



# Western Outdoor Times

December 2016  
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*A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports*

BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | RVING | SHOOTING SPORTS | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

WE WISH YOU

*A Merry  
Christmas*

*Happy  
Holidays*

*Seasons  
Greetings*



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## As 2016 Ends And 2017 Begins, We Wish You Peace And Joy

### 2016 COMMISSION AWARDS: CONGRATULATIONS

## Banquet To Honor Contributors To Wildlife, Outdoor Heritage

The annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at the Arizona Grand Resort, 8000 S. Arizona Grand Parkway, Phoenix, Arizona 85044. The event will honor the recipients of the 2016 Commission Awards that were selected at the Commission's August 26 meeting.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage, and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The banquet will begin with a social hour and live music at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. The awards will be presented concurrently with dinner to allow for more live music and dancing afterward. We are looking forward to a great celebration of all our award recipients and are expecting this to be

our best banquet ever.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission held its first annual awards banquet on Jan. 12, 1991. Since then, a total of 361 recipients have been recognized with Commission awards. The awards banquet gives the Commission an opportunity to recognize individuals, groups and organizations for their contributions to Arizona's wildlife resources.

All of the costs associated with the awards banquet must be paid for by ticket sales and sponsorship donations, including the complimentary tickets for award recipients and their spouse or guest. Table Sponsorships for organizations are available in several categories and include a table in the organization's name, logo advertisement in the event program, recognition in the introductory PowerPoint presentation and event press release, and banquet tickets.



### 2015 Award Recipients

- Award of Excellence: **Sonoran Sky Elementary**
- Youth Environmentalist of the Year: **Matteo Bailloux**
- Outdoor Writer of the Year: **Jim and Carol Allen, Western Outdoor Times**
- Media of the Year: **Arizona Antelope Foundation**
- Conservation Organization of the Year: **Mule Deer Foundation**
- Conservationist of the Year: **Jim Lawrence**
- Natural Resource Professional of the Year: **Gloria Tom**
- Volunteer of the Year: **Robbie Love**
- Educator of the Year: **Karen Klein**
- Mentor of the Year: **Steve Sams**
- Advocate of the Year - State: **Senator Gail Griffin**
- Advocate of the Year - Federal: **Don McDowell**
- Business Partner of the Year: **Linda Morgan, Yuma Visitors Bureau**
- Buck Appleby Hunter Education Instructor of the Year: **Bobby Goitia**
- Wildlife Habitat Steward of the Year: **Bill Cordasco**
- North American Model Commissioners Award: **Celeste Cook**



### 'TIS THE SEASON

## May The Hope Of This Season Be Ever Green

Many of us decorate the traditional Christmas tree as we celebrate the holidays.

The modern Christmas tree was developed in early modern Germany (where it is today called *Weihnachtsbaum* or *Christbaum*) with predecessors that can be traced to the 16th and possibly 15th century, in which devout Christians brought decorated trees into their homes. It acquired popularity beyond Germany during the second half of the 19th century, at first among the upper classes.

The tree was traditionally decorated with edibles such as apples, nuts, or other foods. In the 18th century, it began to be illuminated by candles which were ultimately replaced by Christmas lights after the advent of electrification. The Christmas tree has also been known as the "Yule-tree", especially in discussions of its folkloric origins.

The evergreen tree has also come, for many, to mean lasting good wishes as one year ends and a new year begins. For our readers of all faiths then, we extend this wish: May the joy and hope you feel this season be as lasting as the evergreen tree.

## Tonto Christmas Tree Permits Available

The Tonto National Forest began selling Christmas tree permits on November 16. Permits will be available at Cave Creek, Mesa, Payson, and Pleasant Valley ranger districts and at the Supervisors Office at the hours and locations listed below.

Permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis until they are gone. Permits can be purchased in person with cash, check, or credit card. Customers will be provided a map that shows the designated cutting areas along with additional Christmas tree cutting instructions. The permit will allow the holder to cut a tree within a designated area between the dates of November 18 through December 24.

Additionally, all fourth graders are eligible for a free Christmas tree permit, while supplies last, through the Every Kid in a

Park initiative. Every Kid in a Park is a nationwide call to action to build the next generation of conservationists. All fourth graders are eligible to receive a fourth grade pass that allows free access to federal lands and waters across the country for a full year.

In support of this initiative, the Forest Service is making available a free Christmas tree permit to every interested fourth grader with a fourth grade pass or paper voucher. More information about the initiative and how to obtain a pass is available by visiting [www.everykidinapark.gov](http://www.everykidinapark.gov). To be eligible for a free Christmas tree permit from your local national forest office, all fourth graders must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and present their fourth

See **TREE PERMITS**, Page 15



### HOLIDAY BEAUTY

## Christmas Themes Sparkle On The Waters

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

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

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



Lake Havasu, Ariz.

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

Bundle up and take a stroll through the Channel – the only time you'll see the Chan-

nel packed full of boats and boaters in winter gear at night. Come cozy up with family and friends and create treasured memories of a favorite holiday tradition!

### Boat Entry

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

### Visit Docks; Have A Bonfire

Boat parade participants and sponsors invite you to visit the docks in front of the

See **BOAT PARADES**, Page 15

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### Land Cruising

**Huzzah! The Ren Faire Is Back**  
The Festival is coming to Arizona Feb. 11 through April 2, including President's Day/**Page 13**



### Frozen Watersports

**Coyotes Invite You To Curl**  
The Coyotes Curling Club typically conducts two-to-four public Learn-to-Curl (LTC) events every month during their curling season (September-July)/**Page 14**







We are thankful to the Arizona Game & Fish Commission for their 2016 awards, two for those involved in this publication: Don McDowell, Advocate of the Year – Federal and Outdoor Writer of the Year; Jim and Carol Allen, Western Outdoor Times. We also thank all the winners for their commitment to wildlife and all of Arizona's outdoors opportunities.

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## DOWNSTREAM: December 2016 Events Calendar

### BOATING

### COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL

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

**10 TEMPE:** Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade Presented by SRP - Tempe Town Lake, 50 decorated and lighted boats of all sizes and makes, a thousand lights illuminate the sidewalks and paths of Tempe Beach Park. The event kicks off at 4 pm with live music, selfies with Santa, food trucks and more! Come early, get your spot, a bite to eat and listen to some music. The parade launches at 7 pm and fireworks at 8 pm. free, <http://www.downtowntempe.com>

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

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

**AZ YACHT CLUB MEETINGS:** Second Tuesday of every month 7 p.m. - in the Caddy Shack at Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe; [www.arizonayachtclub.org](http://www.arizonayachtclub.org)

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

### CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**2-4 PARKER:** Vintage Trailer Group - Buckskin Mountain State Park, showcasing vintage trailers, visitors get an up-close view of the trailers, 928-667-3231 or <http://AZStateParks.com>

**Thorough 2/8/17 MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS:** "100 Miles in 100 Days" - [www.facebook.com/MCParks100MilesIn100Days](http://www.facebook.com/MCParks100MilesIn100Days)

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

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

### CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

## In Memory Of Patrick McDowell

Patrick McDowell passed away on Thursday, Nov. 17 due to heart complications after a long battle. We are sad Patrick has left us as he was a dedicated contributor to *Shake, Rattle & Troll* and to his brother Don McDowell, both in his business and with Don's radio show.

Patrick performed his service as Don's production manager for the show, graphics designer and product development and as chief engineer aboard *Challenged America*. We will deeply miss Patrick, his humor and dedication. We at *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* send our sincere sympathy to Don McDowell and all of Patrick's family and friends.

For a complete listing of Arizona holiday events, visit <http://www.visitarizona.com/events>

Through Dec. 24 Christmas Tree Cutting Permits; see story on page 1.

**SCOTTSDALE:** Handel's Messiah - Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Handel's massive oratorio makes a profound musical statement of the Christian faith, celebrating the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the acclaimed and popular "Halleluia" chorus highlights this spiritual concert, Tito Muñoz leads the Valley's favorite holiday tradition as The Phoenix Symphony, The Phoenix Symphony Chorus and soloists perform. 7:30 pm, <http://phoenixsymphony.org>

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

**PHOENIX:** A Big Christmas Carol - Herberger Theatre, Arizona Broadway Theatre brings you Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, Jacob Marley and Bob Cratchit. 623-776-8400 or <http://azbroadway.org/>

**TUCSON:** 20th Annual "Christmas at San Xavier" - Mission San Xavier del Bac, one of Tucson's top choirs, The Sons of Orpheus in collaboration with the Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus to benefit the restoration and preservation of the Mission, 6 & 8 pm, <http://www.sonsoforpheus.org>

**27 PHOENIX:** 28th Annual Motel 6 Cactus Bowl - Chase Field, featuring Pac-12 team vs. Big 12 conference team, football, \$10-50, gates open at 6:30 pm, 8:15 pm, 480-350-0911 or <http://www.fiestabowl.org/>

Through 12/31 **PHOENIX:** 38th Annual Las Noches de las Luminarias - Desert Botanical Gardens, thousands of hand-lit luminarias line the garden pathways, musical entertainment each night, additional buffet dinner is available, \$12.50-30, 5:30 pm, pre-register, 480-481-8188 or 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

Through 12/31 **MESA:** 35th Annual Arizona Temple Christmas Lighting - hundreds of thousands of lights in the garden and a lighted reflection pool, free, special music performances each evening at 7 pm, lighting from 5:30 pm, 480-964-7164 or <http://www.mesachristmaslights.com>

**31 GLENDALE:** 46th Annual Fiesta Bowl Football Classic - University of Phoenix Stadium, top teams play, the champion of the Big 12 Conference and another one of the nation's top college football teams, 6:30 pm, 480-350-0911 or <http://www.fiestabowl.org>



### Christmas | December 25 New Years | January 1

**31 PHOENIX:** 46th Annual National Bank of Arizona Fiesta Bowl Parade - Central Phoenix, floats, bands, specialty and equestrian units; bleacher seating \$25, reserved disabled seating \$10, 11 am, <http://www.fiestabowl.org>

**31 TEMPE:** 33rd Annual New Year's Eve Block Party on Mill Avenue - Mill Avenue District, high-energy video dance clubs create a party like never seen before. Mill Avenue will be filled with local entertainment and attractions, a family fun zone (with an early fireworks show at 10 pm), a variety of gourmet food trucks, beer gardens and a midnight countdown consisting of a shimmering firework display and confetti blast, free, 6 pm, 480-355-6060 or <http://www.blockpartyonmill.com>

### EXPOS/SHOWS

**3 YUMA:** Outdoor Living Expo - Desert Sun Stadium, Enjoy and explore all that Yuma has to offer as the City of Yuma hosts the Inaugural Outdoor Living Expo. Various exhibitors and vendors debut their latest and greatest products that will complement Yuma's unique terrain and wilderness lifestyle. Whether you ride the beautiful Sonoran sand dunes, hike Arizona's rolling foothills, or dive into local and international water sports, this expo is an outdoor recreation enthusiast's dream showcasing some of the biggest, most trusted exhibitors and vendors in the Southwest. \$2 per person (kids 3 and under are free), 9 am - 4 pm, <http://www.visityumama.com>

### FISHING

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

### SHOOTING SPORTS/ ARCHERY

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

### WATERSPORTS

**Diving SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS:** Ongoing - Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake; [sales@saguarosports.com](mailto:sales@saguarosports.com)

