new 2014 Community Fishing license (\$24) or the new 2014 Fishing license that covers all waters (\$37).

Special daily bag limits will apply to

the new waters similar to the current urban lake (four catfish, four trout) or pond (two catfish, two trout) limits.

The 15 new waters include: eight waters in the Valley (Eldorado Pond and McKellips Pond in Scottsdale, Discovery Ponds and McQueen Pond in Gilbert, Granada Ponds and Roadrunner Pond in Phoenix, Bonsall Pond in Glendale, and Pacana Pond in Maricopa); two newly constructed lakes (Pioneer Lake in Peoria and Copper Sky Lake in Maricopa); Tempe Town Lake; and four waters in Yuma (West Wetlands Pond, Fortuna Pond, Redondo Pond, and Council Avenue Pond).



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AZGFD's Doug Burt, who heads up the Hunting Angling Heritage Work Group, sent this note re: a new and most interesting infographic Burt notes, "Here is a very cool and visual look at hunters' contribution, participation and economic impact."

To see the total effect, visit —
<http://www.nssfblog.com/infographic-huntings-impact-on-the-economy/>



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Western Wildlife



BEAR COUNTRY?

Cub Comes Aboard At Lake Powell

From Wayne Gustavson

On Friday, Sept. 27, 2013 a bear cub showed up on the shoreline of Lake Powell. Visitors in Face Canyon were certainly surprised to see the little guy and even more amazed that he seemed right at home walking up the ramps of the houseboats parked there.

He was looking for food as he was obviously very hungry after a long walk from wherever he came from. Food was offered. The bear seemed to like fish and table scraps.

But children, dogs and bears are not compatible. The bear visitation was correctly reported to the National Park Service.

'There's A Bear On My Boat'

On Sept. 28, NPS and Utah Parks and Recreation officers went to Face Canyon, found the bear and escorted it away for the lakeshore, hoping it would return home. Unfortunately, the bear really liked the food provided by the houseboaters and returned to Face Canyon the next day.

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources officers were summoned from Cedar City, Utah, where bears are a bit more common than at Lake Powell. Two tracking dogs and three wildlife experts arrived at the Face Canyon site to find no houseboats parked on the beach.

The dogs were let loose and the hunt was on when a visitor came over the hill and stated, "Can you help me? There's a bear on my boat." (When his family re-



VISIT FROM A BEAR — After visiting Lake Powell houseboats last month, this bear was tranquilized. Here, Wayne Gustavson holds the cub, which, after a sound sleep and later, a dramatic rescue from the lake, was finally returned to more appropriate bear country in Utah.

turned from a hike, they found their boat occupied by a bear cub.)

The dogs were leashed, the tranquilizer gun loaded and the bear was injected with anesthetic. Just before passing out, the bear decided to make one more rush to freedom.

Water Rescue

He plunged off the boat into Lake Powell, swam a few yards, and then went

limp. Jason Nicholes, UDWR wildlife biologist, knew the bear was now in serious trouble.

He stripped off his shirt, tossed his cell phone on the ground and jumped in the lake. He grabbed the bear after an Olympic free-style swim and held the bear out of the water until the boat could come pick them both up.

The bear was then given an antidote and allowed to regain consciousness as it was transported back to Wahweap Marina and then on to Cedar City, Utah.

The cub recovered nicely and seemed to have little adverse reaction following the abrupt end to his Lake Powell vacation.

'There's No Place Like Home'

The cub was collared so that he could be tracked and tended to as needed. He was released unharmed in the mountains of southern Utah in an area with lots of acorns and other food that bears in that area enjoy.

Hopefully, he will live a sedate and peaceful life in his new home.

Editor's Note: Wayne Gustavson has provided more photos at the following sites:

- <http://www.wayneswords.com/images/high-res/bearcollar.jpg>;
- <http://www.wayneswords.com/images/high-res/beardeck.jpg>; and
- <http://www.wayneswords.com/images/high-res/bearsxim2.jpg>.

Field And Stream Names Arizona's Steve Sams Conservation Hero Of The Year

Steve Sams, a long-time hunter-education instructor, conservation volunteer and current president of the Arizona Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, has been named 2013 Conservation Hero of the Year by *Field and Stream* magazine.

Sams, a resident of Prescott Valley, Ariz., was one of six finalists for this prestigious national award, which he accepted at the annual Heroes of Conservation Gala in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 19.

Fieldandstream.com noted that Sams has dedicated his life to the conservation of wildlife and the preservation of the outdoor sports. He was praised for his work educating and recruiting young hunters, cultivating collaboration between groups, raising funds, and accomplishing on-the-ground habitat improvements for wild turkeys and other wildlife species, all embodying the values of a Field and Stream Hero of Conservation.

