# 'ON THE ROAD AGAIN'

There are beautiful drives near Alpine and Springerville.

**BY MARGIE ANDERSON** 

f you're looking to get out of the heat and see some gorgeous country where it's cool and green, I've got the perfect road trip for you. If you've ever been to Alpine or Springerville, you already know how pretty the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest is, and I've got a couple of back-road drives for you that don't require 4WD. In fact, we saw a lot of RV's on the second part of our road trip.

# **The First Leg**

The first leg of our trip starts just across the road from Luna Lake, which is just east of Alpine. Watch for sign on the south side of the road that says Blue 24 miles – it's FR 281 but also Apache County 2104. It's well-signed so you won't miss it. Once you're on that road, there is basically almost no way you can get lost.

Because all the campgrounds are closed and there is a lot of private property, there are almost no places where you can pull off the road or take a side trip. Also, much of the road is steep on both sides and narrow, so you can stop, but you can't really pull off. We stopped a few times to take photos, but we actually never met another vehicle on the



**Turkey Creek Just South Of Alpine** 

road the whole time we were on that first

# Following Turkey Creek, Blue River

The first half of the road, Apache 2104, follows Turkey Creek and the Blue River so you get lush vegetation and beautiful scenery almost the whole way. There are some old buildings that make good photos, and some striking rock formations as well, including hoodoos. You'll pass the Blue school and the Blue library, but don't expect to be able to get any supplies or anything in the town of Blue. From what I read, the population was just 36 at the last census.

# **Northwest On Red Hill Road**

Once you get down to Blue Crossing, you

ON THE ROAD, continued on page 14



Near Blue, Ariz.

# **PORTS**

Z

# **DOWNSTREAM**

Be sure to check before you go.

# 4 BOATING

BUATING

What's in a name?

# 8

# **TACKLE & TARGET**

This month's featured pro is Clifford Pirch.

# 12

# LAND CRUISING

A father re-visits his memories.



RICHARD STEPHEN HAYNES

# 16 WESTERN WILDLIFE

AZGFD offers reward re: poaching of mule deer.

# Exotic Offroad Vehicles, Cash Cornhole Tournament On Tap November 20 And 21

The latest in off-road vehicles, boats, RVs, travel trailers set to bring down the curtain on 2020.

To say that 2020 has been an unusual year is a gross understatement. Between fighting a stubborn pandemic and a volatile presidential election cycle, people have been forced to become more inventive in ways to pursue safe and fun recreational outlets.

# Just In Time For Fall, Winter Adventures

For the past nine years, outdoor motorsports enthusiasts have relied on the Sand-Water-RV Expo, presented by Sunshine RV in Lake Havasu, to usher-in all that's new

**EXPO**, continued on page 19





# Nominations Sought For 2020 Awards

# AZGFC honors outdoor advocates.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is soliciting nominations for the 2020 Commission Awards. The deadline for submission is Sept. 4, 2020. 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.

Nominations may include individuals, organizations, clubs, foundations or government agencies. Arizona Game and Fish Department employees are not eligible for nomination. To nominate someone, download a form (visit https://www.azgfd.com/agency/commission/awards/) and follow the instructions on the form.

**AWARDS**, continued on page 17

# Outdoors Still Has Options, **But Know Before You Go**

Editor's Note: It is only wise during these unprecedented times to check venues before heading out to see if there are restrictions or closures.

### **Prescott's Trails & Natural Parklands Trails Saw Increased Usage During Shutdown**

The great outdoors is a part of Arizona's lifestyle. During the COVID-19 stayat-home order, Prescott's trails remained open offering an escape from boredom and helping to relieve stress. Most of the parking lots at the trailheads were full and hikers were out en masse. Counters at the trailheads of the two most popular trail systems, Constellation and Peavine, showed a significant increase in usage for that time of year. The numbers increased substantially and rivaled those of the busiest trail season.

Because volunteers in the park were put on hold, so was the scheduled work. During this time, Chris Hosking seized the opportunity and partnered with the forest service to do work on a trail extension near Williams Peak. Work that was previously planned will resume once the Over the Hill Gang volunteers are released to return to work. More information at City of Prescott Recreation Services Department [kelly.tolbert@prescott-az.gov]

# Raptors On The Rails: Saturday, Aug. 8

• During the summer months, the eagle may ride the train 1-5 pm OR may visit depot from 11 am-12:45 pm

• Admission: Free to see Eagle 12:30-1:00 p.m. at depot. Train tickets \$54-\$74 Coach, \$99 First Class

Verde Canyon Railroad's friends from Liberty Wildlife share the majesty of a rescued bald eagle with visitors to the depot and on-board the train on select dates throughout the year. This wild-life rescue facility shares a closeup glimpse of a beautiful Arizona Bald Eagle from Liberty Wildlife's educational program. Raptors On the Rails events are subject to change based on volunteer availability and weather conditions. https://verdecanyonrr.com/

Verde Canyon Railroad 300 N Broadway Clarkdale, Arizona 86324 (800) 293-7245

https://www.visitarizona.com/events/ raptors-on-the-rails-august-8/

# **Perseid Meteor Shower** At Lowell Observatory: Tuesday, Aug. 11

Join Lowell Observatory at 9 p.m. AZ/ PI on Tuesday, Aug. 11 for a live stream of the Perseid meteor shower, hosted by astronomer Dr. Nick Moskovitz and research assistant Megan Gialluca. Every year in early August, the Earth passes through the debris left by Comet 109P/ Swift-Tuttle, which creates the Perseid meteor shower. We'll use the All-Sky Camera at the Lowell Discovery Telescope to hunt for meteors together. After that, you'll be ready. https://lowell.edu/ visit/special-events/

# **Sedona Star Party:** Friday, Aug. 21

Hours: 7-9:30 p.m.

This free community event gives you the chance to view the Summer Milky



VERDE CANYON RAILROAD

Way, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars, and more! The astronomers of the Verde Valley will provide telescopes for free viewing and laser-guided constellation tours. As the last of the Winter constellations dip into the western horizon, the rich stream of stars in the Summer Milky Way are rising high in the sky. The constellations of Cygnus the Swan, Vulpecula the Fox, Aquila the Eagle, Sagittarius the Archer and Scorpius the Scorpion are just a few of the star rich areas that hide open clusters, planetary nebula, globular clusters and emission nebula only visible in the many telescopes that will be set up for everyone to view thru.

The planets Jupiter, Saturn and Mars will also be visible. Local astronomers are ready to guide you across nature's celestial majesty at the Sedona Star Party. A partnership of the Sedona Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau, the City of Sedona Parks & Recreation, Keep Sedona Beautiful and the Astronomers of Verde Valley, the Star Party is a free viewing event on the Lower Softball Field at the Posse Ground Park in West Sedona. The Star Party will have an educational component with a 30-minute presentation at 7:00 p.m. from the Astronomers of Verde Valley on a large LED screen. Telescopes to view the constellations and planets will be available from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. A laser-guided constellations tour w reoccurring throughout the evening.

An event for all ages, be sure to bring lawn chairs and blankets to relax and really enjoy the dazzling stars. The first 200 attendees will be treated to a free glow bracelet. No dogs allowed (thank you). Special thanks to Keep Sedona Beautiful for helping Sedona get the incredible title and recognition as an official Dark Sky Community in 2014. This accreditation has made city code and light compliance standards so star gazing can take place, any time of year. Mark your calendar, bring a blanket, and join us for this fun, free community event!

Posse Grounds Park 525 Posse Ground Rd.

Sedona, Arizona 8633 https://www.visitarizona.com/events/ sedona-star-party/

# Gaspin' In The Aspen **Summer Woods Run:** Saturday, Aug. 22

• Hours: 8:00 a.m. for 15k and 5k, 9:30 a.m. for Kid's Fun Run

• Admission: \$5-\$70

• Where: Arizona Nordic Village (formerly Flagstaff Nordic Center) (Hwy 180, Mile Marker 232)

• What: 15k / 5k / 1k Kid's Fun Run 100% Off Road Trail Run at 8,000+ ft of elevation! The Finale of the Flagstaff Summer Running Series The first race of the Flagstaff Mountain Trail Racing SeriesAwards for top three Overall and Masters (40+) winnersThe Gaspin' in the Aspen is one of 6 races in the Flagstaff Summer Running Series.

Arizona Nordic Village 16848 U.S. 180 Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

https://www.visitarizona.com/events/ gaspin-in-the-aspen-summer-woods-run/

# Wildflower Walks At The Arboretum

Presented by The Arboretum at Flagstaff at The Arboretum at Flagstaff, Flag-

Explore the colorful varieties of native Northern Arizona wildflowers. Social distancing requirements have brought changes to our WALKS and CLASSES, as follows:

- Registration 24 hours in advance is required — no walk-ins will be accepted.
  - Class size is limited.
  - Masks are required to participate.

Join our knowledgeable Arboretum staff on a morning walk through the gardens and explore the colorful varieties of native Northern Arizona wildflowers. Please bring water, a camera and comfortable walking shoes.

https://www.flagstaff365.com/organization/the-arboretum-at-flagstaff/ ■







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# **MEMBERSHIPS**



Jerry Tate

John Campbell







# **AWARDS**



2008 & 2013 AZGFC Media of the Year

2009 National Water Safety Congress Award of Merit

2016 AZGFC Writer Of The Year

# THE FINE PRINT

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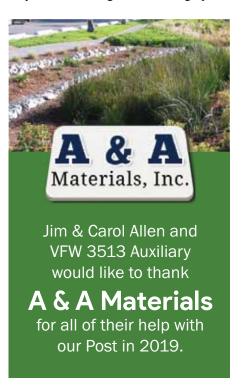


# What Can A Boat's Name Tell You?

# BoatUS issues annual Top 10 Boat Names list.

While a boat's name can be as varied as the owner at the helm, certain themes do stick out, according to Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS). The national advocacy, services, and safety group has issued its annual list of Top 10 Boat Names, which it compiles from those using the services of BoatUS Boat Graphics to design and purchase boat name graphics.

"It's always a challenge to decide on a boat name because the options are endless," said BoatUS Vice President of Public Affairs Scott Croft. "However, after 28 years of offering a boat name graphics



service to our members, we've found that certain themes stand the test of time."

Croft notes some distinct patterns of popular boat names, each focused around a main theme: relaxation (Serenity, Island Time, Sanctuary, Hydro Therapy, Oasis); a new chapter in life or achievement (Second Wind, Next Chapter, At Last); fishing (Reel Time, Reel Therapy, Pilar); embracing the boating life (Pura Vida, La Bella Vita, Seas the Day, Dolce Vita); and music (Flat Bottom Girl, Greatful Dad, Cool Change).