**Swimming 10 ANTHEM:** 15th Annual Anthem Holiday Classic Triathlon & Classic Kids' Triathlon - Community Center, USAT sanctioned, adults swim 400m, bike 14 mile, run 3.1 mile, kids swim 200 m, bike 4.5 miles, run .5 miles kids triathlon, 9 am, 623-330-0913 or <http://www.4peaksracing.com/> or <http://www.trifind.com/>

**Frozen ONGOING LEARN TO CURL LESSONS:** [learntocurl@coyotescurling.com](mailto:learntocurl@coyotescurling.com)

**3-1/30 QUEEN CREEK:** Schnepf Farms Winter Wonderland and Ice Skating - Schnepf Farms, train rides through the holiday musical lights \$3 (runs at the bottom of the hour or every 30 minutes as needed), ice skating from noon-8:30 daily, hayrides out to feed the deer \$3 (at the top of the hour), sit around bonfires, roast marshmallows, hotdog roasting, hot chocolate and more, noon - 8:30 pm, <http://www.Schnepffarms.com>

**1-31 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** Ice Skating at the London Bridge - London Bridge Resort, enjoy real ice skating in the heart of the desert with the London Bridge in the background, \$10/adult, \$8/kids 12 and under, \$30/family pass (all one hour of ice skating), hours vary, check site for details, 928-855-0888 or <http://iceskatehavasuu.com>

### WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

**10-11 MESA:** 24th Annual "It's Feline a Lot Like Christmas" - Mesa Convention Center, all breed championship/ household pet/Feline agility, more than 300 top cats competing - pedigreed cats and kittens for sale, Sat 10 am - 5 pm, Sun 9 am - 4 pm, 623-217-4205 or <http://www.pxfeline.com>

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

**28-29 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** Audubon Society Christmas Bird Counts - Bill Williams NWR & Havasu NWR, The longest-running wildlife census in North America with counts annually held for more than 114 years, counts take place in established 15-mile wide circles and is organized by a count compiler, beginning birders will be paired with a group including an experienced birdwatcher, 928-667-4144 or <http://www.golakehavasuu.com/events/details/813/>

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

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

**NO-KILL SHELTER NEEDS HELP:** <http://animalsbenefitclub.com/index2.html>

**RAISING MONEY FOR ANIMALS:** Ongoing - Heather L. Weaver; [www.azanimalassistance.com](http://www.azanimalassistance.com)

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

For a complete list of Arizona events, visit [www.visitarizona.com/events](http://www.visitarizona.com/events)



# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## Update your boating safety knowledge

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

### December 2016

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

### January 2017

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	January 14 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Arizona Paddle Sports Education Biscuit Tank at Ben Avery Shooting Facility 4044 W Black Canyon Blvd. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	January 21 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219

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



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



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

### Controlled

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



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



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

### Other Non-Lateral Markers

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



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

### Mooring Buoy

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

Note, the following actions are illegal:

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

### Need to borrow a life jacket?

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

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

## Registration Decal



## Register your watercraft

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

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

Spaces or hyphens should appear here.

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

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

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



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



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

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# Boating

## Ultimate Sailing Calendar Is Another Great Gift Idea



### Tutoring, Editing, Writing

As a college English teacher, editor, and writer of both fiction and non-fiction for many years, I am available online (or by U.S. mail) for tutoring, editing, proofreading, copyediting, and writing. I have skills in academic research at both high school and college levels and can also assist those working toward their GEDs, those who need help with resumes, and with both advertising and proposals.

**\$25/hour**  
(4 hour minimum)  
Carol Allen  
editor@azbw.com



The year was 1983. Ronald Reagan was President of the United States, while Clint Eastwood coined the phrase, "Go ahead; make my day." Michael Jackson had two blockbuster hits ("Billie Jean" and "Beat It") but it was the Australian rock band Men At Work whose number-one song "Land Down Under" vaunted Australia, which would go on to defeat Dennis Conner's Liberty in the 25th America's Cup.

That same year Sharon Green – a promising, young, and audacious yachting photographer – launched the Ultimate Sailing Calendar, which she sold door-to-door out of the trunk of her car to marine stores, shipyards and chandleries along the Eastern Seaboard.

Thirty-five years later, the ULTIMATE SAILING CALENDAR is still going strong – with the newest 2017 edition now released.

For more information, contact Betsy Crowfoot c. (805)729-6850.

## Free BoatUS Winterizing Guide Available

Water that is mistakenly left in a boat's engine block to freeze over the winter is sure to become an expensive repair bill come springtime. As the ice expands, it can crack the block and ruin the motor, damage fiberglass, split hoses, or destroy a boat's refrigeration system. To prevent a mishap while putting the boat away this fall, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), a boating advocacy, services and safety group offers the free 15-page "Boater's Guide to Winterizing."

The online brochure addresses the reasons for more than 95 percent of the freeze claims handled by the BoatUS Marine Insurance Program. Included are sections on boat storage, engines and outdrives dos and don'ts, winterization contracts, green winterizing, as well as preparing boat plumbing. A winterization checklist is also included.

The guide is available at [www.BoatUS.com/winterizingguide](http://www.BoatUS.com/winterizingguide).



## BoatUS Suggests Gifts For Boaters

Have a boater on your holiday gift list? Look no further. The organization that makes boating better, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), has three holiday gift ideas.

**The gift of on-water towing:** Give the gift of an on-water Unlimited Tow-BoatUS Towing Membership Plan for saltwater boaters for just \$149 a year that includes BoatUS membership. For freshwater boaters the price is just \$72. Both provide 24/7 dispatch and your boater will never have to pay out of pocket for a tow home or soft ungrounding. Included with annual BoatUS membership is a subscription to BoatUS Magazine as well as exclusive fuel, transient slip and repair discounts, and savings on boating gear at West Marine stores.

**The gift for roadside breakdowns:** A stocking stuffer that offers big benefits to a trailer boater, consider gifting a BoatUS annual membership with Unlimited Trailer Assist for \$38 that takes care of roadside breakdowns. One hundred miles of free on road towing for both a disabled boat trailer and its tow vehicle to a safe location or repair shop are included, along with lockout, flat tire, battery jump and fuel drop-off service.

**The gift that makes boating better:** Annual BoatUS membership for just \$24 includes over 25 benefits and services including round the clock on water or roadside dispatch, a BoatUS Magazine subscription, exclusive fuel, transient slip and repair discounts, and savings on boating gear at West Marine stores. Your boater can also take advantage of BoatUS' advocacy efforts, safe boating and clean water programs.

All of these gifts can be found at [BoatUS.com/gifts](http://BoatUS.com/gifts) or by calling 1-800-395-2628. For each gift membership purchased from now through December 31, 2016, the giver's name will be entered in a drawing to win a \$200 West Marine gift card.

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WHEN YOU ARE IN SAN DIEGO —

## Take In These Great Events At The Maritime Museum



### Parade Of Lights Sunday, December 11 And 18

Our annual fundraiser is held aboard the *Berkeley* steam ferry. Complete with dinner is a spectacular venue for viewing the Parade of Lights on the bay. The theme for this year is San Diego Zoo Celebrates 100 Years. Since the Museum is the judging platform for the Parade of Lights awards, this event is typically a sell-out and its popularity has grown over



NORFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**TOO EASY** – Thieves like boats that can be easily moved without drawing any attention.

### Boat Thieves Want To Steal Yours

*Boat US Offers tips to stop yours from being taken this winter.*

Is your boat less than 26 feet? Does it have outboard motor power and rest on a trailer? If you said yes, beware – you're a big target for theft. A newly released study that looked at five years of BoatUS Marine Insurance claims files shows that 75 percent of all boats stolen matched this description. With the long winter lay-up period nearing, BoatUS has five tips to make your boat harder to steal.

**1. Just one lock?** Try another, and another. You simply can't have enough. The whole goal is to make someone else's boat more attractive than yours, so the more locks a thief sees - on the trailer tongue, outboard engine, or used with chain around the trailer wheels - the better the chance he'll mull over.

**2. Don't leave the key on a stored boat.** Never assume your key's hiding place is so good that thieves won't find it. Remember, that's what these people do for a living.

**3. Make the trailer impossible to move.** A removable tongue hitch, or, better yet, removing the trailer tires if the boat's going into long-term storage turns your rig into 1-ton dead weight. The little things can help, too, such as not parking your boat in the driveway with the hitch facing the street. Consider using removable trailer lights - with most thieves working the nightshift, they want to avoid attracting the attention an unlit trailer would cause.

**4. Don't stick out.** You may want to think twice about hanging a "for sale" sign on the side of your boat. Use a full winter cover to hide attention-getting, splashy graphics. Store all valuables, removable electronics and paperwork at home during the off-season.

**5. Check out new anti-theft technologies.** Devices that send alerts to your cell

See **THIEVES**, Page 15

the years. It is a perfect way to celebrate the holidays with friends and family, while supporting the Maritime Museum of San Diego.

### Tim Flannery & Friends December 17

Tim Flannery & Friends will perform their colorful blend of folk, country and traditional music and storytelling aboard *Star of India*. Some of San Diego's most popular artists have been known to join Tim Flannery for a special night of music such as Eve Selis and Steve Poltz but you never know who might show up this year.

As returning folks will attest to, this is an evening of fun. Come early, find your seat (seating is on a first come, first served



basis) and get ready for a great evening of music. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. This is a 21-and-over event. Due to the small venue space this event sells out very quickly!

### New Year's Eve Black And Gold December 31

Celebrate the New Year in style with the Maritime Museum of San Diego at the



Black & Gold New Year's Eve Party. Located directly on San Diego bay, you can spend a gorgeous and exciting night with your friends in one of the most unique venues in town. We're transforming the upper event center located on the historic 1898 Steam Ferry *Berkeley* into a classy lounge, featuring music from the '60s, '70s and '80s, and scrumptious appetizers.

## Here Are Cold Facts On The '120-Degree Rule'

*Know when to wear thermal protection while paddling this season.*

The boat may be put away for the season, but the occasional warm fall day still brings plenty of paddlers out on the water. Knowing when to wear the thermal protection offered by a dry- or wetsuit is key. However, a long-assumed guideline meant to help paddlers make the right decision, sometimes known as the "120-degree rule," may instead put paddlers in danger.

The 120-degree rule is a formula that adds together the air and water temperatures to determine when thermal protection is required. It assumes that if the total is above 120 F, that no dry- or wetsuit is needed.

"Using this simple formula," says BoatUS Foundation Assistant Director of Boating Safety Ted Sensenbrenner, "a

paddler could mistakenly believe that if air temperature is the low 70s and water temperature is hovering around the low 50s, that thermal protection is not necessary. That could not be farther from the truth."

Sensenbrenner says that warm fall or spring days give paddlers a false sense of security. "Water temperatures have plunged, but the warm sun on your face hides the reality that accidentally going overboard at this time of year could quickly lead to trouble."

According to research, sudden cold-water immersion can kill in several ways: involuntary gasp reflex and hyperventilation, cold incapacitation, and immersion hypothermia. Not wearing a life jacket compounds the drowning risk.