Sams has introduced more than 2,000 youngsters to hunting during 28 years of teaching hunter education, 10 years of mentored youth pheasant hunts, and four years of leading youth turkey camps. He was a charter member of Arizona's Hunting and Angling Heritage Work Group (HAHWG), a collaborative effort between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and various sportsmen's groups that works to break down barriers and pool resources for hunter and angler recruitment and retention.

The effort began with just four sportsmen's groups and has grown to include more than 30 organizations that are dedicated to making a difference.

Arizona Game and Fish congratulates Steve Sams on this most recent achievement and recognition of his efforts on behalf of wildlife conservation and service to the citizens of Arizona. To see the *Field and Stream* video about Sams' accomplishments and to learn more about the Heroes of Conservation Award, visit <http://www.fieldandstream.com/heroes>.



Steve Sams



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Kartchner Cavern's Big Room

Celebrate Kartchner's Big Room 10-Year Anniversary Events

Although Kartchner Caverns State Park and the Throne Room tour opened to the public in 1999, it wasn't until 2003 that Arizona State Parks added the Big Room tour.

On Friday, Nov. 8, as a special celebration of the Big Room's 10-year anniversary, Kartchner Caverns State Park will have special speakers and unique presentations from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Presentations will start at 10 a.m., including a Development Presentation at 10 a.m., the Dedication of the Micro Bio Exhibit, VIP speakers at 1 p.m., Bat Presentation at 2 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. a meet and greet with alumni, staff, volunteers and guests. This event schedule is subject to change.

A Good Time To Explore

This day will be busy with presentations, booths and interpretive programs for all ages. Visitors should make plans now by scheduling their cave tours and weekend jaunts throughout southeastern Arizona. It is a good time to also explore other fascinating geologic wonders such as the Chiricahuas and Dragoon Mountains or historic towns such as Tombstone and Bisbee.

The Big Room Tour is half of a mile long and takes an hour and 45 minutes to complete. (Note: Big Room Tours are not available for children younger than 7 years of age.)

The Rotunda/Throne Room Tour is also available and is a half mile in length and takes approximately an hour and a half to complete. Both tours are \$22.95 for those aged 14 and older and \$12.95 for children aged 7 to 13. Children six and younger are free for the Rotunda/Throne Room tour but are not allowed in the Big Room tour.

The Discovery Center facility contains exhibits on cave formations, cave life, hydrology and history. In the Tenen-Tufts Theater, a video presentation (15 minutes long) plays twice an hour. The program highlights the discovery aspect of the cave.

The Extras: Gifts, Food

The Gift Shop offers a wide array of cave-related and Southwestern-themed souvenirs, gifts and practical items to meet the needs of travelers. The Bat Cave Cafe is open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for dining while at the Park.

There are hiking trails for the beginner to advanced hiker and a large, modern campground adjacent to the Whetstone Mountains.

Reservations for camping or cave tours can be made 24-hours a day at AZStateParks.com or by calling (520) 586-2283 between 8am and 5pm (Mountain Standard Time) seven days per week. Reservations are highly recommended for all cave tours. Cave

Don't Be Late

Tour tickets must be picked up at least one hour prior to your scheduled tour time. Kartchner Caverns State Park is located on Highway 90, nine miles south of I-10 near Benson, Arizona.

For information about all 27 Arizona

See ANNIVERSARY on page 17

Join The LaContes For An Evening Under The Stars

Join local astronomy experts, Tony and Carole La Conte, from *Stargazing For Everyone*, on Saturday, Oct. 12 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant as they bring the universe to you.

Learn about the constellations, planets, star clusters and nebulas as you peer through telescopes and binoculars and enjoy stories about the night sky. The two-hour stargazing event is a great way to learn about the galaxy while taking advantage of the beautiful weather.

During the presentation, the La Contes will also share tips with meteor-watching enthusiasts on how to best observe the trains from the Orionid meteor shower expected to peak before dawn on Oct. 21.

In addition to the stargazing program, park visitors will have the chance to par-

ticipate in youth activities, check out the center's live animal exhibits and purchase hamburgers, hot dogs and chilled beverages.

Attendees are encouraged to bring binoculars, digital cameras, lawn chairs and blankets for comfort. This is a family friendly activity. The park entrance opens at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. There is a \$6 per vehicle park entry fee for the event; reservations are not required.

The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant is located at 41402 N. 87th Avenue in Peoria (just east of Lake Pleasant Regional Park). For additional information, visit www.maricopa.gov/parks/doc or phone (602) 372-7470 ext. 208.