# Some of these names have made it to this year's Top 10 Boat Names list:

- 1. **Serenity:** One of the most common and beloved boat names ever, the owner of this boat may have a high-stress job and is likely looking to the water for a little peace and quiet. Watch out for yoga mats on deck!
- 2. **Island Time:** Everything is slower in the islands. Let down your hair, feel the sun on your face and the warm, clear turquoise waters surrounding your feet. You are now experiencing Island Time.
- 3. **Scout:** The owner of this boat is an adventurous type. Whether out gunkholing with the family, cruising to far-off locales, or chasing down a secret fishing spot, Scout's skipper is on a mission.
  - 4. Pura Vida: A way of life in Costa

Rica. Up north it translates to living a good life with your family, cherishing simple pleasures, and enjoying a slow, relaxed pace. Moreover, it's not just for sailboats – speedy motorboat owners love this name equally.

- 5. **Seas the Day:** This boat owner is likely completely in charge while boating and intends to get the most out of the boating lifestyle. This boat is also likely to be the last one to return to home port for the night, enjoying every ounce of daylight on the water.
- 6. **Shenanigans:** This boat owner is obviously (and likely innocently) up to something, and it may have to do with a big, extended family aboard. Think of Mr. Brady's kind of boat, if he'd had one, at your local Saturday afternoon anchorage with Greg, Marcia, Peter, Jan, Bobby, Cindy, Mrs. Brady and Alice aboard.
- 7. **Black Pearl:** Like the fictional ship of Disney movie fame, this vessel may not look like much, but she's brought her captain home every time and had a lot of fun along the way.
- 8. **Cool Change:** Originating in Australia to define the change from a hot summer day to a cool afternoon breeze and thunderstorms ahead. This boat's owner likely believes in the transformative nature of "cool and bright clear water".
- 9. **Liberty:** Just like its popular cousin Freedom, a boater who chooses this name



LARRY WEISMA

WHAT'S IN A NAME? — Music and family can also help name a boat.

is a patriot to his or her core. There's a fair chance this owner served in the military or has family who does.

10. **Knot on Call:** A name once chosen by doctors and nurses, Knot on Call now appeals to a wider group of boaters where technology has increased the intrusive reach of the office or added 24-hour job demands.

For a look at all of the BoatUS Top 10 Boat Names lists over the years, go to BoatUS.com/Boatgraphics/Top-10-Boat-Names. The BoatUS Graphics service offers an online design tool that allows you to easily create custom boat graphics with fast turnaround times. BoatUS also offers simple step-by-step video instructions on how to install your new graphics yourself.

# On The Water, Separation Isn't Just About Safe Distancing

With more paddlers and boaters sharing the water this summer, BoatUS Foundation offers etiquette tips to help ensure safety and fun for all

The coronavirus pandemic is leading to more recreational boats and paddlers hitting the water, all trying to have fun in a safe way. So what are these two groups doing this season to safely share more crowded waters?

"Ultimately, it's about looking out for each other," says BoatUS Foundation Assistant Director of Boating Safety Ted Sensenbrenner. The nonprofit boating safety and clean water arm of BoatUS shares some etiquette tips to make for a positive day on the water for paddlers and boaters alike.

# **Etiquette For Paddlers**

Be seen – but that may be harder than you think. Perhaps your kayak, life jacket or clothing is a neutral or dark color. As the day progresses, glare increases, waves kick up, and it becomes more difficult for recreational boaters to see you at a safe distance. Bright clothing and life jackets, warning flags, painting paddle blades bright colors and adding reflective tape to the tips can ultimately give boaters more time to steer clear of you.

Try to cross channels at a 90-degree angle, and if you are with a group, cross together and not stretched out in a long line. This reduces the time you spend in a potentially hazardous waterway in which recreational vessels may be limited in navigation by size, draft or maneuverability.

Even if you think you have right of way, practice defensive paddling to prevent collisions and mishaps in spite of the actions of others around you. Try to avoid heavy boat traffic, and pick a route away from congestion. Typically, it is safest to pass astern of other vessels and let them cross in front of you. Some boats have awkward blind spots that prevent good visibility at certain trim angles, so never



ADVICE — Separation is the name of the game this summer on the

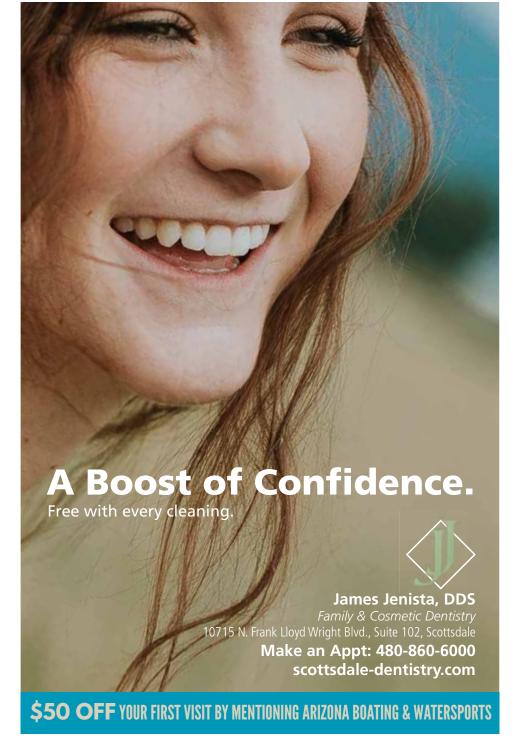
assume a boater can see you.

# **Etiquette For Boaters**

Put down the phone, minimize distractions and be on the active lookout for small craft. The U.S. Coast Guard reports that operator inattention and improper lookout are at the top of the list for contributing factors to accidents. Consider learning the S.C.A.N. (Search, Concentrate, Analyze, and Negotiate) method to help you safely navigate around paddlers and other traffic on the water.

While you may not be in an official slow speed zone, show courtesy and slow down in areas where paddlers congregate. Be mindful of your wake. One way for boat operators to check their courtesy is to ask themselves, "If my son or daughter

**ETIQUETTE**, continued on page 6





# Kokopelli Trailers Now Offers Jet Renu Products

Among Jet Reneu's long list of products is Renu Hand Sanitizer. Renu Hand Sanitizer kills 99.9 percent of most illness-causing germs. Jet Renu's hand sanitizer contains 75 percent alcohol. Renu Hand Sanitizer not only kills those nasty germs but also leaves your hands feeling soft with a fresh peach fragrance.

Renu Hand Sanitizer Complies with U.S Department of Health and Human Services and FDA compounding Guidelines.

Jet Renu supplies products for the automotive, watercraft, motorsports and cycling retail market. Jet Renu prides themselves in providing premium quality appearance products and accessories. They offer over 26 years of experience with product research and development as well as an advanced background in appearance reconditioning, sales and customer service.

# Kokopelli Trailers & Jet Renu

Jet Renu is a green company looking out for your future. They manufacture products in conjunction with state regulatory laws and also the need to preserve all of our natural resources throughout the world. Their line consists of "green" products within each of their product categories.

Kokopelli Trailers and Jet Renu offer a wide range of products to keep your vehicles in top shape. Kokopelli Trailers Jet Renu products can be found at http:// www.kokopellitrailers.com/shop

# **Kokopelli Trailers** Has A New Location

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**BOATS** 

# Do You Make These Three Boating Safety Mistakes?

A look at the data shows where you can improve safety aboard.

Most boaters don't like making mistakes, especially when it comes to safety. With the recent release of the U.S. Coast Guard's 2019 Recreational Boating Statistics, the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water recommends avoiding these three common boating mistakes to increase safety for all aboard.

1. Using your cellphone to make a call, check social media, use a nonboating app, send emails, watch videos or anything else that distracts you from safely operating your boat. This all adds up to operator inattention and improper lookout, which combined with operator inexperience, excessive speed, and alcohol use rank in the top five primary contributing factors in accidents. Just like you do in your car, stay off your phone or other portable devices. Boaters should learn the S.C.A.N. (Search, Concentrate,



The latest Coast Guard boating safety data report operator inattention and improper lookout are challenges for recreational boaters.

Analyze, and Negotiate) method to help you navigate safely and stay clear of other

2. Not taking a boating safety course. Many boaters only learn about boating safety from family or friends, which may not be the best education. Where instruction information was known, the 2019 report notes that 70 percent of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Don't wait until your state requires boating safety instruction - taking a course now will improve your chance for a safe day on the water. The BoatUS Foundation offers the only free, NASBLA-approved online

boating safety course for 36 states.

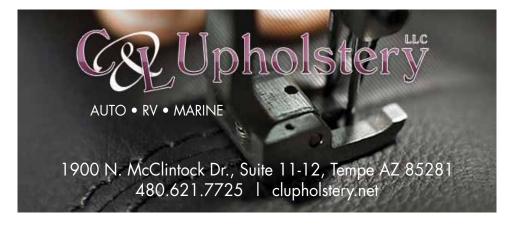
3. Allowing guests to consume unlimited amounts of alcohol aboard your boat, even if the captain is sober. Recreational vessels operate under a wide range of hazardous conditions from the hot blazing sun to wind-whipped waves kicked up by a late afternoon thunderstorm. All of these combined with alcohol create a challenge for the person at the helm, who is legally responsible for everyone aboard. Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents, and statistics show it may be better to save it for when you and your guests are safely back at the dock.

# ETIQUETTE

Continued from page 4

were in the kayak I am about to pass, what would I do?"

Paddling is booming, and paddlecraft rentals are here to stay. Accept and understand that some paddlers may not understand the rules of the road or all of the safety risks inherent to small-craft operation. Paddlecraft are highly maneuverable, so it's good to give a little more breathing room on the water when you can. Everyone has a responsibility to avoid a colli-





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# Grand Canyon National Park Requests River Guides, Boaters Bypass Havasu Canyon

The National Park Service (NPS) is requesting all river trips, both commercial and non-commercial, to voluntarily bypass Havasu Canyon on the Colorado river, located at river mile 157. This request is an effort to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to further safeguard the Havasupai people and their traditional lands. River guides and boaters are encouraged to honor this request out of respect and safety for the Havasupai people.

The Havasupai reservation is under an emergency closure due to the COVID-19 virus. Entry into the reservation is prohibited and will be strictly enforced by the Havasupai Tribe. Camping at the confluence of Havasu Creek and the Colorado River is always prohibited. The Tribe has stationed law enforcement at the boundary between the reservation and the park and will enforce any attempts to violate

the closure order. The Tribe will share with NPS staff any information gathered on individuals or companies violating the closure order.

The NPS and the Havasupai Tribe will continue to assess conditions and adjust operations as needed to provide for the safety of the Havasupai residents and boaters

Grand Canyon National Park's leadership is committed to working closely with its neighboring tribal communities to ensure that increasing access to the park is done in a manner that is sensitive to their interests and concerns. Park leadership respects the position of the Havasupai Tribe and their need to safeguard tribal members and lands. For further information on the Havasupai reservation, visit: www.nps. gov/grca/planyourvisit/havasupai.htm.