**COLD FACTS** – Paddlers' knowing when to wear thermal protection could save their lives.

A word to the wise? "Always wear a life jacket when in an open boat or on deck, and consider the water temperature when dressing for your next boating adventure," says Sensenbrenner. For more on cold-water boating including what to wear, go to [BoatUS.org/cold-water-boating](http://BoatUS.org/cold-water-boating).

## Boat Pumpout Money Available For Marinas, Boat Clubs, Nonprofits

*Grant application period ends soon.*

Marinas, boat clubs or fuel docks with a working pumpout provide a vital service to recreational boaters. Installing a pump, however, and the annual costs to maintain one, can be high. That's where a program funded by the taxes and fees paid by boaters can help.

This fall, the US Fish & Wildlife Ser-



**APPLY ASAP** – A program funded by the taxes and fees paid by boaters can help pay for a boat pumpout facilities on your local waterway.

vice's Clean Vessel Act program aims to give out about \$12 million for the construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of public boat pumpouts. However, the deadline to apply for the 2017 grant cycle will soon draw to a close. BoatUS is urging anyone interested to apply now by contacting their state's grant coordinator.

The nationally competitive, federal grant program, which is administered by individual states, pays up to 75 percent of the project costs and requires 25 percent matching funds. Some select states also contribute funds, which could essentially cover up to 100 percent of the costs. Any public or private boating facility or non-profit organization is eligible to apply. In addition to stationary locations on docks or shore, funds may pay for pumpout vessels, floating restrooms used by boaters, educational efforts on environmental pollution or for other boat sewage-related measures.

"With the growth of no-discharge zones nationwide, we need to ensure boaters - from the largest to the smallest boats - have meaningful access to local pumpouts," said BoatUS Foundation Vice President Susan Shingledecker.

Since the inception of the Clean Vessel Act, the grant program has funded more than 6,000 pumpouts and dump stations and provided funds to help operate and maintain more than 3,700 systems.

A list of Individual Clean Vessel Act coordinators at the state level is at [http://www.sobaus.org/pdf/CVA\\_Coordinator\\_ListMASTER.pdf](http://www.sobaus.org/pdf/CVA_Coordinator_ListMASTER.pdf). Examples of past projects may be found at Clean Vessel Act Grant Program - Funding.

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**WINNERS** – Each year, the Rolex World Sailor of the Year Awards are given to sailors for truly outstanding performances, and it should come as little surprise that 2016's class of inductees earned their medals on the waters off Rio de Janeiro at the 2016 Rio Olympics (Aug. 5-21), given the level of sailing caliber to have competed at this quadrennial regatta. Shown (from left) are Saskia Clark, Hannah Mills and Santiago Lange with the Rolex World Sailor of the Year Award © World Sailing

## HOW MANY CAN MY BOAT TAKE ABOARD?

# Recreational Boat Upper Deck Capacity Standards Revised

The membership organization that sets safety standards for recreational boat design and manufacturing, the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC), has revised its "Boat Capacity" (H-5) standard for upper decks on recreational boats. Upper decks are often referred to as the "fly bridge" or "upper helm." The new standard, which is partly in response to fatal capsizing accidents involving overloaded fly bridges, will now include upper-deck weight capacity regardless of boat length.

Upper decks are typically found on boats greater than 25 feet and often found on fly bridge sportfish vessels, trawlers, houseboats and even some pontoon boats.

"New boats with upper decks will soon have an additional capacity placard for those areas to help boaters make smart choices about loading and stability," said BoatUS Seaworthy magazine Editor Charles Fort. "This will help ensure boaters don't make the mistake of overloading



**TOO MANY** – Overloading is an issue for all types of recreational boats.

the upper deck."

The majority of boats built today adhere to ABYC's voluntary standards through the National Marine Manufacturers Association certification program. Additionally, ABYC offers standards for the maintenance and repair of recreational boats. "A boat that's designed, built, maintained or repaired to ABYC standards helps ensure a safe day on the water," added Fort.

Owners of older boats with upper decks may find the capacity in their owner's manual or by contacting the manufacturer.

An issue for small and large boats, capsizings and sinkings are at the heart of a new BoatUS Marine Insurance Program study that looked at five years of the association's member insurance claims files. The study reveals how these accidents happen and what boaters can do to avoid them, and it can be found in the August 2016 issue of BoatUS Seaworthy at <http://goo.gl/m3hqO3>. Data shows that while most capsizes occurred in smaller boats, 18% occurred in boats over 25 feet.

For more information on ABYC standards, go to <http://abycinc.org>.

## Kurt Davis Appointed To AZGF Commission

Governor Doug Ducey has announced the reappointment of Kurt Davis as a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.



Kurt Davis

Davis is currently finishing a five-year term that began after his appointment in 2011 by then-Governor Jan Brewer. He served as commission chair in fiscal year 2016 and was one of three candidates forwarded earlier this month by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission Appointment Recommendation Board for Governor Ducey's consideration.

Davis's reappointment for a five-year term awaits confirmation by the Arizona Senate.

For more information on the commission, visit [www.azgfd.gov/commission](http://www.azgfd.gov/commission).

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## IN FOCUS

# Don McDowell Honored By Arizona Game & Fish Commission

*Publisher's Note: We at Arizona Boating & Watersports / Western Outdoor Times would like to congratulate Don McDowell. His hard work, perseverance, and dedication to preserving our wildlife has been acknowledged by his being awarded the AZGF Commission Advocate Of The Year (Federal). McDowell has worked tirelessly for many years to preserve our outdoor heritage. He is a valuable asset to the State of Arizona and the country as well. We hope that those who are responsible for making decisions concerning our outdoor lands and wildlife will call on him to provide them with his years of experience and knowledge.*



**Don McDowell**

### Many Endorsed McDowell AZGF Application

AZ B.A.S.S. Nation, Goodyear Bass, Mike Hoffarth - President  
AZ Catfish Conservation Association, Bobby Wright  
AZ Deer Association, John Koleszar - President  
AZGFD, Andy Clark, Dived Weidman, and Amber Lee Jones - Fisheries Branch and

Chris Cantrell - Chief  
Joshua Hurst - Statewide Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinator  
Kenny Dinquel - Officer  
Sandy Cate - Coordinator, Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center

Scott Lavin - Operation Game Thief Program Chief, Wildlife Recreation Branch  
B.A.S.S. LLC Gene Gilliland - National Conservation Director  
TBF Bass Junky, Jeff PFundheller - Tournament Director  
Tim Price - Tournament Director  
The Bass Federation-AZ. FLW, Greg Krueger - President  
Town of Payson, Cameron Davis - Director of Recreation  
US Coast Guard Auxiliary, 11S, 10-11, Captain David Esparza - Commander

### McDowell's Current Affiliations

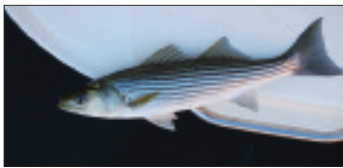
Active Member United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 10-11, District 11, San Diego Sector  
Arizona Lead for BigGame Forever-Maricopa County  
Committee Member with Senator John McCain, Sportsmen and Veteran's Coalition  
Conservation Director - AZ BASS Nation- (AZBN) B.A.S.S.  
Conservation Director-The Bass Federation AZ- (TBF) FLW, Member Board

of Directors  
Anglers Feeding America-(AFA) AZGFD Fisheries Branch, Tournament Assessment Committee  
Arizona Sportsman for Wildlife Conservation- (AZSFWC)  
Arizona Deer Association  
Central AZ Quagga Mussel Team  
Gila County Angler Round Table  
International Game Fish Association (IGFA)  
Military Families Foundation (MFF), Inc. and Project We Remember (PWR)  
Military and Veterans Services (MAVS) committee, Subcommittee Chair for Outdoor Recreation  
National Rifle Association (NRA)  
Southwest Fur Harvesters  
Sportsmen's Constituency Group (SCG), Steering Committee and Subcommittee Chair for Legislative Affairs  
Tonto Nation Forest Planning Team  
Wildlife Conservation Committee-(WCC)  
More Information: Shake Rattle And Troll Radio With Host Don McDowell <http://shakerattleandtroll.com/>

## LAST 2016 LAKE POWELL REPORT

# Wayne Gustaveson Takes A Break, Thanks Readers

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



Lake Powell Striper

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON  
[WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM](http://WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM)

Lake Powell fish at the end of fall were in prime time. Water temperature is in the mid 60s which means that all fish can basically go anywhere they want to. During summer there is a separation of large and small strippers because big fish need cooler temperatures. Those barriers are now removed.

Consider fishing patterns now to be just like fishing in late April and early May. The big difference is that spawning is not a factor. It is all about food and structure. The favorite meal now and always will be threadfin shad. Find threadfin and fishing success is assured. The hook is that threadfin numbers are not as high as seen in 2014 and 2015. All sport fish are searching for shad.

### One Sure Fishing Technique

One sure fishing technique is to throw topwater lures in shallow water each morning and evening. You will consistently catch strippers and bass by pounding the shoreline in low light periods. The surface action may not last long after the sun hits the water but the information gathered during prime time will give you insight into where fish are holding.

All fish are really on the move right now as they search for shad. If bass and strippers hit surface lures in the back of brushy coves at first light, the next step is to target brushy coves in the later hours using diving shad-imitating crankbaits like a bomber deep flat A, rattlettrap or a

swim bait like a Yamamoto D-Shad.

If bass and strippers hit surface lures on primary points next to deepwater, then target the bench areas where water drops off quickly from 10 feet, down to 20, 40 or 60 feet.

Shad are on the move trying to avoid predators. Earlier this month there have been many examples of a hot spot blowing up at Padre Canyon, Kane Wash, Bullfrog Bay, or Good Hope only to quiet down in a few days as shad move out trying to find safe haven. Shad leave and strippers trail in hot pursuit. Bass tend to stay closer to home but will move from the back of the cove to the edge of deep water.

### Spotty Results

Fishing results have been spotty recently because of fish movement. They also seem to feed for a short time where activity is intense only to quiet down after a short period. If a hot spot is located one day, keep track of the time and place and try to repeat that performance at the same time and place the next day.

The deep layer of fish between 60-80 feet is still there. These fish are down below the oxygen depletion layer that will soon be gone. For now it is possible to troll a downrigger in very deep water (60-80 feet) or drop spoons down when striper schools are seen on the graph. The huge line of fish seen at 60 feet and be-

See LAKE POWELL, Page 15

## EXCERPTS FROM MID-NOVEMBER AZGFD REPORT

# Trout Stockings Have Begun At Community Waters

### Tip Of The Week

All active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in Arizona, along with their spouses, may purchase resident hunting and fishing licenses.

### The Reel Deal

Grab a license online, 24/7 (and help conserve all species of wildlife).

There are only a few weeks left before winter conditions prevail in the high country, so if you're looking for scents of pine, scenes of eagles and tight lines from trout, go now.

The trout bite is hot at spots such as Dogtown, Kinnikinick, Reservation, and Willow Springs lakes.

Ready to catch the elusive tiger trout? They have been biting, rising to the surface in shallow water at Willow Springs Lake for dry flies.

Speaking of trout, the first winter trout stockings have come to Community fishing waters. Oak Creek and Saguaro Lake have been stocked with trout.