Oracle State Park Re-Opens For Weekends October Through April



ORACLE OFFERS — Both a wildlife refuge and environmental learning center, Oracle State Park offers groups a chance to learn more about human's impact on nature.

Oracle State Park Center for Environmental Education is now open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Park's fall and winter season will last until Sunday, April 27, 2014.

The Park will hold events during their season and will also have school programs by reservation and be open for tours of the Kannally Ranch House and hiking on the weekends.

Paper With Plants Workshop

Workshop: Papermaking with Local Plants on Saturday, Oct. 26: Join Val Benbenek from 1 to 3 p.m. Learn basic papermaking using mold and deckle in vats of iris leaf, ocotillo flower, creosote leaf pulps and take home your richly textured sheets. Reservation is required by calling

(520) 896-2425. The \$15 workshop fee includes the park entrance fee.

Children's Workshop

Children's Workshop on Sunday, Nov. 3: Children aged 5 through 11 are welcome at this workshop, presented by Laurie Melrood. The workshop will last about 1.5 hours, beginning at noon and offered again at 3 p.m.

The workshop features rope making from roasted agave, desert broom brooms, gourd painting, cholla branch crafts, mesquite pitch painting, and more. Items are arranged on tables and participants are provided glue, beads, string and found items from nature for kids to make their own wonderful creative items from the of-

See ORACLE on page 12

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Arizona State Parks Board Authorizes Seven Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund Projects

The Arizona State Parks Board authorized seven projects funded with \$542,321 from the state Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund and \$339,108 from the federal Recreational Trails Program (motorized portion). These projects also include \$209,116 in matching funds from agency funds and volunteers.

The Arizona State Parks Board's volun-

teer advisory committees (Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Group (OHVAG) and the Arizona Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Commission (AORCC) review project applications periodically and make funding recommendations to the Arizona State Parks Board. In addition to trail and facility improvements, the funds can be used for mitigation of damage caused by OHV ac-

tivities, cultural and environmental compliances, and education projects/programs and law enforcement.

The seven projects approved for funding include —

\$53,000 to Tonto Recreation Alliance, Inc. (a non-profit that works under an

See **PROJECTS** on page 15

ORACLE

Continued from page 11

ferings.

They all take home at least one handmade craft. The workshop materials fee is \$8 per child, in addition to the per vehicle entrance fee to the park. Reservation is re-

quired by calling (520) 896-2425.

Guided Bird Walk

Guided Bird Walk on Saturday, Nov. 9: Led by M.E. Flynn at 8:15 a.m. Meet on the upper patio of the ranch house. No reservation is needed. The walk is free with park admission. Beginning in December, Bird Walks will be offered each first and third Saturday of the month through April 2014.

Piano Concert

Oracle Piano Society Presentation on Saturday, Nov. 16: Join Dr. Stephen Cook, Artistic Director of the Oracle Piano Society, at 3 p.m. in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House. He will present a pre-concert talk on the Society's upcoming inaugural concert, "Picture Rachmaninoff," a play written and narrated by Paul Harvey, Jr., featuring piano works by Rachmaninoff and projected artwork.

The presentation is free with park admission. For additional concert information, go the Society's website: www.oraclepianosociety.org or call Desert View Performing Arts Center at (520) 825-2818.

Another Bird Walk

Guided Bird Walk on Saturday, Nov. 23: Led by M.E. Flynn at 8:15 a.m. Meet on the upper patio of the ranch house. No

reservation is needed. The walk is free with park admission. Beginning in December, Bird Walks will be offered each first and third Saturday of the month through April 2014.

Kannally Ranch House Tours

Tours of the Historic Kannally Ranch House: Tours have resumed weekly on Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. and are offered again at 2 p.m. Participants should check-in at the Office/Gift Shop. Reservations are NOT required.

The tour lasts about 45-minutes and is free with park admission. On the tour, visitors will learn the stories behind its hand-carved corbels, stenciled walls, hand-formed fireplace, French casement windows and cozy ranch kitchen.

The Kannally Ranch House is a four-level pueblo-revival adobe home with Moorish and Mediterranean influences. It was built by the Kannally ranching family and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The displays include family photos, furnishings and several paintings by "self-taught" cowboy artist Lee Kannally. Picnicking on the patios is welcome.

Environmental Education

Environmental Education Field Trip

See **ORACLE** on page 14

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The following businesses will have "stickers" available before mid-March 2013
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DON'T MOVE A MUSSEL
Clean, Drain and Dry your BOAT

Inspect everything: if it gets wet, it could harbor mussels.