Havasu Falls

# PLAY FAVORITES

Engineered to overcome any weather thrown at it, few AM/FM/WB marine receivers can match the Infinity by Harman model REFPRV415 from Prospec Electronics. IP67-rated (front) and NMEA2000ready, it boasts a wide range of audio input methods to ensure everyone on board can play their favorite music. Contact local dealers **Electronics:** Prospec prospecelectronics.com

# This Summer, EPA Isn't Making It Any Easier For Boaters To Choose The Right Fuel

Harris Poll: Only 22 percent of consumers know that 'regular 88' fuel has more engineharming ethanol than 87 octane fuel.

With summer boating season in full swing, it's now common to see recreational boats being filled up at gas stations across the country. However, making sure the right fuel gets in the boat's tank isn't always assured: 54 percent of consumers in a recent Harris Poll believed that the small orange E15 fuel warning label on a gas station pump isn't good enough to protect consumers.

Poll respondents believe the label, about the size of a pack of gum, needs to be larger, clearer and mandatory on all gas station fuel-dispensing pumps. E15 (fuel containing 15 percent ethanol) is prohibited by federal law for use in recreational boat engines and voids many marine engine warranties.

# Without Warnings

"It's clear that the Environmental Protection Agency has not done enough to protect boat owners and a range of consumers," said Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) Manager of Government Affairs David Kennedy. "Some fuels are being marketed and sold to consumers as low-cost alternatives but without having the necessary clear warnings on the pump that highlight increased ethanol content.

"Regular 88" fuel, typically the cheapest choice at the pump, contains 15 percent ethanol (E15), enough to harm a vessel's motor and void the engine manufacturer's warranty. Only 22 percent of consumers in the Harris Poll correctly identified the fuel as E15."

"We are cautioning our members this summer that they may find badly labeled fuel choices at the pump and inadequate education around ethanol-blended fuels that were never intended for recreational vessels," Kennedy added. Boaters have no love for ethanol in their gas due to the proven damage it causes to boat engines



DO YOU SEE ONE? — E15 gasoline is illegal for use in boats, many other vehicles, and power equipment. Can you spot any effective warning label indicating the increased 15 percent ethanol content in the "regular 88" fuel?

and fuel systems.

# Why?

BoatUS, along with additional stakeholders, is asking why, after consistent urging, EPA has not done a better job warning boaters, those with gasolinepowered equipment, and vehicle owners not warrantied for fuels above E10 to stay away from this new generation of higher ethanol fuels intended to increase America's consumption of governmentsubsidized corn-based ethanol.

In comments filed June 29 by BoatUS and its partners on EPA's proposed Fuels Regulatory Streamlining rulemaking provisions on mitigating misfueling with 10.5 percent to 15 percent ethanol (E15) fuels, the group of consumer and industry associations said, "As EPA has worked to broaden the availability of E15 in the U.S., including most recently in last year's repeal of seasonal restrictions on the sale of higher-blend ethanol fuels, our organizations have consistently urged EPA to implement a more effective Misfueling Mitigation Program. ... The misfueling of marine engines and vessels, off-road vehicles, motorcycles, and outdoor power equipment places significant burdens on both the American consumer and product manufacturers. Risks outlined for consumers include potential product damage and/or compromised performance, economic loss and potentially unsafe products."

# **Urging Education**

The partners urge public education efforts; improvement to the ethanol content warning label type, size and pump location; evaluating the adoption of different fuel pump nozzle sizes; ceasing misleading marketing of ethanol fuels; evaluating the use of physical barriers and keypad systems; and offering a dedicated pump for E0 (0 percent ethanol) fuel.



# Use only in

- 2001 and newer passenger vehicles
- Flex-fuel vehicles

Don't use in other vehicles, boats or gasoline-powered equipment. It may cause damage and is **prohibited** by Federal law.

NATIONAL MARINE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION NOTE THE LITTLE LABEL — This little orange E15 warning label on a gas pump could be all that separates boaters from misfueling their boat, says BoatUS. However, it might not be that easy to see on the gas pump.



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— Scott G., US Air Force Veteran

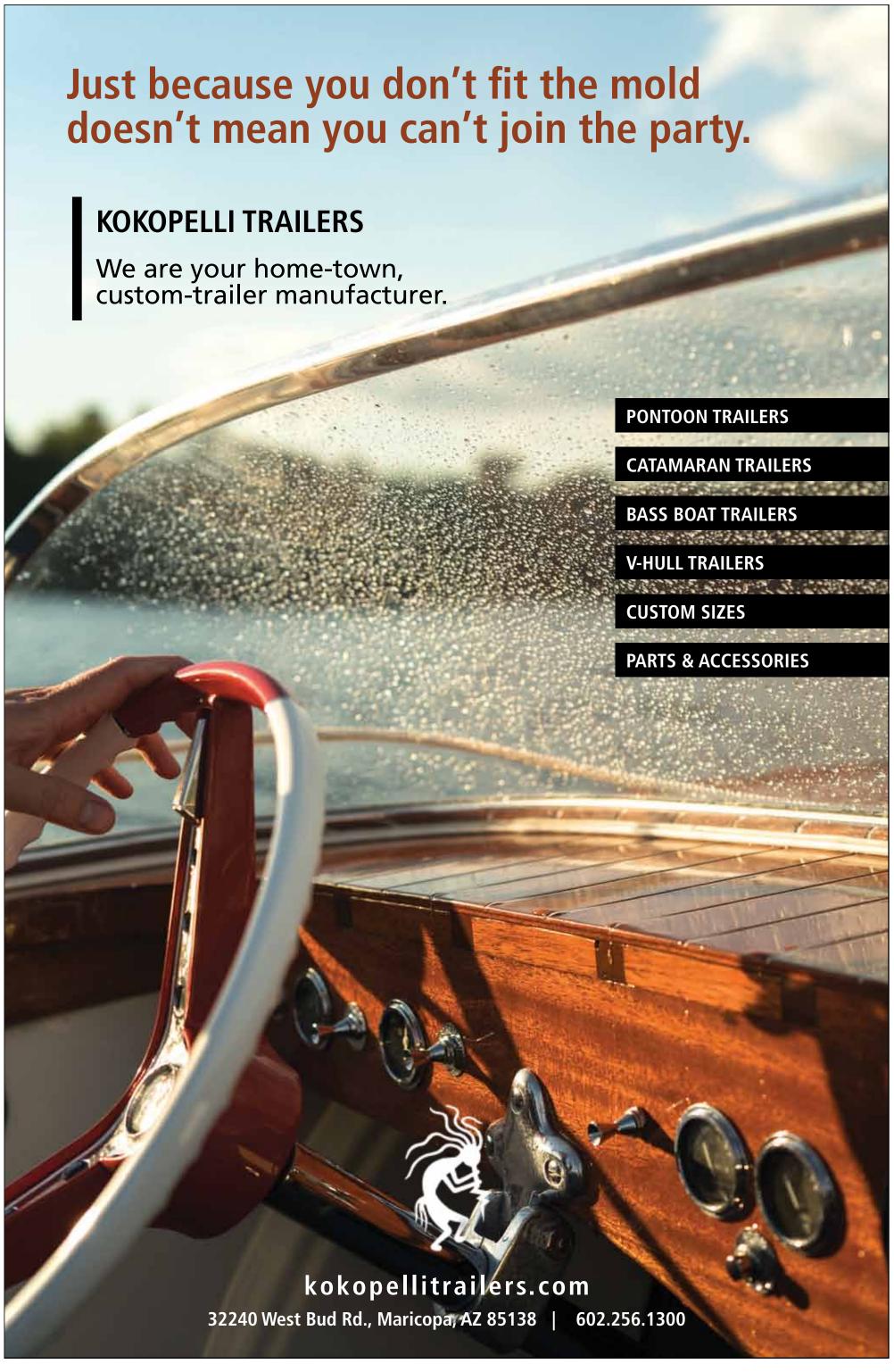


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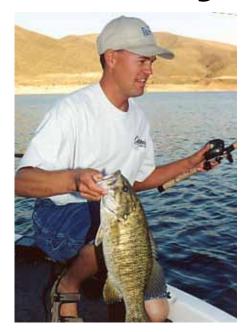
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# AZ LAKES, AZ PROS: CLIFFORD PIRCH

# Try Spinnerbaits at Night



**Clifford Pirch** 

We went to Roosevelt one night with Clifford Pirch, and I was a bit surprised when he started throwing a spinnerbait. He explained that with a spinnerbait, you can cover quite a bit of water fairly quickly, looking for active fish, and even in the dark, a single large Colorado blade thumping along really gets attention. Spinnerbaits are also resistant to snagging on rocks and submerged trees. When you're fishing one at night, a dark color is best so it silhouettes against the sky.

# **Hop It Up And Down**

Work the spinnerbait as close to cover and structure as you can, letting the lure linger around the best-looking places. If the fish are showing up suspended, let the line be slightly slack and allow the bait to just flutter down through them. Once it's down there, hop it up and down like a jig, but very slowly.

Or you can drag a spinnerbait over structure at night as well. You just barely need to move it to keep the blade moving. A half-ounce spinnerbait is usually his choice because it falls a little faster. "Give me the heavy stuff," Clifford told us, "I'm not one to waste time getting some little bitty bait down there!"

We fished a breakline, and the fish you'd normally catch on worms at night were more than a foot off the bottom, so the spinnerbait was a much better choice. In clear water the structure bite is always a little better, and Pirch likes to hop a blade down the breakline and get all the flash and vibration that he can't get with a jig or a worm.

# **Another Plus**

The night bite feels like a normal spinnerbait bite, he says – sometimes a thump, sometimes it just feels heavy. Smaller blades give you a pretty good

Dryfire cards provide a host of scenarios and drills to use when

build proper muscle memory. They aren't

cheap - they run anywhere from just un-

der \$100 to \$115 (there is a \$20 coupon

on their website right now), and you can

also get them with the Mantis system.

More about Mantis later. Check out Dry-

FireMag at www.dryfiremag.com.

**Electronic Dryf re** 

practicing dryfire at home.

feel for the bites, and they also help the bait stay down, so in deep water they are a good choice. You can cover a piece of structure a lot faster with a spinnerbait than you can with a dropshot or whatever, and in the summer the fish don't mind a faster retrieve. Spinnerbaits are also good big-fish baits, so that's another plus.

One more advantage to fishing a spinnerbait at night is that it is a lot less apt to get tangled in submerged trees and stuff where a jig would get hung up. Also, you can just reel it up and throw to any boils without having to pick up another rod—which is exactly how Pirch caught a fish on Goose Flats. He can even work the spinnerbait fast enough to be a topwater bait and target the fish that come up on the flats at night to feed in the dark when the skiers and jet skis are gone. A spinnerbait is just a dynamite way to fish at night, so give it a try.



**BY JOHN ANDERSON** 

If you have tried to buy any ammunition lately, you already know that shelves are bare. Buying online is just as trying: I've put a couple boxes in my cart on the Cabelas website, and before I could check out, they were already out of stock. Ditto on other websites: page after page of "out of stock" messages on almost every kind and caliber of pistol ammo.