### Catch Of The Week

(Send your Angler Reports to [BFishing@AZGFD.gov](mailto:BFishing@AZGFD.gov) -- one will be selected as Catch of the Week)



### Fall Stocking Report

#### Channel Catfish

- Wednesday, Oct. 19 -- Surprise Lake, Rio Vista Pond, Pioneer Lake, Cortez Lake, Steele Indian School, Encanto Lake, Desert West Lake, Papago ponds, Desert Breeze Lake, Tempe Kiwanis Lake, Chaparral Lake, Water Ranch Lake, Red Mountain Lake, Riverview Lake, Tempe Town Lake, Lakeside Lake, Sahuarita Lake, Kennedy Lake, Silverbell Lake, Copper Sky Lake, Veterans Oasis Lake, Green Valley Lake #3.

#### Rainbow Trout

- Monday, Nov. 7 -- Oak Creek, Saguaro Lake.
- Friday, Nov. 4 -- Frances Short Pond, Green Valley Lakes 1 and 3.
- Tuesday, Oct. 25 -- Parker Canyon Lake.
- Monday, Oct. 24 -- Goldwater Lake, Oak Creek, Frances Short Pond, Lynx Lake.
- Friday, Oct. 21 -- Salt River, Tonto Creek.
- Thursday, Oct. 20 -- Apache Lake, Lynx Lake.
- Wednesday, Oct. 19 -- Colorado River (Davis Dam), Salt River, Green Valley Lake #3.
- Tuesday, Oct. 18 -- Saguaro Lake Canyon Lake, Mingus Lake.



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## Electrofishing Reveals Tiger Trout Behavior, Fishing Secret

FROM AZGFD

Caught a tiger trout, yet? Try fishing the shorelines at Woods Canyon Lake.

Some of our biologists were on the water at Woods Canyon, located on the Mogollon Rim, electrofishing from 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. for two days and caught more than 100 tiger trout.

"This number of tiger trout was interesting to us because we usually pick up few trout by boat electrofishing," AZGFD Reservoir Biologist Sally Petre said. "It seems as though the tiger trout behave a bit differently than rainbow trout and hang out in the shallows — where we shock — instead of deeper water."

Anglers: with about another month remaining before lakes begin to freeze in higher elevations, it's time to get out and wrestle with a tiger.



For the first time in Arizona, we've been stocking them into Carnero, Becker, Willow Springs and Woods Canyon lakes. See where these lakes are located. Also, many tigers seem to be growing larger and developing bolder lines and darker scales.

The best fishing for tiger trout, which can be distinguished from rainbow trout by their tiger-like or blotchy pattern on

their body (compared to the rainbow trout's small black spots), has typically been at Woods Canyon Lake.

### Tiger Trout Fishing Tactics

All trout species can be found at all depths with falling water temperatures. Tiger trout recently have been coming up to the shorelines and coralling baitfish — so fishing deep is not a must.

Some fly anglers have had success fishing from a float tube, and casting flies such as woolly buggers from deeper water toward the shorelines and stripping quickly back. Also try meal worms, nightcrawlers, Panther Martins, Kastmasters, spoons, and Roostertails. Another successful fly has been almost any nymph.

See the regulations before heading out. At Willow Springs and Woods Can-

yon, tiger trout count toward your six trout bag limit.

### More Fall Netting Survey Results

Recent netting surveys at Carnero and Becker lakes resulted in tiger trout approximately 13 inches in length. But too few tiger trout were caught at either lake to determine much about their growth.

At Carnero, fishing is difficult for tiger trout because of the low water and thick weeds, but can be good if you can get to an open spot of water. There is a two-fish bag limit at Carnero and it's restricted to artificial flies and lures only.

Becker Lake, which has fewer weeds than Carnero, is open to catch-and-release only for trout (no trout may be kept) with only artificial lures and flies with single barbless hooks.



GALLEY PROOF

## Striped Bass Recipes: Simple Means To A Tasty End

FROM AZGFD

We are in one of the **best times of year** for striper fishing. With anglers filling their coolers with these awesome tasting fish, we thought it would be a great idea to share some cooking recipes with you. A common question from anglers is what are some ways to cook these fish?

### Striper Taco Tuesday

(If you like fish tacos, try this recipe.)

- Take fillets and cut them into 5-inch long and 1.5-inch



wide strips.

- Use an egg wash (beat eggs in a bowl) to coat fish.
- After coating the fish with the egg wash, bread them with a corn meal and Panko bread crumbs mixture. Be sure to also season the dry mixture with some Old Bay seasoning, salt, and pepper.
- Heat vegetable oil to 375- 400 degrees and make sure there is enough oil for the fillets to float. Fish should sizzle the fish hit the oil. If not, your oil is not hot enough yet, pull the fish out when they are a golden color. Normally takes about 2 minutes.
- Make a slaw out of sliced cabbage and put it into a corn/flour tortilla.

### Pan-Fried Striper

- Olive oil, rock salt, and pepper to taste.
- Squeeze lemon over it while it cooks. Use as much or little as you want.
- The best method is pan frying without skin. Pan fry on one side for 2-3 minutes and then the other side for 2-3 minutes (depending on thickness of filet). Make sure that pan is hot with the olive oil first to get a nice sear.
- When the fish starts to flake apart — it's done.

### Baked Striper

- Cover striper meat with olive oil or melted butter.
- Add a drop of lemon juice, and sprinkle with a bit of Montreal steak seasoning on a cooking sheet and bake for 5 minutes at 350 degrees.
- Take out of the oven and add your favorite Parmesan cheese.
- Put back in the oven and cook for about another 2-3 minutes.

### Heavenly Broiled Bass

- 2 pounds striped bass fillets
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon margarine, softened
- 3 tablespoon reduced calorie mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons chopped green onion with tops
- 1/4 tablespoon salt
- Dash Tabasco
- Place fillets in single layer on well-oiled baking pan. Combine remaining ingredients and spread mixture on fish.
- Broil fish 6 inches from source of heat for approximately 10 minutes, or until top is lightly browned and fish flakes easily when tested with fork.
- Serves six

## Fish Recipe: Turning White Meat Into Golden Cakes

With fishing busting loose for many species heading into a cooler weather and overall fall-fishing mania, it's a must to have a great fish recipe at hand.

Whether you like to chase striped bass, sneak up on panfish, or stay close to home and catch catfish in Community waters, here's a great way to prepare any tasty, white-meat fish:

### Fish Cakes

Serves 4

Prep Time: 5 minutes Cook Time: 10 minutes

#### Ingredients

- 1 pound white-fleshed fish fillets, cooked and flaked
- 1 large egg
- 1 small yellow onion, minced
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons prepared yellow mustard
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon coarse ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup cornflakes crumbs, divided
- Vegetable oil for frying

#### Directions

- Place a large skillet on medium-high heat and add enough oil to just cover the bottom.
  - In a mixing bowl, combine fish, egg, onion, lemon juice, mustard, parsley, salt and pepper and stir together thoroughly.
  - Add half the cornflakes to the mixture and gently toss together.
  - Separate the mix into fourths and form each into a round patty. Roll each patty in remaining cornflakes to coat the outside.
  - Place patties in the hot oil and fry both sides until crisp and browned to your liking.
  - Serve and enjoy.
- (Originally published in the July-August 2016 issue of *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine. To subscribe, visit [www.azgfd.gov/magazine](http://www.azgfd.gov/magazine).)





## CONCEALED CARRY

# It's Vital To Know The Laws

BY JOHN ANDERSON

In the State of Arizona, it is legal to carry a concealed weapon whether you have a permit or not. It is also legal for visitors to do that. Open carry is also legal, and Arizona recognizes CCW's from all other states. That doesn't mean you can carry concealed everywhere without a permit, though.

Schools, government buildings, places where alcohol is consumed — these are just a few of the places where you can't carry. Does the store you're headed into have a "no guns" sign? Then you can't carry there. Find another store, or lock your gun in the car before you go in.

### Why Have A CCW?

Since Arizona allows constitutional carry, why bother even having a CCW? For one thing, it means that in 37 other states, your Arizona concealed carry permit allows you to carry concealed there. Eight of those 37 states require a written agreement, however. With a concealed carry permit, you can skip the background check when you buy a firearm, and you are allowed to carry in a National Park, which you can't do without a permit. You can also carry your weapon in restaurants and other places that serve alcohol, as long as you yourself are not drinking alcohol.

In addition, you are not allowed to be carrying a weapon within 1000 feet of a school unless you have a CCW. That doesn't mean that you can carry on school property, but it does mean you are legal if you are walking down the sidewalk next to a school, or if you get pulled over in front of a school. However, laws have a tendency to change, and if you do decide to get a CCW, you still need to know the laws about concealed carry.



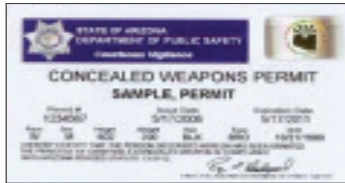
For our CCW class at [fast-az.com](http://fast-az.com), we were required to pass a basic-marksmanship class before completing the course.

### The Most Important Reason

The biggest reason to have a CCW, in my opinion, is to learn the laws about using deadly force and to learn to carry a weapon safely and responsibly. There have been many cases, even in Arizona, of people who believed they were justified in using their weapon in self defense, but a jury didn't agree. You need to take a CCW class to learn what to do and, even more importantly, what to say or not say, if you are ever in a situation that requires



It is also legal to carry openly in Arizona.



This is an Arizona concealed weapons permit.

you to defend yourself or your loved ones.

Why do some states recognize your Arizona CCW and some don't? States, so far, have the power to legislate who is allowed to carry a gun in that state. If you look up "national CCW reciprocity" you will find a lot of different Web sites with a lot of different opinions. Many people believe that a national law allowing CCW holders to carry in any state is long overdue. Other people are terrified at the very idea of such a bill. Many people fear guns and honestly believe that they are safer without a gun — and they don't want you to have one either.

### Many Bills Introduced

There have been many national reciprocity bills introduced in Congress, but so far none of them has come to anything. States' rights has a lot to do with this, but the States' Rights argument didn't stop the Supreme Court from mandating that all states recognize same-sex marriages.

In that case, the Court decided that individual state laws were denying some people a right that other people have. It could take a similar Supreme Court ruling for national reciprocity to become a reality. Meanwhile, it's up to you to know the law where you're going. Before you travel, look up the law in each state that you will pass through. The Arizona Department of Public Safety has a lot of information about reciprocity, and they urge you to contact each state before traveling. Find it here: [http://www.azdps.gov/Services/Concealed\\_Weapons/Reciprocity/](http://www.azdps.gov/Services/Concealed_Weapons/Reciprocity/)



Pocket pistols are also popular for concealed carry.

### Know Tribal Law Re: Concealed Carry

Be especially aware of any Reservations that you will be traveling through. Information about the legality of carrying concealed on Reservation lands is very hard to come by, and incredibly vague. It's even hard to know if you're okay to carry



Inside the waistband (IWB) is a popular way to carry concealed.

even if you are simply passing through on a state or national highway.

You may be best off if you completely unload your weapon and lock it in a safe box, separate from the ammo. I found one Web site that has compiled data on Tribal Law and Concealed carry, but that site also urges you to do further research. The site is [http://www.handgunlaw.us/documents/tribal\\_law\\_ccw.pdf](http://www.handgunlaw.us/documents/tribal_law_ccw.pdf).