DAY USERS (boat in water for 5 days or less)

1. Clean — Remove all mud, plants and animals from every part of your boat, trailer and equipment, including your anchor, chain and rope.
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.

wildlife.ca.gov • azgfd.gov/ais • ndow.org

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")



More info at: WWW.LHMARINEASSN.COM

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HIKES

Continued from page 1

straight shot through the woods. In the summer the kids will find butterflies and other insects visiting the flowers. Half the fun is letting the kids take their time to explore. There are some big boulders near and even on the trail that make great places for a photo.

When the trail leaves the woods, it enters a beautiful meadow and you can see Alfa Fia tank. It's a small watering hole with plenty of reeds. There are usually ducks, birds, dragonflies and butterflies galore. It's a beautiful little spot.

The whole trail is fairly level and smooth, making it ideal for younger kids. Just make sure to keep a close eye on them at the water. A stroller would be hard to get through a couple of spots — one in particular is small steps over a large tree that has fallen across the trail. Round trip for this little hike is just shy of 1-1/4 miles.

Kachina Trail

We have hiked the Kachina Trail every year for the past ten years because our granddaughters love it so much. It's easily our favorite trail ever. Kachina is an out-and-back trail, like the Alfa Fia. But, the Kachina goes on much farther, eventually joining up with other trails. You could go for days.

When we take the kids, we always pack a light lunch and plan to make a morning of it. The trail is one of the most beautiful you'll ever see — it winds along the side of the mountain, staying fairly level. You'll pass through aspen forest, meadows full of grass and flowers, places full of ferns, and pine woods. The kids will love the frequent rock piles. They make great places to play.

A little over half a mile in, you'll reach the boundary of the Wilderness Area. There is a place to sign in, which makes you feel quite adventurous. You can go as far as you want — just remember that it will take the same amount of time to get back.

There are several places along the trail where you can get a gorgeous view. The Kachina Trailhead is on the right side of



Veit Springs/Lamar Haines Trail

PLUS, PLUS — The Veit Springs/Lamar Haines Trail loop is about 1-1/2 miles long. The forest itself here is nice and dark and thick, which is something kids always enjoy. There are several enormous boulders that are easy to climb — another plus.

the road just before the gate to enter the Snow Bowl.

Aspen Nature Loop

The Aspen Nature Loop is a nice short trail that takes you through gorgeous meadows and past some of the most astonishing pine trees you'll ever see. There are pines that are almost perfect cone shapes, and if you hit the trail at the right time of the season, they will be covered by bright yellow pinecone buds that make it look just like a huge Christmas tree.

We always see a lot of flowers and insects on this trail. It goes out, then makes a small loop before coming back. You'll intersect the Arizona Trail and find out how far it is to Mexico from there.

The Aspen Loop trailhead is in the same parking lot as the Humphrey's Peak trailhead — it's on the left side of the road just before you enter the Snow Bowl. The whole hike is about 2-1/2 miles, and it's all fairly level and easy.

Veit Springs/Lamar Haines Trail

This loop trail is about 1-1/2 miles long and has some pretty cool stuff to see. The forest itself here is nice and dark and thick, which is something kids always enjoy. There are several enormous boulders that are easy to climb, which is another plus.

But, the best part is that about three quarters of a mile in, you'll find a little side trail that leads to Ludwig Veit's cabin. There is a well and a storage shed to examine, and then there is the cabin.

It's been cut down to about five feet high, so when you peer inside, it looks like the attic of a tract home. Very odd — apparently they cut it down so no one could go in. There is also a side trail later that leads up the bank of a water hole that I have never seen water in. But you never know!

The Veit Springs trail is also called the Lamar Haines trail. You'll see a plaque telling about Lamar Haines and his conservation work. The trailhead is about 4-1/2 miles up the Snow Bowl road, on the right.

Tips For Hiking With Kids

Watch The Weather

First of all, remember that summer is (or will be again in summer 2014) monsoon season in Arizona. Seems like no matter when you plan your trip, you're going to have to deal with some thunderstorms. If the sky looks threatening, do not go out on the trail. It is no fun being caught in a lightning storm a mile from the car.

We usually stay in Flagstaff for four or five days and plan on one or two hikes per day. Get a hotel with an indoor pool and

the kids can swim in the afternoon even if it is raining.

Ride The Ski Lift

Go online (www.arizonasnowbowl.com) and download a coupon for the ski lift. It is open Friday to Sunday during the summer. It's a lot of fun to ride the ski lift up the mountain. Once you're there, you can walk a bit farther up and you are actually in an Alpine environment.

And the view! You have to see it. Plan on the ski lift as soon as it opens in the morning. That way, you can hike the Aspen loop afterwards if the weather permits. We usually allow a full day for the Kachina, because now that the kids are older, we like to go farther each year.