The only thing I've found on the shelves lately is bird shot, rifle ammo, and tracers. So odds are, even if you want to get a little practice shooting in, you're probably loathe to burn up your ammo right now, not knowing when you'll be able to replace it. But cheer up – the good news is that you can get in quite a bit of shooting practice with no ammo at all. Here are several great ways, from cheap to over the top.

# **Dry Fire Practice**

Dry fire is just pulling the trigger on an unloaded gun. The key here is UN-LOADED. Check it carefully, then check it again. Most modern pistols are perfectly okay for dry fire, but rimfire pistols and older single-action revolvers could be damaged by snapping on an empty chamber. You can get dummy ammo for any pistol if you don't feel comfortable dryfiring, and in fact we use dummy ammo often in defensive pistol classes.

They feed just like regular rounds, but of course they don't fire. Dummy rounds are exceptionally good for teaching you to quickly recover if a round doesn't go off as planned, but they are also great for practicing loading and shooting.

With dry fire, obviously there is no recoil and no noise as well as no bullet exiting the gun. So while dry fire isn't the same as going to the range and shooting for real, it is great for things like working on basics like getting the sights lined up, placing the sights on target, controlling your breath, and squeezing the trigger. One drawback to dry fire is that you have to rack the slide every time to reset the trigger.



# **DryFireMag**

One way to get past that is to use a DryFireMag. I haven't tried one yet, but they look pretty great. It's an actual magazine that fits your semi-auto pistol, and it has a spring mechanism at the top. It doesn't use the firing pin. The company says it provides audible and tactical trigger simulation and you can do double taps, practice at home all you want, and

You just attach it to the gun, connect your phone or tablet and pair with Bluetooth (iOS or Android), then commence dry firing. It evaluates every shot and shows



MantisX Screen

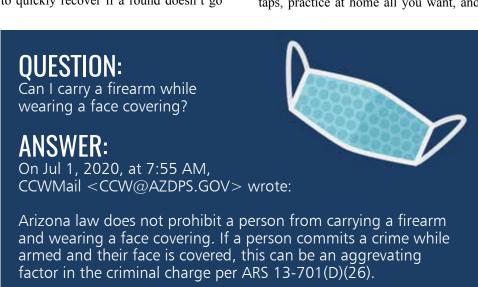


The MantisX attaches to your pistol and sends information to your phone via Bluetooth.

you where you're going wrong and how you can improve. It also tracks your progress over time.

They have four different models, ranging in price from \$99 to \$249. Right now

NO AMMO, continued on page 11





# **August 2020 Arizona Hunting Calendar**

### 2020-21 Fees:

General Hunting, resident: \$37 Nonresident: not available see combination

Combination Hunt and fish, resident: \$57 Non-resident: \$160

Youth combination hunt and fish (ages 10-17), resident: \$5 Non-resident: \$5

Short-term combination license, resident: \$15/day, Non-resident: \$20/day

There are also fees for permit-tags and nonpermit-tags. See the 2020-2021 Hunting Regulations at www.azgfd.com for

Be sure to check the hunting regulations carefully before you hunt. Many of the following hunts have notes and legal requirements listed. Pick up a paper copy at outdoor stores, Game and Fish offices, or go online at www.azgfd.com and click on regulations to download the booklet. "Open areas" have restrictions beyond what is listed here. ALL HUNTS require a valid hunting license or combination license. Hunters under 10 need a license or they must be accompanied by an adult who possesses a valid license. Falconry-only hunts require a Sport Falconry License. See regulations for daily limits and bag limits. This calendar is for convenience only. You must read and follow the hunting regulations found in the booklets and pamphlets available at www.azgfd.com and at retailers where licenses are sold.

**Mountain Lion:** Aug 21,2020 – May 31, 2021 This hunt is held by zone, with zones having annual harvest limits. Seasons vary by zone. When the limit is reached, the hunt is over in that zone. You must call to report kills or check hunts before going hunting. There are also archery and pursuit-only tags available. See regulations for details on weapons, fees, zones, etc.



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# **SMALL GAME:**

Tassel-eared tree squirrel Unit 31: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (year-round).

Archery-only tree squirrel: Aug 21 – Oct 1, 2020 Open areas state wide except 12A, 12B, 13A, 13B and National Wildlife Refuges, any tree squirrel except Mt. Graham red squirrel.

Archery-only tree squirrel: Aug 21 -Sept 10, 2020 12A, 12B, 13A, 13BAny tree squirrel

Cottontail rabbit: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (year-round) Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Refuges, and 11M, 25M, 26M, and 38M. Any cot-

Cottontail rabbit limited weapon (shotgun shooting shot): year-round. Open areas except National Wildlife Refuges) any cottontail rabbit.

Falconry-only cottontail rabbit:



year-round. Open areas except National Wildlife Refuges any cottontail rabbit.

### **PREDATORY AND FUR-BEARING MAMMALS**

Coyote and skunk: year-round. Open areas statewide except National Wildlife

Coyote and skunk Buenos Aires Wildlife Refuge: year-round

Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel, and badger: Aug 1, 2020 -March 31, 2021.

Coyote and skunk limited weapon (shotgun shooting shot): year-round. Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Refuges.

Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel, and badgerlimited weapon (shotgun shooting shot): Aug 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021 Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Refuges.

# **OTHER BIRDS AND MAMMALS**

House sparrow and European starling: year-round. Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Refuges and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, and 38M.

Gunnison's prairie dog: July 1, 2020 - Mar 31, 2020Open areas north of the Gila River excluding National Wildlife Refuges, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, and

All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, fur-bearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footedferret, New Mexico jumping mouse, Gunnison's prairie dog, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves: yearround. Open areas Statewide (excluding National Wildlife Refuges, Units 11M, 25M, 26M, and 38M)

Limited weapon (shotgun shooting shot) English house sparrows and European starling: year-round. Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Ref-

Limited weapon (shotgun shooting shot) Gunnison's prairie dog Unit 11M: year-round.

Limited weapon (shotgun shooting shot) All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footedferret, New Mexico jumping mouse, Gunnison's prairie dog, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves: yearround. Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Refuges.

Falconry-only seasons: see regula-

Falconry-only quail 25M, 26M, and **38M:** Jul 1, 2020 – Mar 31, 2021 Any

**DOVE HUNTING** Dove hunters are required to have an Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp in addition to their hunting

Doves, mourning and white-winged: Start getting ready for doves, chukar, and blue grouse – season starts the first of next month!

Statewide early dove season: September 1-15, 2019. Daily bag limit 15 total with no more than 10 being whitewinged doves. Possession limit is 45 total, no more than 30 being white-winged

Eurasian collared doves may be hunted year round with no daily bag or possession limits.

Restrictions apply to open and closed areas for doves. See regulations for de-

CHUKAR HUNTING see regulations for limits and where to find chukar. Sept 1, 2020 - Feb 7, 2020. Any chu-

**HUNTING**, continued on page 11

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# LAKE POWELL REPORT (7/22/20)

# **Boils Are Blasting Lakewide**

BY WAYNE A. GUSTAVESON

WAYNEGUSTAVESON@UTAH.GOV

Stripers have been "slurping" for a few weeks. This means they are swimming in a line eating tiny shad on the surface. Casting into the middle of the line causes the fish to spook, go deep, regroup and slurp again. Stripers are "boiling". Shad are larger and swim in schools. Stripers circle the shad school, drive it to the surface, then eat as many shad as possible before shad escape.

Stripers are now boiling in Lake Powell. They pop up in a circle instead of a line. Boiling stripers are aggressive. Just cast over the boiling circle and work your surface lure or crankbait over the feeding area. These fish are not afraid of the lure splashing nearby and continue to feed until shad break away.

### **Going Early**

On my weekly trip, we left Stateline ramp before the

**BOILS**, continued on page 18



# HUNTING

Continued from page 10

kar. Open areas statewide except National Wildlife Refuges.

BLUE GROUSE HUNTING see regulations for limits and where to find blue grouse.

Sep 1 – Nov 8, 2020. Open areas Statewide (excluding National Wildlife Refuges and Unit 31).

Attention Grouse Hunters: The Department would like to better survey blue grouse hunter participation and success. To do this they are asking grouse hunters to provide an address or email to the Department's small game biologist so that they can be surveyed directly after the end of the season. This may be done by sending an email to: jodell@azgfd.gov or through regular mail to the Department's main office: Attention Terrestrial Wildlife Branch.

BIG GAME HUNTING: See regulations for information on hunts and dates. Big game hunting is by permit only. To see draw odds go to www. azgfd.com/Hunting/surveydata/

**DEER HUNTING** We have two kinds of deer: Coues' whitetail and mule deer. Hunting is by permit only. Resident permit tags are \$58, non-resident \$315. Apply online by June 9, 2020 Hunts vary in length and are in October, November, and December. Specialty hunts include archery, muzzleloader, CHAMP (Challenged Hunter Access Mobility Permit), and youth hunts. There are also archeryonly non-permit tags that can be bought over the counter. See the regulations for information about those permits.

Archery-only non permit-tag deer seasons are in August-September, December, and January. See the 2020-2021 regulations for details. There is a chart on

ANTELOPE Seasons vary by unit and are in August and September. Antelope hunting is by permit-tag only. Applications for permits are generally in Janu-

TURKEY. Archery-only non-permit tags are available and the hunts are in late August to mid-September. See regula-

BEAR You can buy a non-permit tag for bear over the counter. Seasons vary by unit and units close when the quota is reached. You are responsible to call and report kills and also call before hunting to make sure the unit is still open. See regulations for details. Seasons are in Aug – Dec. There are also archery-only non-permit tags and those hunts are in late August through September. There is an annual limit to female bear harvests. See the regulations for info.

### **JAVELINA**

Archery-only nonpermit-tag javelina Aug 21 – Dec 31, 2020 1, 2A, 2B,2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 6A north, 7, 9, and 11M. See regulations

Spring bison hunts are in January, April-June, July, and August, depending on unit. See the spring regulations for de-

Mountain Lion Aug 21, 2020 – May 31, 2021 Statewide excluding National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and units 11M, 25M, 26M, and 38M. Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens.

Archery-only mountain lion Aug 21, 2020 - May 31, 2021 Units 11M, 25M, 26M, and 38M. Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spot-

Pursuit-only mountain lion Aug 21, 2020 - May 31, 2021 Statewide excluding National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and units 11M, 25M, 26M, and 38M. Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens.

See the regulations for mountain lion harvest limits. When the harvest limit is reached, that unit will close to hunting. You are responsible for checking online at www.azgfd.gov/lionhunting or call 1-877-438-0447 before hunting to find out if management zones are closed.

### **NONPERMIT TAGS -PURCHASE OVER** THE COUNTER

**Archery Turkey** Youth-only turkey Bear

Mountain lion Javelina

Elk

Archery deer **Bobcat seal (for sale or export)** 

See the regulations for information on these non-permit tags and prices.

# **POPULATION MANAGEMENT HUNTS**

To be put in the hunter pool for population management hunts, fill out the form found in the regulations. You need to resubmit every year.