I am a total believer in CCW permits and training. If you want to carry concealed, please do yourself a favor and take a CCW course. The courses don't cost that much, and it's worth your while to spend a day learning about the reality of carrying concealed. I took my permit

class with the people at [fast-az.com](http://fast-az.com). They were great, and the course included firearms training as well as classroom teaching. They also have a "shoot/don't shoot" simulation at the end that is a real eye-opener. You have a laser pistol and watch as situations unfold, forcing you to make the decision.

### Invaluable Training, Knowledge

You are allowed to carry concealed in Arizona without a permit, but a CCW class is something you really should invest in. Get some buddies and take the class together. You'll have a great time, and the training and knowledge you receive is invaluable.



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## Fish Health Surveys Inform Conservation

BY CRAIG SPRINGER

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE-SOUTHWEST REGION

I'm standing in a small side room at Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery, just off a larger chamber where a dozen concrete raceways lie. Double-doored olive metal cabinets stand against white walls under effusive fluorescent light. Well-used grease boards smudged with eraser marks under blue-ink to-do lists fit the narrow space on one end opposite an industrial-sized sink.

On a long wall, a hygienic 12-foot-long stainless-steel counter is where the work gets done today. Two biologists stand over the counter immersed in their labors that involve isopropanol, forceps, test tubes and scalpels. They are here to assay the health of fish held at this federal facility.

### Every Effort Is Made

Every effort is made to ensure that fish brought into national fish hatcheries — and the fish going out — are robust and disease-free. Toward that goal, Marlene Rodarte and Ashlie Peterson, fisheries biologists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Southwestern Native Aquatic Resources and Recovery Center - Fish Health Lab recently collected razorback sucker and rainbow trout tissues for the annual exam at Willow Beach.

The two scientists own a combined 42 years of experience in fish health, and laboratory practices. They are two among a staff of six fish health biologists at Southwestern ARRC, led by a doctor of veterinary medicine, Martha Keller.

### Based In New Mexico

The Southwestern ARRC is based in Dexter, NM, in the southeast part of the state near the more recognizable cities of Roswell and Carlsbad. That's where scores of processed fish tissue samples taken for this annual check-up will be further examined. The Southwestern ARRC houses the fish health lab, a molecular genetics laboratory and is the largest native species fish culture program in the Southwest. The Southwestern ARRC conserves 15 threatened or endangered species and conducts research on four-to-six additional species of concern.

What Rodarte and Peterson endeavor to do here is akin to your annual check-up. It's preventative medicine. Following a protocol expected of all 71 national fish hatcheries, the rainbow trout and razorback sucker are tested every year for a



Marlene Rodarte (right) with Ashlie Peterson at Southwestern Fish Health Unit are taking tissues from razorback sucker and rainbow trout at Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery.



This closeup is of a rainbow trout on a fly selection of diseases.

### Rainbow Trout Welcomed Back

Rainbow trout were recently brought back to Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery following a three-year hiatus caused from a serious structural failure that interrupted its water supply. A new water intake was dedicated in October 2016, welcoming back the popular sports fish to the 57-year-old facility that sits 12 miles downstream of Hoover Dam on the Arizona side of the Colorado River.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department supplied 51,000 fingerling rainbow trout to jump start the program. Later this year, hatchery biologists will once again start raising rainbow trout from fertilized eggs sent from Ennis National Fish Hatchery in Montana.

### Razorback Is Endangered

The razorback, so named for a prominent ridge on its nape is endangered with

extinction. It's native to the Colorado River and its larger tributaries and the hatchery is part of a large endeavor to improve the fish's conservation status. The sucker with a belly the color of a wet lemon and sides ruddy like the flesh of a blood orange is curiously shaped for a life in fast-flowing water; the "razorback" is a keel that keeps the fish oriented upright and on the river bottom in otherwise sweeping flows.

### Rigorous Methods

As a matter of good science protocol, fish health practitioners follow rigorous and repeatable methods to collect fish tissues. There's much work at a laboratory bench examining kidneys and spleens and in the case of trout, skulls reduced to a granular slurry to be examined with much time over a high-powered microscope. Obviously the fish must be sacrificed to examine internal tissues and those sacrifices are kept to a minimum. Sacrificed fish are bathed in a compound called MS-222, a piscine Prozac of sorts, an FDA-approved anesthesia that humanely dispatches the animal.

The time investment to assay wild or hatchery fish populations is quite large. Tissues are collected and processed and shipped to the laboratory in New Mexico. From start to finish, from gathering fish to looking at fish tissues through scopes to the having final data for Dr. Keller to report to fisheries managers, an annual hatchery exam may take on the order of 120 hours to complete. One always hopes



Ashlie Peterson of the Southwestern Fish Health Unit is shown with a razorback sucker at Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery.

for a clean bill of health, but in the event that disease pathogens are found, Dr. Keller offers potential remedies or treatments.

### Rodarte And Peterson

Rodarte and Peterson have seen the Southwest like no others. Shortly after visiting Willow Beach on the Arizona-Nevada border, their work took them to the legendary Lake Fork east of Dallas, Texas, a fishery known for growing massive largemouth bass. The fish health program services nine national fish hatcheries as well as the state game and fish departments in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. They have examined alligator gar and largemouth bass, Gila trout and Apache trout, Texas blind salamanders and some of the rarest fishes in the world, all with an eye on finding diseases.

They've seen peculiar things in the bellies of fish, like song birds and field mice. Despite handling fish day after day, they both still enjoy angling and hunting.

Work Essential To Fisheries Conservation

And they do ferret out disease-causing pathogens. The work is essential to fisheries conservation, be it common game fishes such as rainbow trout or the imperiled sucker with the curious ridge on its back. No matter the species, understanding the health of captive or wild fishes is necessary to make informed management decisions.

To learn more about fish health and the National Wild Fish Health Survey, visit [www.fws.gov/wildfishsurvey](http://www.fws.gov/wildfishsurvey)



**WILLOW BEACH** – A ribbon-cutting event at the now-functioning Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery celebrated the renewed collaborative efforts by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Mohave County that will boost economic activity and preserve trout fishing on the lower Colorado River in Mohave County for future generations.

## New License A Boost To Military Families

*Spouses of active duty members qualify for resident status.*

The Arizona Game and Fish Department reminds all active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in Arizona that they, and their spouses, may purchase resident hunting and fishing licenses.

The current law stipulates that an active duty member permanently or temporarily stationed in Arizona may purchase a resident license permitting the taking of wildlife. That privilege recently has been extended to their spouses, as well.

Gov. Doug Ducey signed House Bill 2324, sponsored by state Rep. Frank Pratt (LD-8, Casa Grande), in May. The Arizona Game and Fish Commission voted unanimously in January to support this expression of gratitude for those who serve. The law became effective Aug. 6.

"Through the years, the department and commission have been proud to pro-

vide opportunities for our active military members and veterans," said Pat Madden, commission chairman. "We're grateful for their sacrifice and service, and we're honored to be able to extend this privilege to their spouses."

A valid license is required for the taking of wildlife, including fish, in Arizona. A resident can purchase a combination license (hunting and fishing), valid for 365 days from the date of purchase, for only \$57.

Licenses can be purchased at all department offices and more than 300 license dealers statewide, as well as online by visiting <https://license.azgfd.gov/home.xhtml>. If a license is purchased online, it must be printed from a home computer. The department will not mail any license purchased online.

The license also will allow the spouse of an active duty member to apply for big game hunt permit-tags as a resident.

For more information, call (602) 942-3000.



## ARIZONA LAKES, ARIZONA PROS

# 'That Kid Niko' Pursues His Dreams

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Niko Romero has been fishing since he was a toddler, and fished his first tournament at age eight. He fishes Phoenix Junior Bassmasters, Phoenix High School Bassmasters, Wild West Bass Trail, and JML Outdoors. He already has a slew of sponsors, too, and he's only 14 years old.

Niko is an avid bass angler who spends just about every free minute on the water, gaining the skills that made him the 2015 TBF Arizona Junior State Bass Fishing Champion and the 2015 TBF Junior Angler of the year. He also qualified for the 2015 TBF Junior World Championship.



Niko is shown at the Bass Junkyz Tournament (Andrew Napolion of A&M Graphics on the left, in blue).

### Social Media: A Big Part

Social media are playing a big part in tournament fishing these days, and most big sponsors insist that the anglers have a big social media presence. In fact, Niko acquired most of his sponsors via social media, and they include A & M Graphics, Denali Rods, Liquid Mayhem, Lake Fork Trophy Lures, Hoven vision, Lucky Tackle Box, DJ Custom Jigs, and original Rod Sox.

He is even being scouted by the Savannah College of Art and Design for their bass fishing team. Yes, college bass fishing teams are a big deal these days – even NAU has one! Niko says if he doesn't be-



Niko threw Little Dippers to steep rocks most of the day.

come a bass pro, he'd love to design bass boats, so SCAD would be an ideal college for him.

We met up with Niko after a Bass Junkyz tournament at Bartlett in October, and he and his dad took us out to show us what the bite was. Niko was throwing small swimbaits – Reaction Innovations Little Dippers in the Sexy Shad color. He began fishing a ledge, but not really graphing fish there.

### Little Dippers

All day, he and his partner had been targeting deep bluffs and rocky walls. He rigs the Little Dippers on a Gamakatsu EWG hook so they sink a bit.

These little swimbaits are easy to fish – you just rig them up, cast to shore, and crank them back. Niko says when they'd see the fish boiling, they'd throw the Dippers out there and burn them back through the boil. To be honest, Niko says, color doesn't really matter when the fish are boiling because you are cranking so fast they don't really get a good look at it. The little wedge tail on the bait gives it a ton of action and the fish just attack it out of reaction. You can also drop shot these little swimbaits – rig them through



Niko Romero is already a champ at 14.



This is a Reaction Innovations Little Dipper.

the nose with a round hook and just drag them around the bottom.

Niko's motto is eat, sleep, fish – and get good grades! His dad is his best sponsor, he says, and his dad is also an avid angler and a great teacher on the water. Niko fishes about 25 tournaments a year, and gets the full support of his family – his mom and grandma were out at Bartlett waiting to watch him weigh in.

### Check Out 'ThatKidNiko'

The road to being a successful bass pro is a tough one, but Niko seems to be well on his way. If you'd like to follow his journey, you can find him on *Facebook*, *Instagram*, *Twitter*, and *YouTube* as "ThatKidNiko". He also has a Web site: [thatkidniko.com](http://thatkidniko.com). So check him out and watch him pursue his dreams!

# Tempe Welcomes Back The Trout

FROM AZGFD

The trout have made their annual Thanksgiving comeback to Tempe Town Lake.

The City of Tempe and Arizona Game and Fish Department hosted the annual Welcome Back the Trout Celebration Tuesday, Nov. 25 at the SRP Tempe Town Lake Marina.

Families and community members were invited to come down and watch as thousands of rainbow trout from the Department's Page Springs Hatchery are released into Town Lake.

"Welcome Back the Trout" is an annual tradition in Tempe that the city is

proud to present with Arizona Game and Fish," said Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell. "Every year, it is great to see this activity come back to our city and see even more families and community members enjoying the lake."

Arizona Game and Fish conducted a fishing clinic and provided anglers of all ages with loaner rods, reels and bait, as well as the tips and advice they need to try their hand at the sport.