If you have a hotel room in Flagstaff, make some sandwiches the night before and freeze them. They will thaw in your backpack and be perfect for lunch.

Trail Mix For The Trail

I make homemade trail mix because I have a granddaughter with a peanut allergy. Also, it's way better than store bought!

I like to put in cashews, raisins, craisins, dried fruit, Teddy Grahams, Goldfish Pretzels, etc. So good! Carry plenty of water.

You can even get the kids their own little Camelpak backpack at Bass Pro or Camelbas so they can carry their own water. Make sure you have them drink water regularly, even if they say they are not thirsty. Please remember to pack it in, and pack it out. You don't want to see trash in the woods and neither does anyone else.

Extras For The Hike

You can print out maps of the different trails online, or you can buy a really good trail map of the Flagstaff area here: www.emmittbarks.com.

If you love to take photos, you might want to invest in a Trekpod. The Trekpod is a hiking staff that turns into a tripod in a matter of seconds. I love mine — I can set up the camera and actually get in the group photo.

The Trek Pod comes with powerful magnets that screw into the bottom of your camera, where the tripod would normally fit. The magnets allow you to snap the camera on and off the Trek Pod in a jiffy. A walking stick really helps on mountain trails, so why not have one that does double duty? Check it out at trek-tech.com.

Whether The Weather

Whether the weather is all-out summer or "Arizona light" in the fall, hiking the state's trails is a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors. It is also one of the best ways to introduce kids and youth to the wonders of nature.

PARKS

Continued from page 1

County's regional parks together with one continuous trail system.

"We are currently half way through the build-out on this project and a collection of trail maps for this system can be found on our Web site for the completed segments," Cardin added.

There are 10 Maricopa County Parks: San Tan Mountain Regional Park, Utery Mountain Regional Park, Lake Pleasant

Regional Park, Adobe Dam Regional Park, Buckeye Hills Regional Park, Cave Creek Regional Park, Estrella Mountain Regional Park, McDowell Mountain Regional Park, Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area and White Tank Mountain Regional Park.

For more information about any of the parks, call the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department at 602-506-2930 or visit the website at www.maricopa.gov/parks.

ORACLE

Continued from page 12

Programs: Environmental education programs for school children, first through sixth grades, are scheduled by reservation on weekdays by calling (520) 896-2425. Thousands of students have learned important environmental principles in these ranger/volunteer-led programs over the last two decades.

Hiking Trails

Hiking: Oracle State Park has trails that offer varying degrees of difficulty including a four-mile section of the Arizona Trail that transects the park. Bring your camera,

binoculars, notebook, sketchbook, bird-book and leash for your pet.

For More Information

For more information call the park office at (520) 896-2425 or visit AZStateParks.com. Oracle State Park is located northeast of Tucson in the northern foothills of the Catalina Mountains. Elevations in the 4,000-acre wildlife refuge range from 3,500 to 4,500 feet.

The park features a diversity of animals, plant species and rock formations. There are also oak tree-shaded washes, mesquite scrub habitats and riparian woodlands with manzanita and beargrass.

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DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid Oct.

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

PARKER: BWRCA Another 'Dam' Race: Nov. 2 — Stand Up Paddle Board Race - <http://parkerareatourism.com>

PARKER: Oct. 26 — 9th Annual Blue Water Resort & Casino 300 Enduro — Blue Water Resort, speed boat race, fifty six-mile laps will test the mettle and will power of the racers and their equipment, modeled after the original 1964 Parker Enduro, 10 am, 928-669-6511 or 310-318-4012 or <http://www.bluewaterfun.com> or <http://www.enduro300.com>

TEMPE: 12th Annual Hot Head Regatta: Oct. 12 — Tempe Town Lake Marina, watch rowing teams from all over the Southwest compete, food and fierce competition, free, <http://www.temperowersassociation.org/>

LAKE HAVASU CITY: Oct. 11-13 — Lucas Oil Drag Boat Races - Thunder on the River — Rotary Park & Thompson Bay, professional drag boat racing, some of the fastest runs ever in the Top Fuel Hydro category where speeds have already surpassed the 260 mile per hour mark in as little as 3.3-seconds on a 1,000-foot race course, the best of the top race teams in the country battle it out, supercharged big-block engines, 928-230-1769 or <http://www.golakehasvu.com> or <http://www.lucasoildragboats.com>

ASF SAILING CLASSES 2013 AND 2014: arizonayachtclub.org.