Report vandalism: 1-800-VANDALS Report poachers: Operation Game Thief 800-352-0700 rewards for information that results in an arrest. ■

# NO AMMO

Continued from page 9

there is a \$20 coupon on their website. Go to www.mantisx.com to see them. You can also buy a combo DryFireMag with a Mantis system for \$199 - \$205 on the DryFireMag website. The \$20 coupon doesn't apply to the combo.

# **Creative Practice**

I have a deck of Dry Fire Training Cards that someone gave me for Christmas years ago and they have a lot of great scenarios and sessions for dry fire practice. They come with a course that includes videos and a bunch of other stuff for \$37. You can check those out at www. dryfiretrainingcards.com. These include drills that use things around the house like sticky notes, cans, etc. Doesn't get

A couple of years ago Margie got me a LaserLyte Training System for my birthday and both of us practice with it. It's a lot of fun. It consists of a Laser Trainer which is sound activated, so when you pull the trigger, it fires a red laser for 1/10 of a second. It will fit in your pistol, but they also have blue plastic training pistols, which is what we have. The blue gun is ideal not only for the LaserLyte training but also for martial arts training when learning how to disarm an opponent. We'd never do that training with a real gun.

You can buy several different types of targets to go along with the Laser Trainers - one that sounds like a can when you hit it, one that sounds like a steel target, and a couple of targets that will score you and time you. We have an older model target that shows you where you hit it, keeping track of several shots.

The LaserLyte is a ton of fun. We ac-



The LaserLyte system can be used with your actual weapon or with a blue gun. The laser is soundactivated.

tually practice in the house, with one of us being a bad guy and holding the target, and the other one shooting. It's a fantastic way to get real life experience on a target that is moving, dodging, and going in and out of doors in a hallway. These are not cheap – a setup will run you at least a couple hundred bucks, but they are fantastic systems. You can check them out at www.laserlyte.com.

# Airsoft

Airsoft guns are another relatively inexpensive way to practice shooting. You can buy an airsoft pistol for around \$130 and they actually feel much like a real gun when you fire them. They shoot round



projectiles and they can be gas powered (CO2), electric, or spring. The projectiles are plastic so you can see (and feel!) where they hit. The pellets are pretty cheap - you can get 5000 of them for \$16 on Amazon. You can actually use splatter targets with Airsoft guns as well. I have never fired an Airsoft gun, but it looks like a lot of fun.

# There's An App For That

There are also a lot of apps available for your phone that can help you with your dryfire practice by using the camera on your phone. Some of them work with the lasers like the ones you get from LaserLyte and you simply download paper targets and fire away. Some of them are

- one is almost \$400 for the app, re-

ceiver, and target. Others range in price from free to \$90 or more. Just search the app store and be sure to read the fine print and the reviews.

# **The Bottom Line**

Bottom line is: if you don't mind reracking the slide every time, you can actually practice dryfire at home absolutely free. It won't feel like actually firing a gun, but it will help you with basics like getting on target, breath control, and squeezing the trigger. But I must admit, those other things like the Mantis and the LaserLyte are a lot of fun and in the long run they can save you a ton of money, because as you know, ammo isn't cheap. So do some research and find a method that fits your budget. And remember check twice to make sure that gun is empty! ■



# Five Tips For Outdoors Enthusiasts When Heading Out



If you're planning to head outdoors for the holiday weekend, check out these tips from the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD). Whether you're new to outdoor recreation or looking for a quick refresher, these tips will help you enjoy your time outside safely and responsibly.

# Always Have A Plan

Check the status of the area you want to visit, including the traffic conditions for your trip, before heading out. Have an alternative in mind in case conditions or crowding become an issue. Think of all the things you'll need to bring and make a checklist. Be sure you have adequate food, water, and clothing appropriate for the area and the weather. Don't forget items such as trash bags, hand sanitizer, and a mask or face covering, just in case. Some basics can be found at https://www.nps.gov/articles/10essentials.htm.

# **Zero Tolerance For Littering**

People enjoy our public and state

lands because of the health and lifestyle benefits of being outside. Please keep in mind that these areas are managed and conserved so that we and future generations can enjoy them. Treat the land with respect. A good practice is to "leave no trace" that you were there. Littering and leaving garbage out is not only unsightly and unhealthy, it can also attract wildlife such as bears or coyotes, heightening the chance of human-wildlife conflicts. In developed campgrounds and recreation sites, trash pickup and restroom facilities may continue to be limited, so if trash receptacles are full, pack everything out you packed in. See seven principles of "Leave No Trace".

# Go With Social Distancing In Mind

Recreate with the people in your household. Avoid crowded areas. Give others plenty of room whether you are on a trail, in a campground, at a boat

TIPS, continued on page 15



explain why putting a Hobie Cat on top of a van was a very reasonable thing to do. As we grew older and more restless on road trips, the family eventually traded up to a Class C RV for more comfort, a real fridge, and a shower for Mom.

# **Huntington Lake**

My dad made a habit of taking us to all the national parks and sights to see along the way during our trips. Our family photos albums are full of exploration, adventure, and stories. You can learn a lot about America as a child staring out the windows of an RV. My strongest memories are from my dad's happy place, Huntington Lake, Calif. Each August, he would use a week of his vacation to take the family to camp at the Deer Creek campground on the lake edge. He went to great lengths to get the same campsite each year where we could sometimes park to the dismay of my brother and me when we had to pitch our tent twice to move to the "good" campsite next to the lake. At the time, I didn't realize how impactful these family trips were on the person who I am today.

**MEMORIES**, continued on page 15

# The Memories Were My Magnet

After 20 years, the writer re-visited a favorite childhood camping area in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

# BY CHRIS CROCKER

Jimmy Buffett might have been the son of a son of a sailor, but I grew up as the son of a sailor with one less degree of separation. My youth was spent trav-





eling all over the western U.S. to Hobie Cat regattas. Our weekends and summers were filled with my younger brother, and I was packing up our sleeping bags and Star Wars figures into the family adventure wagon for a weekend near a lake or ocean for sailboat racing, campfires, and smores

# **Our First Adventure**

Our first family adventure wagon was a 1973 converted Dodge tradesman van. My dad built out the classic benches that

convert to a bed interior while Mom made custom cushions with curtains to match. Dad also made custom racks on the roof to carry one Hobie Cat on top of the van and a second on the trailer behind. My dad thought it was a great idea. I distinctly remember an incident where a stern highway patrol officer in Utah disagreed with him. At the same time, we chuckled from under the van curtains watching the show play out. I am sure Dad could see us giggling in the windows behind the officer. He attempted to keep a straight face and



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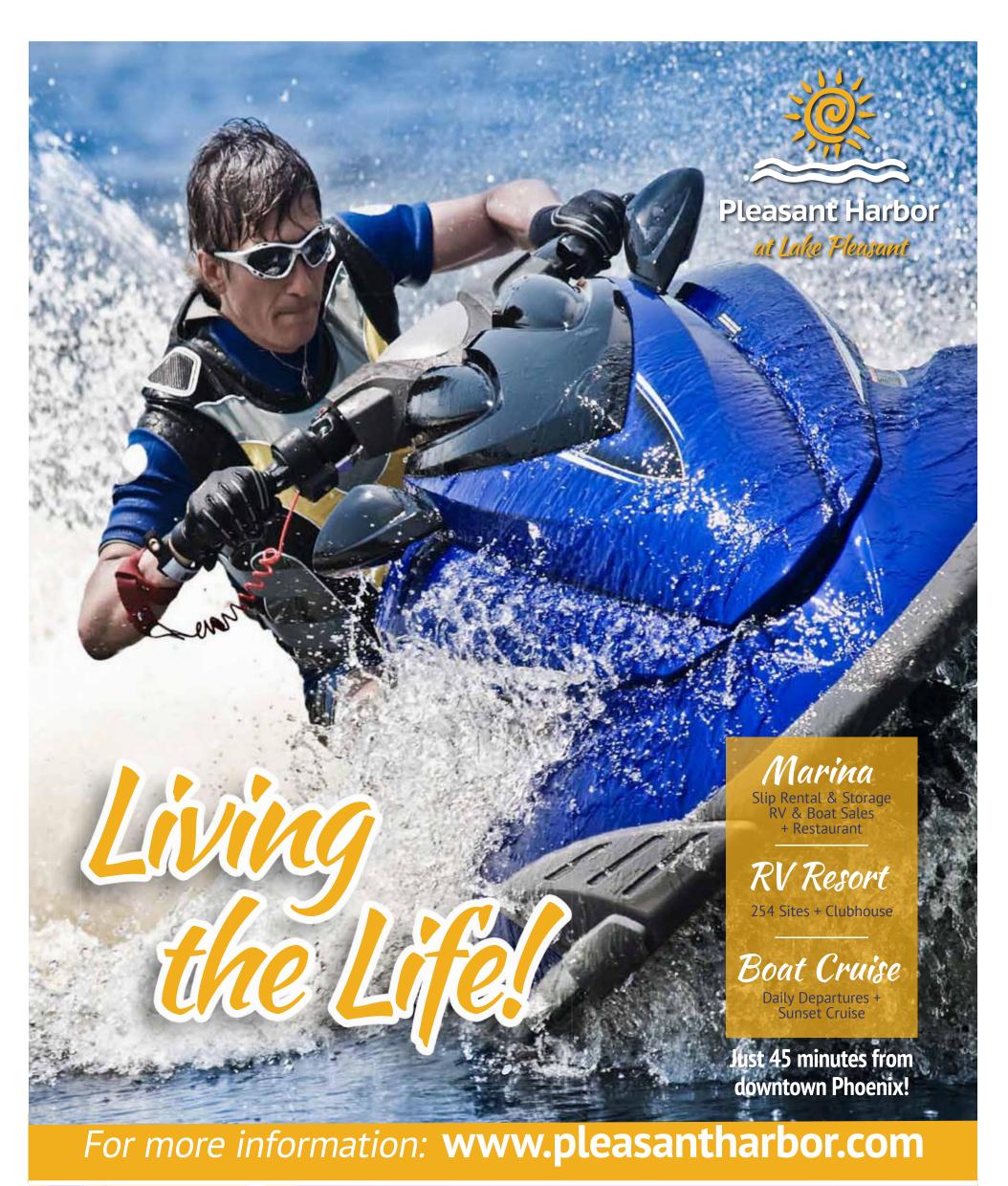
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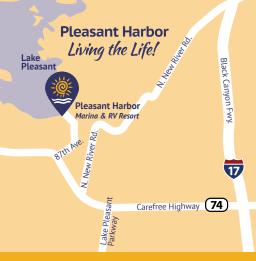
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# **ON THE ROAD**

Continued from page 1

drive through the Blue River and head northwest on Red Hill Road. This part of the road gets a big more rough, with washboards on some parts, but it also has the most magnificent rock formations. We did meet a couple of vehicles coming the other way on this half – and they were trucks towing enormous horse trailers, the really long kind.