"Whether you're a first-timer or an experienced fishing pro, this is [annually] a great event to come out and fish," said Scott Gurtin, manager of Game and Fish's Community Fishing Program. "Catching trout in the heart of a major metropolitan area is possible because of partnerships



with cities like Tempe. The Community Fishing Program is now established in 19 communities across the state — and it continues to grow."

The November event was the first of five monthly Arizona Game and Fish scheduled trout stockings. The trout, in addition to the abundant bass, bluegill, catfish and carp found in Town Lake, will provide fun angling opportunities for all.

# Don't Have Portal Account? Sign Up Now!

*Get spring draw results sooner with free AZGFD Customer Portal account.*

As the Arizona Game and Fish Department completes the random draw process for the 2017 spring turkey, javelina, bison and bear seasons, hopeful hunters are encouraged to open a free Customer Portal account.

Portal account holders will be among the first to get the news before the draw results officially are released. It's quick, easy and free to create a Portal account. Just click on the "Sign in to Account" button in the upper right-hand corner of the [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov) home page and then select the "Create an Account" option, filling in the requested information.

The Portal allows customers to create a secure account where they can manage and view their contact information, as well as their license and draw results

information and bonus points, in their personal "My AZ Outdoors" section.

A Portal account is mobile-friendly, which means customers can view their information on their smart phones. It's also a convenient way to gain access to the online license purchase and hunt draw application systems.

Meanwhile, the random draw process remains on schedule and should be completed by mid-November. The department is aware that applicants are eager to learn whether they will be receiving a hunt permit-tag. The department will post an announcement on its website and Facebook page when results officially are released. All hunt permit-tags are expected to be mailed by Dec. 14 (refunds by Nov. 30).



As always, applicants are encouraged to contact the department at (602) 942-3000, Option 2, with draw-related questions.



# The Fishing Should Be Great

*Extra trout stockings in White Mountains lakes to provide great fall/early winter fishing.*

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has recently stocked thousands of catchable size rainbow trout into many of the White Mountain lakes. This gives anglers an extra incentive to get out to the lakes this fall.

Show Low Lake was stocked with 4,000 rainbow trout. Bear Canyon and Willow Springs Lake received 5,000 fish each. Another 7,000 trout went into Woods Canyon Lake. Fool Hollow Lake and River Reservoir each received 8,000 trout.

The AZGFD hatcheries had a surplus of fish that needed to be stocked into lakes to make room for next year's trout. The fishing should be great -- especially with the cooler temperatures of fall/early winter.

This time of year, try fishing for rainbow trout using green, garlic scented PowerBait or worms. Tiger trout were also stocked for the first time in Arizona this year into Willow Springs and Woods Canyon lakes. Catch tiger trout using lures — they are more aggressive than rainbow trout. Bear Canyon Lake is a hike-in-only lake, but worth the short, steep hike. All others are easily accessible.

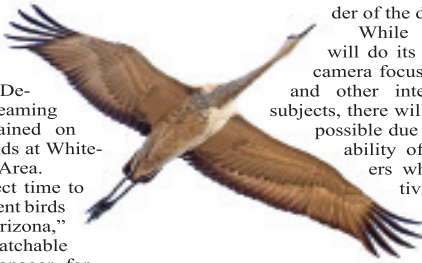


## AZGFD's Sandhill Crane Cam Now Streaming

*Live stream offers viewers a unique, convenient experience.*

Sandhill cranes have returned to southeastern Arizona and the Arizona Game and Fish Department's live-streaming camera is again trained on their wintering grounds at Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area.

"Now is the perfect time to watch these magnificent birds as they winter in Arizona," said Randy Babb, watchable wildlife program manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "This live-streaming camera allows the public to have an unfiltered view of our state's wildlife. It also allows the department to connect the public with wildlife."



der of the day. While the department will do its best to keep the camera focused on the cranes and other interesting wildlife subjects, there will be times it isn't possible due to the unpredictability of wildlife. Viewers who don't see activity when they try the camera are encouraged to routinely check back. This is especially true in the early winter, when the newly arrived birds are establishing a routine.

### Through March/Early April

The live stream is offered from early November when cranes first start to arrive at Whitewater Draw, through March or early April when the birds leave to migrate to northern nesting grounds.

For those who find the live stream viewing fascinating, the department encourages a trip to Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area for a full sensory viewing experience. The sight of up to 10,000 birds is impressive.

### About Sandhill Cranes

Worldwide there are 15 species of cranes scattered across the globe. Most of these are found in Africa, Europe and Asia, and many are either threatened or

endangered due to a variety of reasons with habitat loss being chief among them.

Two species of cranes are found in North America, the endangered whooping crane and sandhill cranes, which is the most abundant crane species on the planet.

Cranes of all species sport long necks, beaks and legs with short tails that are not visible when the wings are closed. Sandhill cranes are predominantly grey with fleshy red caps on their heads. The largest subspecies can stand nearly 4-foot tall and sandhill cranes are long-lived and mate for life.

They are wary birds that shy away from areas of dense vegetation that may conceal predators. Cranes prefer to feed and roost in open areas where potential danger can be seen from a distance. Wintering sandhill cranes often feed on agricultural grain crops but may also frequent open desert and fallow fields.

The sandhill crane live stream is supported by the Wildlife Conservation Fund, which comes from tribal gaming and the Wildlife Viewing Program. You can find out more about wildlife viewing and upcoming public wildlife viewing activities at [www.azgfd.com/Wildlife/Viewing](http://www.azgfd.com/Wildlife/Viewing).

### Did You Know?

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has trust responsibility for managing more than 800 native wildlife species – the most of any inland state – for current and future generations of Arizona citizens.

## Three Bull Elk Poached Near Joseph City

PINETOP, Ariz — The Arizona Game and Fish Department is asking for the public's help in finding those responsible for the illegal killing of a three bull elk on the morning of Nov. 7. The bull elk were killed in an agriculture field located south of 1-40 off Hunt Road. This is just east of Joseph City.

All three bull elk were untouched and were left to waste.

"The poacher left these animals to waste, and we need assistance from the public to find the individual(s) responsible. This is a senseless act and not the actions of a hunter," said Officer Ken Clay, an AZGFD wildlife manager. "What makes this act so appalling is this particular area is open to elk hunting year round to anyone who purchases a non-permit elk tag over the counter at one of our offices."

Anyone with information about this case can call the Department's Operation Game Thief hotline at (800) 352-0700 or visit [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief) and refer to case #16-003848. Callers who have information leading to the arrest of the suspect(s) will be eligible for a \$2,500.00 reward in this case. All calls may remain confidential upon request.

### One Of Two In The U.S.

The live stream is one of two in the country that offers viewers a glimpse into crane wintering habits. Each year, sandhill cranes coming as far away as Siberia travel thousands of miles to winter in southern Arizona.

The best time to view the birds is a half-hour before and up to a half-hour after sunrise, just before they leave the roost to feed for the morning. Cranes also return to Whitewater Draw sometime in the late morning, generally before noon and remain at the wildlife area for the remain-

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## 2016 Wildlife Photo Contest Winners Announced

*Scottsdale photographer captured an unforgettable moment.*

"I was watching this coyote flipping mice, early one morning at Gilbert Water Ranch," says Bryan Keil of Scottsdale, describing the instant he took the winning shot in this year's wildlife photo contest.

Keil didn't just stumble across the scene: The Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch has a devoted following among wildlife photographers, and many people knew coyotes were hunting there. Keil was there, putting in the hours required to capture a special shot.

### Tools Of The Trade

To this opportunity, he brought the



tools of his trade: a good eye, time, concentration ... and a long lens. He took quite a few photos as the coyote hunted, but didn't check his camera until after it left.

He knew right away: "I was excited about this one." Keil, who also earned four honorable mentions in this year's contest for his masterful bird images, studies wildlife behavior to improve his photography. "That way, you're ready when the moment comes."

### 180+ Entered Competition

More than 180 photographers entered this wildlife photo competition, which is co-sponsored by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Arizona Highways. Thirteen winning images are published in a full-size 2017 wildlife calendar in the November-December 2016 issue of *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine, on sale now. *Arizona Highways* magazine will publish the best-in-show photo in 2017.

In addition to Keil, the other 12 winning photographers are the following:

**Craig Miller**, Payson: bald eagle  
**Kathleen LaRose**, Tucson: bobcat

- Archie Tucker**, Goodyear: bison
- Yasmina Parker**, Mesa: least bittern
- Guy Schmickle**, Sedona: black-chinned hummingbird
- Tim Van Den Berg**, Tucson: northern rough-winged swallow
- Jole Guthery**, Flagstaff: golden-mantled ground squirrel
- Thomas Hansen**, Phoenix: Western diamond-backed rattlesnake
- Peggy Kniffin**, Chandler: snowy egret
- Kenneth Wayne Don**, Tucson: pallid bat
- Bruce Sitko**, Lakeside: Gould's turkey
- Tam Ryan**, Mesa: pyrrhuloxia

Given the strength and diversity of this year's 1,900-plus entries, the judges singled out 38 more images from 27 talented photographers for honorable mention. These are also featured in *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine. The names of honorable mention photographers are posted on the photo contest's Web page, [www.azgfd.gov/photocontest](http://www.azgfd.gov/photocontest). News about next year's contest will also be posted there when it becomes available.

Arizona Game and Fish welcomes new subscribers to Arizona's award-winning magazine about wildlife and outdoor recreation. The regular price is \$8.50 for six issues (one year), but through Dec. 31, subscriptions are on sale at \$7 for seven issues. They can be purchased at [www.azgfd.gov/magazine](http://www.azgfd.gov/magazine).

Those who subscribe by Dec. 31 will be sure to receive the calendar issue showing this year's winners and honorable mentions. The calendar issue is also sold at all Game and Fish offices for \$3.



# RV Land Cruising



**HUZZAH**

## Ren Faire Is Back In Arizona!

Merriment abounds! Get ready to be transported back to the 16th century as one of the largest and most picturesque Renaissance Festivals in the nation prepares for raucous revelry below the foothills of the Superstition Mountains.

The Festival is celebrating its 29th season of pomp and pageantry and invite you to join in the revelry! The Arizona Renaissance Festival runs every Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 11th through April 2 including Presidents' Day Monday, Feb. 20, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Cheer for brave knights! Roam our 30-acre festival village filled with whimsical castles, cottages, pubs and 13 stages of nonstop performances of music, mermaids, merriment, dance, acrobatics and comedy.

### Foolish Pleasures

Foolish pleasures mix with artisan treasures as you shop, eat and revel with a cast of nearly 2,000 colorfully costumed characters. Prepare for new shows, a new stage and don't forget to reserve your seat at the Pleasure Feast — the most exclusive event within the Festival with a five-course dinner and variety show!

Longing for childhood days of make believe? Mythic heroes slaying dragons, sea maidens appearing from the sea, steel-clad warriors jousting atop mighty steeds and knights in shining armor saving damsels in distress: This can all be found at the Arizona Renaissance Festival. There is definitely something for the children and the child in all of us to be found at the Faire. All this is in a fanciful European style village constructed on a 30-acre site just below the foothills of the Superstition Mountains, east of Phoenix and northwest of Tucson.

This is where you'll find theater, circus, an arts and crafts fair, acrobatics, a jousting tournament, people-powered rides, and a feasting — all rolled into a nonstop, day-long family adventure! Merchants hawk their wares, selling everything from clothing to custom ceramics.