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

PHOENIX: Chihuly: Nov. 10-30 — 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/>

LAKE HAVASU CITY: Nov. 2, 3 — 2nd Annual Sand and Water Expo — Lake Havasu State Park, opportunity to browse, compare and shop for the latest and greatest in off-road vehicles, trucks, sand rails, ATVs, UTVs, 4 x 4s, buggies, motorcycles, electric vehicles, RVs, toy haulers, travel trailers, boats and all related accessory products and services, food, and beer garden on-site, \$2, children 6 & under free, Sat. 9 am — 6 pm, Sun 9 am — 3 pm, <http://sandandwaterexpo.com>



Christmas Is Coming

Each year in our October/November issue we have featured the many lighted-boat parades around the Southwest. If you know of one we should include this year, please e-mail editor@azbw.com and put "Lighted Boats" in the subject line. Thank you.

PHOENIX: Oct. 20 — Black Mountain BMX State Championship Finals Weekend — American Bicycle Association brings amateur bicycle motocross riders to perform jumps, flips and tricks <http://www.ababmx.com>

PHOENIX: Oct. 17-20 — 12th Annual Great Pumpkin Festival - Desert Botanical Garden, one of the Valley's favorite places to find that special pumpkin, take an authentic hayride out to the Garden's pumpkin patch, where each day children 12 and under can choose their own free pumpkin, \$6-15, Th-Fri 8:30 am — noon, Sat-Sun 8:30 am — 3 pm, 480-941-1225 or <http://www.dbg.org>

PRESCOTT: Oct. 12-13 Great Outdoors - Outdoor Recreation Festival & Expo — Watson Lake Park, a fun-filled day of live music, exhibitors, food, clinics, and more as we feature the amazing outdoor recreational opportunities of the Prescott area, and the latest and greatest in equipment, vendors include various Game & Fish programs, 7 am, <http://www.cityofprescott.com>



OPEN! — Bartlett Lake Marina is open, and we will launch and retrieve your boat for \$20 during the shutdown. The boat ramp hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Please call (602) 316-3378. While you are on the phone, check out their excellent slip availability and rates; uncovered, covered, and dry storage.

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>

MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS OFFER FREE CAMPING: Through Nov. 11

LYMAN LAKE STATE PARK: Through Dec. 3 — Camping reservations accepted; Arizona State Parks

FISHING

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

HUNTING

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

WATERSPORTS

Diving:

SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS: Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake Open Water Certification Dives, San Carlos, Mexico; Lake Pleasant, and more; Saguaro can plan your diving vacation for small groups or just one person. How about Grand Cayman, Curacao, Cozumel, Belize, Roatan, Bonaire, Turks & Caicos Contact Saguaro Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or sales@saguarosports.com

Frozen Watersports:

NEW DEDICATED CURLING FACILITY: Coyotes Curling Club; see story on page 6.

Swimming:

TEMPE: 11th Annual SOMA Half Iron Man Arizona: Oct. 20 — Tempe Town Lake, swim 1.2 miles, bike 56 miles, run 13.1 miles, awards, medals, aid stations, relays, 6:30 am, 480-226-4729 or <http://redrockco.com/>

TEMPE: Ironcare Splash & Dash + Swim Only — Race 3: Oct. 13 — Tempe Town Lake, presented by Triple Sports, splash 1000m or 2000m/dash 5km; swim only 1000m or 2000m, enjoy an evening of fun and racing with your friends, a unique event with a relaxed atmosphere that is suitable for all levels of athlete, whether fine tuning for that big race or getting your feet wet at your first multisport event, 7:30 am, <http://www.4peaksracing.com/>

PAGE: 7th Annual Powell3 Triathlon: Oct. 12 — Lake Powell Wahweap Marina, swim 1500 meters, bike 24 miles, run 6.2 miles or swim 750 meters, bike 12 miles, run 3.1 miles, USAT sanctioned, course covers a beautiful sand stone course with a great view of Lake Powell, \$90 early registration, 8 am, 801-355-4940 or <http://www.powell3.com>

Other Watersports

LAKE HAVASU CITY: Through Oct. 13 — 32nd Annual Jet Ski World Finals - Crazy Horse Resort Aqua Stadium, competitors from more than 40 U.S. states and countries churn the waters to win a share of more than \$25,000 in prizes at the world's largest and most prestigious personal watercraft race, finals and free-style 10/12-13, 8 am — 5 pm, 928-764-2210 ext 615 or <http://www.ijsba.com> or <http://www.golakehasvu.com>

WILDLIFE-RELATED

TUCSON: Butterfly Magic!: Nov. 1-30 — Tucson Botanical Gardens; Be transported on a global quest for the most beautiful, exotic and rare butterflies of the world, hundreds of live, tropical butterflies in this intimate exhibit, \$7.50-13, 9:30 am — 3 pm, <http://www.tucsonbotanical.org/>