Again, there isn't much opportunity to pull off on this road, but it's the drive that counts here. It really is beautiful. It will take you at least a couple of hours if you don't stop.

# Wolves, Elk, Stars

We had gotten delayed by a side trip on the way to the Blue River drive, so by the time we got off Red Hill Road it was getting toward dusk. We found Forest Road 37 just a little north of Red Hill Road on Highway 191 (previously Highway 666!), so we drove down that road and in a fairly short time we found a great little side road to pull off and camp. We had seen a sign saying that this area was part of the Mexican Wolf re-introduction, and in fact we heard the wolves howling a lot that night. We also heard a big elk huff at us — maybe our tent was in his path. Even with the moon, the stars were phenomenal.

### To Sierra Blanca Lake

In the morning we decided to just keep going on FR37, and follow it all the way up to FR249 so we could check out Sierra Blanca Lake, which neither of us had seen before. FR 37 is a great road, suitable for just about any vehicle. It goes through several areas that were badly burned in 2011, but also plenty of gorgeous forest. We saw two herds of mule deer, a flock of turkeys, and many birds and chipmunks along the way.



Blue Crossing: When you drive across the Blue River you are on Red Hill Road and now drive northwest toward Highway 191.

# **Three Forks**

When we got to the intersection of 37 and 249, we turned west on 249 and soon saw Sierra Blanca Lake on our right. This is a beautiful lake and it's right by the road. It has trout, but no launch ramp, and you have to hike in about a quarter of a mile to fish it. Not too far down the road from the Lake is one of the prettiest areas you'll ever see – Three Forks.

This is where Boneyard Creek and the North and East Forks of the Black River come together. There are pull-outs on both sides of the road here, but there was only one car besides us, and we never saw the person in the other car. I bet he was down fishing in the river.

Three Forks is absolutely gorgeous with the streams, forest, and meadow. On the north side of the road where we pulled off, an old road that is closed to vehicles makes a dynamite hiking trail. My map says it's FR58. We walked down that road a little way and it is just amazing. One of

the best parts about this area is the fact that you literally don't see any trash on the ground. I hope that if you go there you will help keep it that way.

On the south side of the road the pullout has a little kiosk with some information about Three Forks, and we met a man who had pulled over to look around. I got to talking to him and mentioned that we had heard wolves the night before, and he told us that he was backpacking the Black River and ran into three of them when he walked around a bend in the trail. He said they were as freaked out as he was, and everyone involved took off.

# A Magnif cent View

Originally we had planned to take 261 north past Big Lake and Crescent Lake to get back to Springerville and head home, but since we had already been on that road before, we decided to take FR285 instead. This road goes north off 249 just before Big Lake, and it passes several small lakes as well. One beautiful spot that you pass fairly early in the drive up 285 is Crosby Crossing, where the East Fork of the Black River crosses the road, or rather, goes under the road. There is a big grassy valley there and with the river going through it and the forest all around, it's a magnificent view.

# **Three Reservoirs**

Later on down the road you pass San Salvador Reservoir on your right, which also was full, and just a bit further on there is a road to the west that will take you to Slade Reservoir and Water Canyon Reservoir. This road is definitely a 4WD road, so if you don't have that, you'll have to walk in to see them. It isn't very far. They are beautiful little lakes, but neither has any fish in it, so hardly anyone goes there. We drove out to them and enjoyed walking around and seeing all the birds.

# A Grand View

Back on 285, soon you'll come to Little George Eagar Reservoir on the left. It's marshy, but it has water, and it's right next to the road. My map app says the full name includes Eagar, but the sign there left it out. The next stop you make will probably be just before you get to Springerville, at a place called Grand View Overlook where you really do get a grand view of both Springerville and the forest, although this area is one of the previously burned parts.

# **Apache Sitgreaves Forest**

From there, Springerville is just down the road and you can catch either 260 or 60 and head toward home. We took two days for this trip – the first day we did an unplanned side trip that turned out awesome, and then did the Blue trip before finding a place to camp on 37. All the rest of 37 and 285 we did in one day, and we were back home in Phoenix by 5:00 pm.

But I admit we are early risers and we are minimal campers so getting on the road by 7:00 am is no problem. If you want a beautiful place to cool off, I highly recommend the Apache Sitgreaves Forest

near Alpine and Springerville. The Tonto National Forest is closed because of CO-VID and fire danger, but not Apache Sitgreaves. The improved campgrounds are all closed, but there are plenty of places to camp in the woods.



Put ground coffee in the basket and suspend it on the cup so the coffee hangs in the hot water from the Jet Boil. It makes delicious coffee, fast. I found both the baskets and the cups at my local Fry's Food Store. With four of them, I can make enough coffee to fill our thermos in a matter of minutes.

# Tips For Reducing The Trash You Have To Pack Out

# Food

Before we leave on a camping trip, I open all the food we are taking with us and re-package it in sturdy, water-proof containers that I bought at the grocery store. You can store these in the cooler and not worry about the contents getting wet as the ice melts, plus when they are empty, they stack easily and compactly, with zero trash. I even put chips and crackers in these containers — they don't get smashed and broken that way.

# Dishes

For dishes, we have plastic camping dishes. Just give them a quick wash and put them back in the camping bag. Same with silverware and coffee cups. We use our Stanley travel mugs so we can take them in the truck with us as well.

When we are just camping for a quick overnight stop I use my Jet-Boil for coffee and to boil water for a Backpackers' Pantry pouch meal. Just boil water, pour it in the pouch, and let it sit for 15-20 minutes. The only trash you'll have is the pouch. I have tea towels and wash cloths in the camping bag, and we wash up ourselves and our dishes with cloth towels. We hang them over the camp chairs to dry overnight and just put them back in the bag to be laundered when we get home.

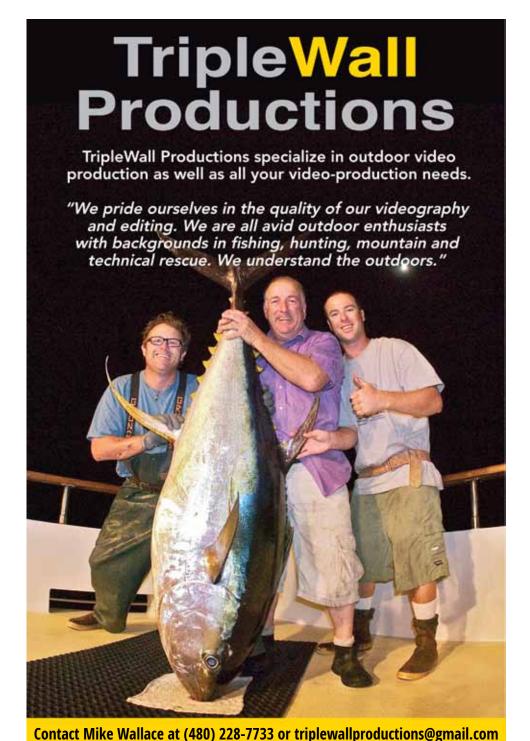
# Drinks

For drinks, get everyone an insulated bottle and re-fill them with ice water from a big jug. We have a Stanley jug with a top that latches on firmly so it doesn't ever spill even if it tips over. We fill it with ice cubes and filtered water before we leave home. Another collapsible water container is just filled from the tap and we use that for washing up

If you want tea or flavored drinks, you can bring a canister of water flavoring along. I love the peach tea. I make coffee with the French press attachment for the JetBoil, or with suspending baskets in metal cups.

# Think Ahead

If you think ahead, you can save yourself hauling home a lot of stinky trash. You would be amazed at how little you will have if you follow these tips. ■



# PORT RV/LAND CRUISING

# TIPS

Continued from page 12

launch, or in a parking lot. Follow the CDC's COVID-19 social distancing guidelines for staying at least six feet away from others. Have a mask, be prepared to wear it (covering your nose and mouth) if you're near others. See the CDC and Arizona Department of Health Services guidelines.

# **MEMORIES**

Continued from page 12

# A Generational Difference

Unlikely Jimmy Buffett, I wasn't able to duck when responsibility came calling. I met "the one," got married, had two beautiful daughters, and began to raise a family of my own. As our children grew, they had a distinctly different view of the world than we did. Places to go were valued more for the strength of their wifi signals and their Instagram-worthy backgrounds than to the natural beauty to be discovered. We did get them out to explore, but not nearly as much as my generation did, and there was a lot of kicking and screaming in the process. I often wonder how much I complained about being forced to visit all the amazing national parks I have been to.

The Great Pause

The great pause we have experienced has brought about much reflection for all of us. The forced calm of the pandemic, coupled with my parents' recent passing, led me to revisit Huntington Lake in my mind. To think of the smell of early evening campfires against the backdrop of the calm of the lake when the wind shuts off in the valley below. To wake up to the mist rising off the lake long before it is safe to get out of a warm sleeping bag. Watching the wind lines fill in over the water as the valley below warms. As the world began to awake from our great pause, I decided it was time to revisit Huntington Lake.

Re-Visiting After 20 Years

It has been nearly 20 years since my last visit. My wife and kids were consumed with work, college exam prep, and the strength of their wifi signals, so I resolved to just hop in my adventure wagon and go. I packed up my converted Sprinter Van, set the navigation to guide me from San Diego to the Sierra Nevada mountains, and set the laser-guided cruise control to 70. Passing through the Central Valley heat was easy enough as a long quiet drive can be useful for the soul. As I entered the foothills and instantly began that sensation that I had been here before as the rolling hills became larger and larger near the base of the mountain. As a child, I remember watching the roadside in anticipation of the elevation mark-

# **Find Out The Latest** Fire Information

Find out what fire restrictions are in place or what areas might be closed due to wildfires or COVID-19 concerns. Land management agencies such as the Forest Service, BLM and National Park Service have websites and social media that offer information on local conditions. (The Tonto National Forest announced temporary closures taking effect July 2). Call the appropriate jurisdiction if you have questions. To find current information on fire restrictions and closures in Arizona, visit https://firerestrictions.us/az/. To find current information on wildfires in Arizona, visit https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/.

# **Don't Drive Cross Country**

Off-highway vehicle enthusiasts are reminded to please stay on designated roads and trails. Driving cross country can cause lasting habitat damage that leaves the land impaired for your kids, grandkids and future generations. The damage left

by careless cross country travel negatively impacts the wildlife you are out there to enjoy, and also detracts from the beauty of the landscape. See more tips on respon-

More information on recreating safely and responsibly can be found at —

- Responsible Recreation website
- #ResponsibleRecreation video challenge
- Arizona Office of Tourism
- National Park Service

ers during the climb up the hill, 6000 feet, 7000 feet, and then up and over the Tamarack pass at 7,585 feet. The only thing that was different about the climb this time was the lack of need to watch the engine's temperature gauge with the modern rig making easy work of the climb.