### Observe In Awe

Observe in awe at the demonstrations displaying skills of blacksmithing, jewelry making, glassblowing, leather work and pottery throwing. Over 200 artisans are housed in the market lanes filled with whimsical storybook shops. There are 13 open-air stages where you can listen to raucous music and roaring comedy.

Catch the swordplay and wordplay of festival favorites Don Juan and Miguel. It's hard to miss the wild antics of The Tortuga Twins (three unrelated men in tights), and more than amusing to deci-

pher Zilch the Tory Steller (the misspelling, like his miss-speaking is intentional). On or off the stage you are bound to rub shoulders with delightful characters. Don't miss the-The Living Fountain! Or the Sea Fairies!

### Food And Drynk

A variety of food and drynk is available to satisfy your appetite — bread bowls, stews, steak-on-a-stake, roasted chicken and so much more. In the midst of this enormous feast you'll find the King of festival foods — the huge roasted turkey leg. Tempt your diet plan with desserts from the Monk's Bakery, the Cappuccino Inn, or the Chocolate Shoppe. Pubs serve beers, wine and soft drynks to quench your thirst.

### Kids Love This Place

And kids love this place! Dozens of activities bring out their smiles. Guests young and old will revel in the magic and mystery upon seeing the newest attraction at the Faire — Living Mermaids offer guests to witness the wonder of these lovely, elusive and charming sea fairies of the deep.

A Festival favorite with children is Mother (and Father) Goose brought to life, with costumed ducks and geese, Maggie, Mimi and Matilda. Kids will cheer for their favorite knight at the 5,000-seat jousting arena or try their hand at archery.

Children delight in the return of a falcon, the King of sports, at the Falconer's Heath. Kids also love riding the people-powered Da Vinci's Steam ship, the Swan



Swing, Christopher Columbus' "Voyage to the New World", the Slider Joust, as well as the Piccolo Pony — a rocking horse bigger than an elephant.

In addition to the people-powered rides, the Festival offers interactive games like the dragon climbing tower, the castle siege, Jacobs' Ladder, a maze and an archery range. Kids will surely be asking for a hat, wand, garland, wooden sword, shield, or to have their faces painted, or to make a sand dragon, or perhaps purchase a pet gorgi or drabbit along with other unique and interesting items available for purchase at the Festival.

What's more, kids will marvel at the

acrobatic antics of Clan Tynker. Those bolder of heart may feed the dragon or play King of the log.

### Relax And Escape

We deal with the 21st century every day. Now the Renaissance is back, offering an opportunity to relax and escape to the amusements of a much simpler time.

Advance tickets: Save time when tickets are purchased on-line at RenFestInfo.com, or save with discount tickets purchased at Fry's Food stores statewide. Discount ticket prices are Adult \$22, children 5-12 \$12, children under 5 are always free.

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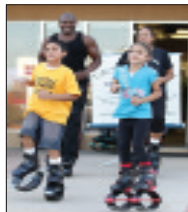
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## OUR FAVORITE FROZEN WATER SPORT

# Coyotes Curling Club Invites You To Learn

The Coyotes Curling Club typically conducts two to four public Learn-to-Curl (LTC) events every month during our curling season (September-July). We also conduct private LTC events which are usually team builder opportunities by employers.

For someone who had attended a LTC, the next step used to be to join one of our regular leagues. The Club found that LTC graduates were a little intimidated by this because they were not yet confident of their curling skills. This was the motivation for creating a special league offering which we call a Learners League.

A Learners League combines three new curlers with an experienced club member to form a team. The experienced club member also acts as a coach and mentor for the new curlers on the team. Since each team is made up of mostly newbie curlers the participants find it less

See **CURLING**, Page 15

## LOCKETT MEADOW AND SCHNEBLY HILL ROAD

# Countless Arizona Sites Are On My 'Bucket List'

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

I'm an Arizona native, yet there are still countless sites in Arizona that are on my bucket list. My dad took me hunting and camping hundreds of times, and I've seen some gorgeous places – places that aren't on the typical tourist list of places to see.

For instance, on a deer hunt off Dugas Road, I was walking along a small wash when it turned a corner and opened up into a little canyon. There was small stream, maybe a spring, that flowed just a short way before going underground.

### I'll Never Forget

A big owl was in a tree by the water. The black rocks, yellow grasses, green tree, brilliant blue sky, and that little bit of water all came together to make that spot one of the most memorable places I've ever been to. I don't even know what it's called, but I'll never forget how it looks.

Arizona is full of small beautiful places like that, but it also has many grand and amazing views like the red rocks of Sedona and the brilliant yellow aspens of Lockett Meadow. I'm telling you about



This is a view of Lockett Meadow from the pond.



This is Lockett Meadow trailhead and campground road.

these places now so that you can mark your calendar and make plans to see the meadow next fall.

The red rocks can be visited almost any time of year, but one of the best places to view them is from Schnebly Hill Road. This is a road that would be impassable in winter.

### Schnebly Hill Road

My dad and I hunted off Schnebly Hill Road several times when I was young, but I had never seen the part that descends into Sedona until John and I decided to make the trip last month. We had just gone up to Flagstaff to see our granddaughter at NAU, and neither of us had ever done the entire Schnebly Hill Road drive.



This is a breached dam on Schnebly Hill Road.

The weather was iffy – light sprinkles and very overcast. We chose to drive west on the road – from I-17 to Sedona. I'm really glad we did, because we were headed into the views instead of having them in our rear view mirror.

### Named After Carl Schnebly

The road is named after Carl Schnebly, who used it to transport goods to and from Flagstaff. He also petitioned for a post office, but the names he proposed were too long to fit on a cancellation stamp, so he named it Sedona after his wife.

This road is rough. If you start from I-17, the first few miles are simply very well maintained gravel and the road goes through pine forest. There are several cool places you might want to stop – some old water tanks, and an old dam that has been breached and now just backs up a meadow.

Pretty soon, though, you'll reach a point where you can begin to see some of the famous red rock formations around Sedona. This is where the road begins to roughen up, and before long you will be winding down a steep canyon. The views are absolutely incredible, which makes the drive worthwhile.



Here is one of the rock formations off Schnebly Hill Road.



The fall colors are mostly yellow, but here and there you'll find orange or red.



Here is the view going down toward Sedona on Schnebly Hill Road.

### A 4WD Recommended

A 4WD is highly recommended, and don't even try it without, at the very least, a high-clearance vehicle. There are rocks and ruts and drop-offs that will tear off the bottom of a regular car. We took the road in a 4WD pickup truck, and most of the other vehicles we saw were quads and Jeeps. No cars.

If you don't have a 4WD vehicle, you can find Jeep tours out of Sedona online. We saw several of those, but they were all coming up out of Sedona and we were going down.

There are several places where you can pull off and take photos, and seriously, the views will blow you away. Photos don't do them justice – it will be a drive that you will never forget. It took us two hours (it's about 12 miles total, one way), and that's with stopping several times to take photos and enjoy the view.

I wouldn't try the road if it was snowing, and in fact there are several gates on the road that I'm sure they close in winter.



This is one of the marvelous views from one of the vista turnouts.

### Several Trails

There are several trails that cross the road several times, and just judging by the terrain, I'd venture to say that those trails must be steep and strenuous. A Red Rock Pass (or America The Beautiful Interagency Pass, Golden Age or Golden Access) is required when leaving your vehicle unattended while you're on National Forest land around Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon.

The Red Rock Pass is \$5 and you can get them almost anywhere in Sedona. You can find out more about that online at the National Forest website. They also have a map that shows you where the pass is needed. Just Google "red rock pass". The road is just south of Munds Park on I-17.

### Lockett Meadow

We took the granddaughters to Lockett Meadow years ago, but that was in the

See **BUCKET LIST**, Page 19



## TREE PERMITS

Continued from page 1

grade pass or paper voucher.

## Rules For Christmas

### Tree Permits

- Each Christmas tree permit is \$15 and allows permit holders to cut a tree up to 10 feet tall;
- One tree per household. One person may purchase up to four permits for other families, not living in the household;
- Permits are for personal use only;
- Trees must be cut within designated cutting areas;
- Trees may be cut November 18 to December 24, and
- No refunds on Christmas tree permits.

## BOAT PARADES

Continued from page 1

London Bridge Resort where parade floats will be lit up nightly beginning at dusk.

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

### Where To Watch

There will be great viewing at the Nautical Beachfront Resort (the starting point of the Parade of Lights), Rotary Beach, throughout the Channel on both sides between Rotary Beach and Windsor Beach, the English Village, across the London Bridge, and at any of the restaurants along the Channel. (If you plan on watching from the Channel restaurants, early reservations are recommended.)

### More Information

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

Event dates and times are subject to change. Please contact event coordinator to verify information. Here are two contact points: contact information: [www.lbyboatparadeoflights.com](http://www.lbyboatparadeoflights.com) and event information: Venue: Bridgewater Channel Address: 422 English Village or 1477 Queens Bay Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Price: Free

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

In conjunction with the Annual Tempe Festival of Lights during the holiday sea-



Tempe Town Lake

## LAKE POWELL

Continued from page 7

low is mostly gizzard shad, but when shad are present, stripers may be close. Don't spend a lot of time fishing in deep water where no fish traces are seen. Instead, focus on the spot where many fish traces are seen on the graph.

The key to identifying shad and stripers is to stop the boat directly over a large concentration of fish at 60 feet. If those fish then form a long horizontal line as they move under the boat it is most likely that they are gizzard shad. If they have some separation between individual fish and are stacked in a hump, it is likely that these fish are stripers. Drop a spoon immediately into the school to quickly catch a lot of stripers in a short time.

Survey Measures How Fish Are Faring This will be the last regular fish report

mits.

Tree cutters are reminded to be prepared for sudden weather changes and colder conditions when in high elevations. A fun family outing can become miserable and even dangerous with a quick change of weather for the unprepared. The permits expire on December 25, however, Forest officials recommend cutting your tree early in the season before the higher elevations are snow bound. Trees can stay fresh for quite some time if cared for properly.

To help keep your tree fresh, cut two inches from the bottom of your tree when you get home and place it in water. Keep your tree watered and in a shady spot until you are ready to move it into the house. Another helpful hint is to bring an old tarp to wrap your tree in. Then when

son, a Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade is held on Tempe Town Lake in early December each year. This is a spectacular event for the entire family.

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

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

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

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

## In California

### Newport Beach: "Ring of Lights"

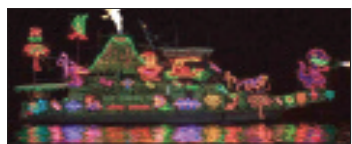
**Wednesday, Dec. 14- Sunday, Dec. 18**

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

Opening Night: Wednesday, Dec. 14, 6:15 p.m. with fireworks at Newport Pier, and parade continuing through Saturday, Dec. 17

Closing Night: Sunday, Dec. 18 with 9 p.m. fireworks at Balboa Pier

Beginning At 6:30 PM Each Evening



Newport Beach, Calif.

for 2016. We will be netting fish for our annual UDWR survey during the first two weeks of November. The sample sites are Good Hope Bay, Rincon, San Juan (Piute Canyon), and Wahweap Bay. We compare fish numbers among years to find out how adult fish of all species are faring this year compared to other years dating back as far as 1982. I will report that information midwinter on [www.wayneswords.com](http://www.wayneswords.com).