PHOENIX: Mariposa Monarch-Monarch Butterfly Exhibit: through Nov. 24 — Mariposa Monarch-Monarch Butterfly Exhibit — Desert Botanical Garden, features hundreds of live monarch butterflies in a beautiful and lush habitat, guests can view these delicate creatures in the Marshall Butterfly Pavilion, a 2,400-square-foot walk-through butterfly pavilion where visitors learn about the magical metamorphosis of the monarch life cycle, 480-941-1225 or <http://www.dbg.org>

PRESCOTT: Oct. 31: — Boo at the Zoo — Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary, dress in your costume and come out for safe and fun trick-or-treating, bring a flashlight for a chance to see the nocturnal animals in their natural setting, \$3-5, 6-9 pm, <http://www.heritageparkzoo.org>

PRESCOTT: Breakfast with the Wolf: Oct. 12 — Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary, includes a continental breakfast for participants in front of the wolf, a special feeding and talk by keepers, and a craft relating to the wolf by the Education Department, 9 am, <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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Mid-Term Elections are Nov. 5

PROJECTS

Continued from page 12

agreement with the US Forest Service to promote, provide and protect OHV recreation opportunities) to coordinate an Adopt-A-Trail program that will provide ongoing maintenance to selected OHV routes;

\$88,956 to the Tonto National Forest to complete cultural surveys which will allow them to develop and maintain OHV routes;

\$62,496 to the Prescott National Forest to maintain OHV routes and conduct a small cultural survey;

\$244,777 to Coconino National Forest (Red Rock Ranger District) to do NEPA for the Cornville single track trail area, trail

maintenance, and support facility development;

\$210,000 to the Coconino National Forest (Flagstaff Ranger District) to suppress dust emissions of the access road to the popular Cider Hills OHV Recreation Area;

\$131,000 to Tonto National Forest (Payson Ranger District) to complete cultural and resource surveys in three areas where they intend to make future improvements on OHV facilities and routes;

\$91,000 to the Bureau of Land Management (Arizona Strip Field Office) to fund a coordinator to facilitate the completion of their travel management planning.

The Arizona State Parks OHV Recreation Fund (revenue from gas taxes attrib-

uted to OHV use) has been in existence since 1991 and has funded projects totaling more than \$10 million to provide OHV trails, support facilities, trail signage, and OHV maps; mitigate resource damage; and support OHV education and law enforcement.

The federal Recreational Trails Program is a federal-aid program that provides another \$775,000 for motorized trail development as part of the federal transportation legislation. In 2008 the Arizona Legislature authorized an Off-Highway Vehicle "Sticker Fund" which started producing revenues in January of 2009.

A \$25 fee is charged for off-highway vehicles each year and that sticker is then attached to the license plates of these

vehicles. Revenue from sticker sales has added more than \$2 million per year to the OHV Recreation Fund.

The fund is shared with the AZ Game and Fish Department (35%) and State Land Department (5%). Projects are solicited two to three times annually and information about that schedule and the application process is available at the State Parks website at AZStateParks.com/grants.

Arizona State Parks develops the OHV recreation plan every five years with input from land managing agency staff, OHV user organizations, individual OHV users and the general public. The 2010 State Trails Plan can be viewed at: <http://AZStateParks.com/publications>.

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AWARDS

Continued from page 9

- Huachuca Gould's Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation for the project "Huachuca Gould's Chapter Free Family Predator Hunting Camp," in the amount of \$2,900.
- Mohave Sportsman Club for the project "Fishing for Smiles 2014," in the amount of \$5,917.
- Mule Deer Foundation Arizona Chapter for the project "Mule Deer Foundation Punkin Center Junior Deer & Quail Forever Youth Quail Camp," in the amount of \$5,500.
- Mule Deer Foundation Arizona Chapter for the project "Mule Deer Foundation Youth Deer Camp and Deer Hunting Clinic" in the amount of \$6,000.
- National Wild Turkey Federation Arizona Chapter for the project "2014 Spring Juniors Turkey Hunting Camps," in the amount of \$9,150.
- Red Bear Outfitters for the project "Picket Post Small Game Hunting Camp," in the amount of \$3,000.
- Shoot for Life for the project "Junior Archery Javelina Hunt Camp," in the amount of \$3,760.
- Southwest Fur Harvesters for the project "2014 Youth Trappers Camp," in the amount of \$3,372.
- Youth Outdoors Unlimited for the project, "Family Fishing Camp at Lake

Pleasant," in the amount of \$3,990.