### The Lake: A Dear Old Friend

As I slid back down the pass, the lake quickly came into view like a dear old friend coming through the front door of your house. I beelined for the launch ramp dock just in time to catch the sun going down over the end of the lake. I was back. and it looked as I remembered it from my childhood. The forest service had told everyone the campgrounds would be open again, but they were still locked up, and someone forgot to mention to the locals about the change in plans. Typical. As it was now time to call an audible on my plans for the evening, I did what seemed reasonable. I sought out the nearest bartender to seek directions from the locals.

# **Cedar Ridge Resort**

Although I had visited Huntington Lake probably 20 times before, I never noticed the privately-owned resort and campground called Cedar Ridge Resort that the bartender recommended. This simple omission is a reminder that even the places we visited so often before hold new discoveries to uncover. The Cedar Creek Resort is a lakeside campground that has been in constant operation since

They have a mix of full hookup RV sites, tent sites, and small wooden cabins that date back to before the Great War sent so many off to fight for freedom. The current manager at Cedar Crest was happy to take me in without a reservation, but first, there were stories to be told and songs to be sung. I needed to quickly get out of city mode and "re-acclimate".

# **Strings And Stories**

It turns out that most days, Donnie, the manger, can be found around happy-hour playing his six-string on the outside patio. He plays with the understated finesse of former pro who might be one degree of separation from your favorite countrywestern star. Or maybe it's because he spent the '70s in fast airplanes flying just above the tree line. Either way, Donnie has fantastic stories to match his cowboy pilot persona. There is the one where he lost his pilot's license for illegally landing a seaplane on Huntington Lake "just because." Or there is the one about the propeller that spent a decade underwater attached to a crashed navy seaplane before they liberated it from its watery grave. Stories so far from reality, they can't be believed until you just happen to glance at the walls in the bar and spot the mangled propeller and a picture of the seaplane it came from.

# Thanking My Dad

I spent several days re-exploring my childhood memories at the lake and creating new ones from those beautiful accidents when a plan goes to crap. I made sure to visit my dad's favorite spot on the lakeside. I made peace with his passing, thanked him for all the good memories, and importantly, thanked him for teaching me to explore.

### **Back Home**

With my heart and phone camera full of memories, I made my way back down the mountains to the sea. At home, an exciting thing happened. Sharing the pictures and videos of my adventure made my daughters wish they had come along. Discovering that there were internet connections where they could post pictures of waterfalls to their friends got them curious enough to pull out a map and start looking up all the cool places we could explore.

As I write this article, we are planning our next trip, and they are picking the destinations. We may be picking the destinations by how Instagram-worthy the photos might be and how strong the internet signal is. Still, I'm okay with that as long as we are getting out from behind the devices to see this beautiful country of ours.

### **Make Stories Of Their Own**

If this story inspires you to go hear some of Donnie's tall tales, then tell him I say hello. Then make some plans of your own to revisit a place special to you and pass on the stories to kids or grandkids. They don't know what they are missing, and it's up to you to get them curious to get out and make stories of their own.

More at https://www.westernoutdoortimes.com/story/2020/07/01/boating/huntington-lake-california/4248.html. ■





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# VFW Auxiliary Offers Four Scholarships

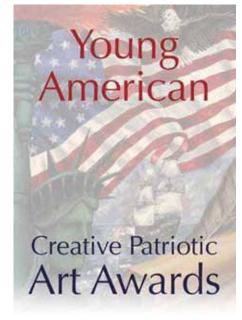
# Do you know of someone who might be interested?

We encourage students to express their Americanism and Patriotism thoughts through our scholarships programs. By participating in our scholarship programs, they show support for our country and are able to earn money for their further education.

# **Continuing Education**

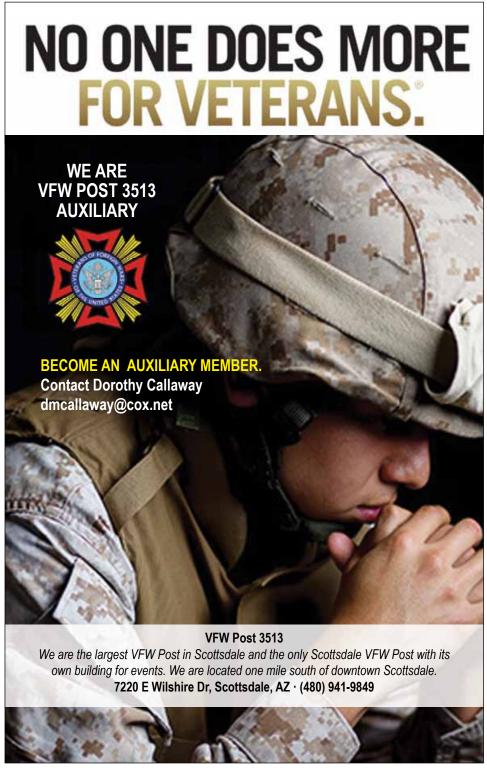
The applications for this scholarship are due to National by February 15, 2021. It is only open to any auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least one year, their spouse son or daughter) with a financial need. The applicant must be at least 18 years of age. The application requires an essay of 300 words or less included with it and must be mailed to —

- Programs Administrator, VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, 406 W.
   34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO
   64111
  - Or email it to info@vfwauxiliary.org



At each of the four Conferences an award of \$1,000 awarded to an applicant. Applications are available from Department Scholarships Chairman or at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.







# Young American Creative Patriotic Art

This is open to all students in grades 9-12, including home schooled students. The student cannot be older than 18 years old at time of the entry and must be a U.S. citizen or a U.S. National.

This contest now accepts two dimensional and three-dimensional art. Rules are as follows:

### Two-dimensional art —

Must be on canvas or paper.

- May use watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker or other media
  - Do not frame two dimensional pieces.
- Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
  - Other entries must be matted in white.
- Do not use color mats. Reinforce the back with heavy paper.
- Mounted and floating mats may also be used
- The art should be no smaller than 8" x 10" but no larger than 18" x 24", not including the mat.

### Three-dimensional art —

- Can be paper, papier-mache, pottery, clay, metal work, etc.
- Pieces should be no smaller than 8" in any direction and no larger than 24"
- Art cannot be more than 5 pounds in weight.
- Digital art, photography and jewelry will not be accepted.

# Deadlines

Entries need to be received by –

- The local auxiliary March 31
- Department April 15
- National Headquarters May 5

# National Scholarship Awards

First place - \$15,000 Second place - \$7,500 Third place - \$3,500 Fourth place - \$1,500 Fifth through Eighth place - \$500



# **Voice of Democracy**

This scholarship is for all students in grades 9-12, including home schooled students. The student must be a resident of the state in which the entry is entered. One department winner goes onto the VFW National Headquarters.

The 2020-2021 Theme is "Is This The Country The Founders Envisioned?"

# Deadlines

- Local VFW Post Midnight October 31st
- Post Judging completed and sent to District – November 15
- Department Judging completed January 10
- Department Winner to VFW National Headquarters January 15

**VFW Department Awards:** The Department Awards range from \$300 to \$2500.

### National Awards

- First place \$30,000 scholarship
- Second place \$16,000 scholarship
- Third place \$10,000 scholarship
- Fourth through 36th place \$7,000 to \$1,500 scholarship
- 37th through 54th place \$1,000 scholarship

### Judging is based on —

- Originality 30 points
- Content 35 points
- Delivery 35 points

All department winners will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., where their essays will be judged in the final competition.

The application can be found at www. vfw.org/community/youth-and-education or www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships. Applications will also be available at our Council of Administration meetings and at Convention.

# Patriot's Pen

This scholarship is for students in grades 6-8, including home schooled students. Students must be a resident of the state in which the entry is entered. One Depart-

ment winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

The 2020-2021 Theme is "What Is Patriotism To Me?"

# Deadlines:

Entries to be received by —

- Local VFW Post Midnight October 31st
- Post Judging completed and sent to District November 15
- Department Judging completed January 10
- Department Winner to VFW National Headquarters January 15

# VFW Department Awards:

- First place \$1,000
- Second place \$500
- Third place \$250
- National Awards:First place \$5,000
- Second place \$4,000
- Second place \$4,00
- Third place \$3,500
- $\bullet$  Fourth through 54th place \$2,750 to \$500

# Judging is based on —

- Knowledge of the Theme 30 points
- Theme Development 35 points
- Clarity of ideas 35 points

The application can be found at www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education or www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships. Applications will also be available at our Council of Administration meetings and at Convention.

# **Groups To Contact**

There are several organizations where students can be contacted to discuss these scholarships such as —

- Schools and JROTC Units.
- Church and/or youth groups.
- Youth-focused associations.
- Youth sports teams.
- Financial Aid offices.
- Student veteran centers.

For more information locally, email editor@azbw.com. and put "VFW Auxiliary Scholarships" in the subject line.

iliary Scholarships" in the subject line

# **ECO Contributes \$35,000 To Range Rider Program**

The goal is to reduce Mexican wolf depredations on livestock.

The Eastern Arizona Counties Organization (ECO) has made a contribution of \$35,000 to support the Range Rider Program managed by the Interagency Field Team (IFT) of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.

Created in 1993, the ECO includes Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee and Navajo counties. The ECO counties have developed a leading role in natural resources and public lands management issues in eastern Arizona, including forest and watershed restoration, travel management and public land access, threatened and endangered species management, rural economic development, and recreation issues.

"The Arizona Game and Fish Department and its conservation partners are grateful to the ECO for their support of the Range Rider Program," said Jim deVos, AZGFD assistant director for wildlife management. "One of the key activities the department is engaged in is reducing depredations on livestock in the wolf recovery area. This monetary contribution will go a long way toward increasing staff availability to livestock producers and the IFT to haze wolves from areas with active depredation activities."

A range rider is a person who spends time in areas where wolves and cattle are in proximity and chases wolves from the area. It is a way of proactively deterring conflict between wolves and livestock.



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The range rider will work in much of eastern Arizona and will be directed to areas where high levels of depredations are occurring.

"ECO is pleased to provide this funding to AZGFD and the IFT," said Jason Whiting, ECO chair. "Over the past two years, the number of depredations has increased as the wolf population increased, and this is impacting the region's ranchers. Wolf depredations usually peak in early summer and continue into the fall, so this funding for the Range Rider Program will be put on the ground now."

Richard Lunt, ECO vice chair, has been actively involved in wolf depredation prevention management. "Finding tools to reduce wolf impacts is important, and I am hopeful that the Range Rider Program proves to be a mechanism that works for a wolf recovery strategy that is compatible with livestock stability," he said

AZGFD's deVos notes that Mexican wolf recovery has seen growth over the last decade, with the 2019 wolf count being 163, nearly a 24 percent increase from the prior year.