Thanks for reading my reports and using the information to harvest fish that are in high numbers (striped bass, walleye, and smallmouth bass) while protecting those fish that are in low numbers (largemouth bass and crappie). We are a good team that makes fishing at Lake Powell better due to our efforts. I can't wait until next year!

*At press time, lake elevation was 3609.82 and water temperature was 65-68F.*

you drag your tree out of the forest, the tarp protects the tree and helps you avoid breaking branches. The tarp can also help avoid wind damage on the way home.

For more information on Christmas tree permits on the Tonto National Forest, please call any of the offices listed below.

## Office Locations, Hours

### Supervisor's Office:

2324 E. McDowell Rd.

Phoenix, AZ

(602) 225-5200

Monday -Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm,

closed for lunch 1:00 - 1:30

### Mesa Ranger District:

5140 E. Ingram St.

Mesa, AZ

(480) 610-3300

Monday -Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm,  
closed for lunch 12:00 - 12:30

### Payson Ranger District:

1009 E. Highway 260

Payson, AZ

(928) 474-7900

Monday -Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm,

closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:30

Saturday, 10:00am - 2pm on November

26, December 3 and December 10

### Pleasant Valley Ranger District:

154 S. Ranger Station Rd.

Young, AZ

(928) 462-4300

Thursday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm,

closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:30



San Diego, Calif.

### San Diego: "It Began with a Roar"

**Sundays, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18**

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

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is held two consecutive Sundays each year in December. The parade proceeds from Shelter Island past Harbor Island, the Embarcadero, Seaport Village, the new pier and then across the bay to Coronado and Ferry Landing in Coronado.

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

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



San Diego, Winner's Prize

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

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

### Winners Receive Incredible Prizes

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

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

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

### Awards Presentation Dinner

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

(More 2012 boat photos are available from Marv Sloben, the official photographer, who can be contacted via email at [Marv.Sloben@san.rr.com](mailto:Marv.Sloben@san.rr.com)

## More California Parades

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

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

## THIEVES

Continued from page 5

phone, take photos/video, provide tracking, or kill the motor if your boat moves from its virtual boundary can stop a theft in its tracks. Once a boat is gone, the Bo-

tUS study finds that only one in 10 vessels are ever fully recovered.

To see a series of boat theft topics including the BoatUS Marine Insurance Theft Study, more on theft prevention, and a look at the newest boat theft-prevention systems, go to [BoatUS.com/Boat-Thefts](http://BoatUS.com/Boat-Thefts).

## CURLING

Continued from page 14

intimidating.

The duration of a Learners League is four weeks (one game a week) and so is not a huge commitment for someone trying to decide if they want to continue in

the sport.

The only requirement for someone to join a Learners League is that they must become a Club member (\$75 annual fee). The Club then waives the \$100 League Fee (\$25 per game).

For more information, email [learntocurl@coyotescurling.com](mailto:learntocurl@coyotescurling.com).

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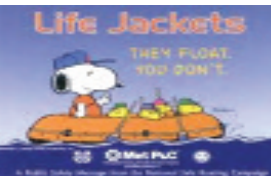
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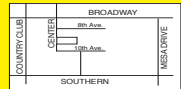
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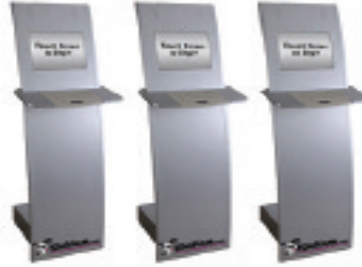
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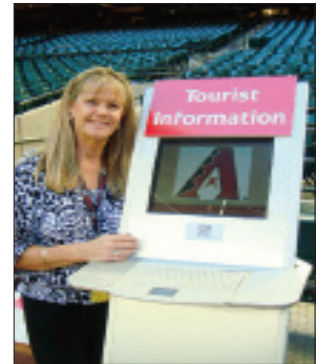


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## Business Spotlight

# West Coast Multihulls Make Dreams A Reality

*Ever dream of chartering or learning how to sail a luxury catamaran?*

West Coast Multihulls (WCM) can make those dreams a reality. For the last six years, WCM has been teaching students how to sail catamarans. As an ASA (American Sailing Association) Sailing School, their instructors teach everything from Basic Keelboat through Catamaran Sailing. Upon successful completion, students receive the certification required to charter sailboats from almost anywhere in the world.

Want to charter in San Diego? No

problem! Currently, WCM's charter fleet consists of 5 cats which range from 35' to 44'. Book a skippered charter for the afternoon or better yet, sail to Catalina Island for a multi-day adventure. If you're lucky, you will enjoy the company of dolphins and whales along the way. Coming soon to the charter fleet are a brand new *Seawind 1160 Lite* and two brand new *Fountaine Pajots* – an *Ipanema 58* and a *Saba 50!* Luxury beyond measure...

Interested In Owning Your Own Cata-



maran?

Buying a boat is a huge investment. Finding a reputable broker who has the experience and knowledge required to make a sound purchase is essential. Look no further. Kurt Jerman is your "go-to broker". Following a successful career as general manager of Corsair Maine International, Kurt Jerman founded West Coast Multihulls.

See **BUSINESS**, Page 19

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## HOLIDAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH & AUCTION

# Join Us On Dec. 11 In Supporting Lost Our Home Pet Rescue

Lost Our Home Pet Rescue and event co-chairs Gina Page and Anne Marie Geary cordially invite you to our best-ever and 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Champagne Brunch & Auction, Sunday, Dec. 11 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Join hundreds of other pet lovers at the Omni Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Montelucia, Paradise Valley, for an inspiring, fun event filled with sparkling champagne, a delicious brunch, and a huge silent auction brimming with gifts for everyone's holiday gift.

For your entertainment there will be adorable and adoptable pets from Lost Our Home, a vivacious auctioneer/entertainer who will bring excitement and energy to the program, and speakers that will leave you feeling inspired and joyful with their stories about pets and people that were helped by Lost Our Home Pet Rescue.

The event is presented by Arizona's Vision, Dr. Mark and Gina Page. We are having a delicious brunch and of course, champagne! This year we are also having Bloody Marys and other vodka beverages, thanks

to our generous sponsor, Tito's Handmade Vodka.

Our Master of Ceremonies, Jan D'Atri, is an Emmy award-winning TV, Radio and Print Media personality, author and huge pet lover. Her charming personality and passion for animals will lead us through the event, bringing even more love and "feel good".

This year we will be celebrating the inaugural "Pet Champion Excellence Award." This award honors a person or organization that has made an extraordinary contribution

to pets in Arizona.

In this inaugural year we are presenting the award to PetSmart Charities. PetSmart Charities has been a national leader in animal welfare. The landscape of animal welfare is significantly changed because of their work here in Arizona, throughout the United States and in Canada. Accepting the honor on their behalf is PetSmart Charities President, David Haworth, D.V.M., Ph. D.

For more information, email Tracey Varga at [tracey@lostourhome.org](mailto:tracey@lostourhome.org).

## BUSINESS

*Continued from page 18*

Since then, he has sold countless yachts (both monohulls and multihulls) and has built a solid reputation as being an expert in all things catamaran or trimaran related. Not only that, his clients love him! He possesses a very honest and low-key personality not often found in your typical salesperson. Simply put

— he's an oxymoron. Every August, you will find him in Two Harbors, Catalina heading up WCM's Annual Catalina Multihull Rally. This year, the rally boasted 12 catamarans, most of which were sold by Kurt — a true testimonial of his likeability.

Go See Kurt!

Last year, WCM partnered with Denison Yacht Sales, one of the fastest growing brokerage companies in the world.

This partnership has proven to be a match made in heaven. With Kurt's expertise in the niche market of catamaran sales along with Denison's aggressive marketing strategies, new and used catamaran sales have gone through the roof. Want to be a part of this growing community of cat owners? Go See Kurt!

West Coast Multihulls is conveniently located in the Sunroad Resort Marina on Harbor Island, just a five-minute Uber

ride from the San Diego Airport. The address is: 955 Harbor Island Drive, Suite 125, San Diego, CA 92101. The Denison Yacht Sales office is located at 2330 Shelter Island Drive, Suite 206, San Diego, CA 92106

For lessons or charters, contact Michael Tolda at 619-517-5630. For boat sales, contact Kurt Jerman at 619-571-3513

## BUCKET LIST

*Continued from page 14*

summer. Even in summer, the meadow is a pretty place, with its little pond, forest, and a nice hiking trail.

### The Fall Is Gorgeous

But in the fall! The trees of Lockett Meadow put on quite a show in the autumn — the bright yellow of the aspens against the dark green of the pines is stunning. We even saw a few orange and reddish trees, but for the most part, yellow is king. It is absolutely beautiful. We went in October specifically to see the fall colors and we weren't disappointed.

We took a lot of photos, did a little hik-

ing, and had lunch standing up by the car near the little water hole. It was very busy. In fact, it was difficult to find a place to park so that we could hike the trail. The trail itself was also very busy, to the point of almost never having other people out of sight and hearing. Consequently, we didn't see any wildlife.

When we were here years ago, the trail was an old road. The new route does eventually meet up and follow the old road again, and the trail climbs steadily until you are in the Inner Basin — inside the old volcano. Pretty cool.

### In The Summer

In summer there are wildflowers,

birds, and not as many people, but those trees make it all worthwhile. The road up the mountain to Lockett Meadow is steep, narrow, and rough. I recommend a 4WD or at least a high clearance. There were a few cars on the road, and the large number of vehicles made the drive even harder — since it is so narrow, there are places where it is very difficult to pass another car coming the opposite way.

Off-road etiquette says that the vehicle facing downhill must back up and give way to the vehicle facing uphill, but not everyone knows this, and there were a lot of very scared drivers on that road the day we were there. So take your time and be kind, and don't even think about taking

an RV or a trailer up there.

### Campground First-Come, First-Served

There is a campground at Lockett Meadow with 17 single unit sites, fire rings, picnic tables, and vault toilet. Bring your own drinking water. They don't take reservations, so first-come, first-served.

To get to Lockett Meadow, take Highway 89 northeast from Flagstaff for about 12.5 miles and turn left on Forest Road 552, right across from the Sunset Crater National Monument turnoff. Take this FR552 for about a mile, then follow the Lockett Meadow sign. The road is closed late fall to early spring for snow.



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Bartlett Lake Marina has a boatable surface area of 2,815 acres - more than Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake, combined. Fed by the pristine waters of the Verde River, Indians of this valley spoke descriptively in their legends of the river's "sweet waters".

Outdoor enthusiasts frequent Bartlett Lake for a variety of recreational opportunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's natural desert terrain. While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, visitors may see mule deer, bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many indigenous desert plants, including the majestic saguaro, mesquite trees, and blooming ocotillo.

## **BOAT RENTALS**

Bartlett Lake Marina we are ideally located 17 miles northeast of Carefree and only one hour from Phoenix. Our marina offers a range of well equipped comfortable pontoon rental boats. All safety gear and full instruction are included. We welcome novices! You can trust our rental boats to keep you and your family safe while exploring the surrounding bays. We have a number of different pontoon boats for your party needs. We also offer a variety of packages from full day rentals, and weekend rental packages.



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