- Youth Outdoors Unlimited for the project "Junior Deer Camp in Unit 20 C," in the amount of \$1,790.
- Youth Outdoors Unlimited for the project, "Wallow Fire Turkey Science and Hunting Camp in Units 1 & 27," in the amount of \$3,628.
- Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club for the project "2013 Quail and Small Game Camp," in the amount of \$4,435.
- Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club for the project "Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club Fishing Clinic," in the amount of \$2,720.
- For details on how to participate at these events and others like them, visit www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills.

About The Program

The Local Sportsmen's Group Grant Program was started in 2007 to provide financial assistance to local sportsmen's groups in supporting wildlife conservation. The program awards grant funds to eligible projects through a competitive application process each year.

The focus of projects eligible to receive grant funds is determined annually by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and may change from year to year.

There is no cost to Arizona taxpayers for this grant program. The Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive any of the state's general funds, and operates

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The Local Sportsmen's Group Grant Program is an investment in the continu-

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Continued from page 11

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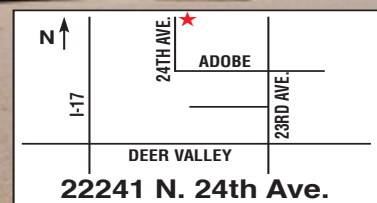
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FISH

Continued from page 7

again. Seven tons of them, actually, were stocked through Sept. 21. Catfish daily bag limits are four fish at the urban lakes or two fish at urban ponds

As The Season Changes

With the falling daytime water temperatures, fish are more likely than previous weeks to feed during the sun's showing, and so expect the nighttime bite to slow.

For the most part, the dropshot will become less effective, with crankbaits and jerk baits producing a better bite. This is the time of the year when the fishing can be on one day, off another, due to the finicky nature of shad boils.

At Saguaro and Canyon lakes, targeting morning shad boils with jerk baits has been the best option. At Apache, dropshots and Texas rigs still have produced the most fish for some anglers. The striper bite is hot at Lake Pleasant.

And, attention crappie anglers: Some great reports have been coming out of Roosevelt Lake.

It's one of the best times of the year to fish. Keep the fishing heritage thriving for

future generations. To do so, anglers only have to fish, and teach kids how to fish. What a fun way to do some good.

Other Headlines

As a reminder, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission approved 12 amendments to Commission Order 40 (the fishing regulations) at its Sept. 7 meeting in Show Low. The changes will take effect on Jan. 1, 2014.

The Silver Creek seasonal trout fishery near Show Low opened up Oct. 1. The catch-and-release season runs through March 31. Trout from this fishery must be immediately released unharmed — no trout may be kept. It is artificial fly and lure only with single, barbless hooks.

Silver Creek is spring fed and stays at a constant temperature. Because it is not subject to freezing, it provides anglers ideal wintertime, high-country trout stream angling. It is located five miles east of Show Low on U.S. Route 60. Turn north off Highway 60 onto Bourdon Ranch Road for five miles to Hatchery Road. Then head east on Hatchery Road 1 mile to the Silver Creek Hatchery, park in the parking lot, and follow the signs to the creek.

CAUCUSES

Continued from page 7

Recent Flood Events

The narrow coves I found had a fresh flood slot canyon in the back with submerged brush that had washed down from recent flood events. Smallmouth bass came up for topwater lures and whacked them consistently but were hooked less often.

Largemouth bass were located in the same habitat particularly those with dense floating "peat moss" 2-3 inches thick that had to be parted before the lure could be dropped to the bottom.

Plastic grubs jiggled up and down from the surface to 5 feet deep just under the peat were readily accepted by largemouth. Striped bass were layered in the deep water with large, thin fish at the bottom, healthy 2-pound fish at mid depth and small fat yearling fish near the surface.

Hope The Shutdown Lapses

Spoons bounced on the bottom caught the larger stripers while speed reeling was best for the younger healthier fish. My technique is to drop the spoon to the bottom, jig it 3 times, then reel as fast as possible for 5-10 turns. Then pause the lure and jig it twice before reeling as fast as possible for another 5 turns. When the lure was close to the top, chasing stripers could often be seen following it all the way up.

Fishing is improving each day. Hopefully, the political shut down of Lake Powell will lapse so that anglers can enjoy the great rewards before water temperature drops into the 50s.

Note: At press time, lake elevation was at 3,591 and water temperature was 69-72F.

A new fishing and hunting license structure and fees will go into effect in 2014. The new licenses will be available for purchase beginning Jan. 1, 2014. The

new fishing license includes bundled privileges. For more information, visit http://www.azgfd.gov/eservices/licenses_newFees.shtml


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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