# **AWARDS**

Continued from page 1

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission will select the 2020 Commission Award recipients at its Sept. 25-26, 2020 meeting. The awards will be presented at the annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021, at the Pointe Hilton Tapatio Cliffs Resort, 11111 N. 7th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

### **2020 Award Categories**

Award Of Excellence: Any individual, group, organization, club, foundation, or agency that has excelled in efforts to benefit wildlife, wildlife habitats, or programs of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Youth Conservationist Of The Year: Any individual, 18 years of age or younger, who has excelled in efforts to benefit wildlife and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Media Of The Year: Any media source (radio, television, magazine, newsletter, or periodical) that has published articles or materials beneficial to public interest about wildlife or wildlife-related topics and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Conservation Organization Of The Year: Any organization, group, foundation, or agency that has excelled in efforts to enhance the welfare of wildlife, wildlife-related recreation, and the mission of the Game and Fish Department.

Conservationist Of The Year: Any individual, not associated with a professional agency, which has excelled in efforts to enhance, conserve, and manage wildlife or their habitats.

Natural Resource Professional Of The Year: Any individual who through a professional agency affiliation has excelled in efforts to enhance, conserve, and manage wildlife or their habitats.

**Volunteer Of The Year:** Any individual who, as a registered volunteer with the Department, has excelled in efforts to support and benefit the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Educator Of The Year: Any individual whose educational activities have advanced and supported the welfare of wildlife, wildlife-related recreation, or the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Mentor Of The Year: Any individual who has acted in the role of a mentor and whose efforts have resulted in the promotion and support of future wildlife conservation efforts and the development of future wildlife conservation leaders in Arizona.

Advocate Of The Year (two nominations): Any individual who has engaged in political advocacy for the betterment of wildlife conservation and in the support of the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Business Partner Of The Year: Any business partner that actively promotes Game and Fish through innovative approaches, community involvement and a customer service focus that benefits the citizens of Arizona and supports the Game and Fish's mission of wildlife conservation.

Buck Appleby Hunter Education Instructor Of The Year: Any hunter education instructor who actively participates in hunter-education activities and demonstrates the highest level of customer service, dedication and professionalism during these activities. Award category recently approved by the AZGFD Commission in honor of Buck Appleby, a long time hunter-education instructor who passed away in 2010. ■





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www.valuecardalliance.com

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# **BOILS**

Continued from page 11

sun rose above the horizon. Going early improves the chances of finding boils and assures that the ride through the main channel will be calm. We scanned for surface action all the way uplake but did not see the first boil until rounding Gregory Butte and heading uplake toward Rock Creek. Small boils were apparent in front of Friendship Cove and all the way to Rock Creek.

We saw groups of about 10 small stripers breaking the surface. We raced to the edge of the boils, stopped in casting distance, immediately cast our surface lures over the school and then worked the lure back over the feeding fish. These small boils lasted for less than a minute. We caught about one fish from each little boil. When they went down, we scanned the surface, saw the next boil and raced over to repeat the process. Boil fishing is a high adrenaline activity. It is my favorite fishing technique.

# **Stay Alert**

Boils can blow up any place at any time, so stay alert. When the morning boils quit we searched for more as far uplake as Dangling Rope without success. We did catch a few smallmouth in 20 feet of water on plastic grubs while waiting for another boil to surface. Finally, we heading back down lake at about 9 a.m., only to find our best boil of the day in the channel between Buoy 25 and Gregory Butte. Larger stripers hold in deeper water and come up quickly, boil and dive back down to get into cooler water.

These fish were 2 to 3 ponds while the early morning fish were 1-2 pounds. We caught 3 big fish out of the late boil. Our total catch for the morning was 20 stripers and a feeling of satisfaction. Boils are back!

Boils are blasting lakewide. Our sampling crew made a trip from Wahweap to Good Hope Bay. They reported each main channel boil to me by cell phone. Boils occurred randomly throughout the day at the Mouth of Rainbow Bridge Canyon, San Juan about 1 mile from the mouth, and Bull-

frog Bay. Some anglers were kind enough to report their boil sightings from Llewellyn Canyon to the mouth of the Escalante. We have video evidence of stripers boiling in Good Hope Bay all the way to Trachyte Canyon. It is now boil time at Lake Powell. Boils will last through August and perhaps through September in certain canyons where shad are plentiful.

### Fishing Great At Powell

Bait fishing still works for larger stripers that must hold in deeper cool water. Bait fishing is successful lakewide. Smallmouth bass fishing is steady, not as fast as it was a month ago but still dependable. Catfishing is surprisingly successful. Some catfish are still spawning, and are very aggressive in 10-20 feet of water at night. Many are using a green light and anchovy bait to catch stripers at night.

Lake Powell is busy, weather is hot, but fishing is still great using the right techniques at the right place and time.

At press time, lake elevation was 3607 and water temperature was 78-85F. ■



# **AZGFD Offers Reward In Poaching Of Mule Deer Doe, Unborn Fawns**



# The crime was committed in Game Management Unit 39.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) is seeking information about the recent poaching of a mule deer doe in Game Management Unit 39 in the Buckeye Hills south of Buckeye. The doe was pregnant with two fawns.

The deer and fawn carcasses were discarded along a dirt road that connects Gillespie Dam to Robbins Butte Game Road in the southwestern portion of the Buckeye Hills, south of the Powers Butte Wildlife Area.

It is believed the incident took place in the overnight hours of July 18.

"The individuals involved killed not only one deer, but also two fawns," said Ryan Randall, wildlife manager. 'We rely heavily on the assistance of the public in coming forward with information, and we are hopeful that a tip could lead us to those responsible for this heinous criminal act. This is a horrible waste of the state's most precious resource, its wildlife."

Anyone with information about this case can call the AZGFD's Operation Game Thief hotline at (800) 352-0700 and refer to case #20-002228.

Callers can remain anonymous upon request and may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,500 for information that leads to an arrest in this case through the Operation Game Thief program.

# **EXPO**

Continued from page 1

and exciting on the boating, offroading and RVing fronts just in time for fall and winter adventures — and it can't happen

This year, in addition to the more than 140 exhibitors, the Sand-Water-RV Expo has two new fun and entertaining attractions; the Havasu Fall Cornhole Championships and the 'Coolest Off-road Whip' Show & Shine, both on Saturday, Nov.

# **Cornhole Championships**

The Cornhole Championships are open to everyone. It's a doubles (twoperson teams) tournament, no age limit. Pre-registration is strongly recommended which is available online at the Expo https://www.sandandwaterexpo.com or by calling or emailing the tournament director, Bob Crum at 303-915-0948, bobjean2960@msn.com. If you pre-register you will receive complimentary admission to the Expo.

The tournament will begin at 10 a.m.



on Saturday on the Windsor 4 greenbelt with awards/cash pay-outs scheduled for approximately 3:30pm. One hundred percent of entry fees collected will be split/paid to the top three teams. Tournament entry fee is \$40.00 per team (two

### **Show And Shine**

If you're in to extreme motorsports, especially offroading, you'll not want to miss the 'Coolest Off-Road Whip' Show & Shine contest featuring sixty of the most exotic trucks, 4 x 4s, Jeeps, UTVs, sand cars and dune buggies in the southwest. The Show & Shine begins at 9:00am on Saturday. Winners will be chosen by a people's choice - all Expo

guests are encouraged to vote for their favorite vehicles. Those accumulating the most 'people's choice'votes by the end of the day will be crowned the win-

### **Know Before You Go**

The Sand-Water-RV Expo is open to the public from 11:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20 and on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adult admission is only \$6.00, children 6 and under are free and on-site parking is also free. Discount admission coupons are available at local Havasu retail stores and in the Todays News Herald and Whitesheet publications.

Food, beverage and beer garden concessions are on-site, dogs okay on leash. The Lake Havasu State Park, Windsor4 venue is located at 171 London Bridge Road approximately one-half mile north of the London Bridge between the Hampton Inn and Motel 6.

# **Exhibitor Space**

Expo exhibitor space applications are now being accepted. For additional information and the latest updates regarding Expo exhibitors, special attractions/ entertainment, and vendor opportunities, please visit https://www.sandandwaterexpo.comor email info@sandandwaterexpo.com.

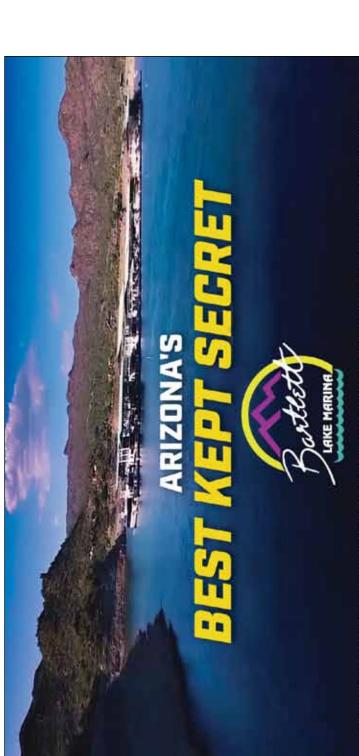


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irtlett Lake in the heart of the Tonto National Forest, surroundings makes it a wonderful location jettable Arizona day on the water. Located just 55 minutes from Tempe Town Lake on beautiful Ba Bartlett Lake Marina's family atmosphere and beautiful for your friends and family to enjoy an unforg



# ACRES OF FUN

sters of the Verde River, Indians of this valley spoke descriptively in eir legends of the river's "sweet waters" iortunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's ert terrain, While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, ors may see mule deer bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many genous desert plants, including the majestic saguard, mesquite

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. Bartlett Lake Marina we are ideally located 17 miles northeast of Carefree and only one hour









PONTOON BOAT



PARTY YACHT

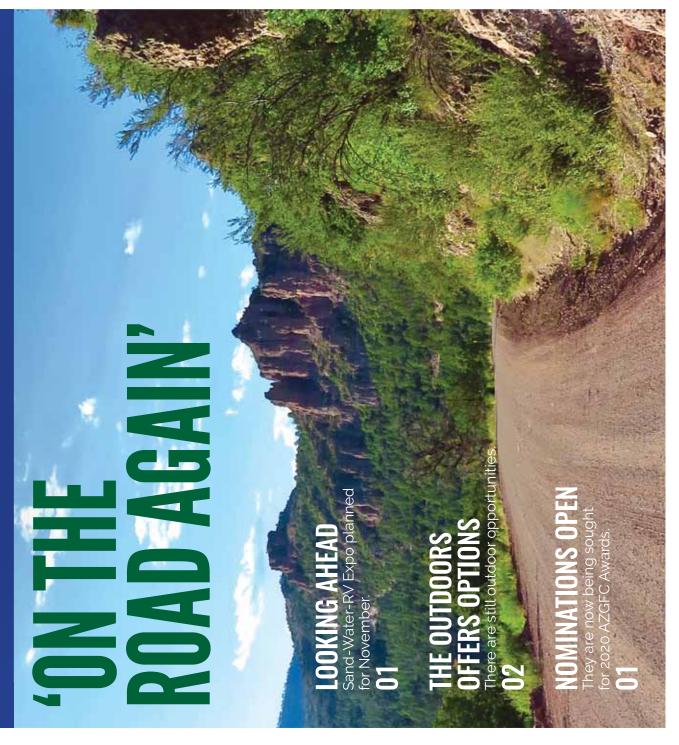
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