



# Western Outdoor Times

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

*A Springtime Favorite*

# Hiking The High Country

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Cruising**

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## The Spring Possibilities Are Endless!

### FLAGSTAFF IN SPRING

## It's A Great Time To Hike

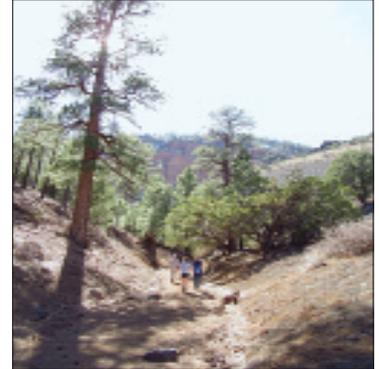
BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Until this past year, our visits to Flagstaff have always been during the summer. Since they were old enough to walk, we've been taking our granddaughters there to hike every summer, and we spend about a week exploring trails, caves, and everything the gorgeous area around Flagstaff has to offer. But now one of our granddaughters is a student at Northern Arizona University, so we go up to visit her and have gotten to experience Flagstaff during the fall and the spring. What a difference!

See **FLAGSTAFF**, Page 14



**HER FAVORITE** – The Anderson's granddaughter Trinity, who has been on hundreds of Arizona hikes, said this one might just be her favorite ever.



**TRAIL'S END** – Eventually, the trail ends up following a normally dry streambed.



### ON THE COVER

## Hike The High Country

Most Arizonans plus many others from out-of-state know and love the Flagstaff area. In fact, for Valley of the Sun residents, it offers a popular cool escape from the searing summer temperatures of the southern part of the state. Some Flag visitors camp, others fish and many just enjoy the ambiance of this lovely town in the "high country". As the cover photo indicates, there is another very popular activity in the Flagstaff area: hiking. Our Outdoors Editor Margie Anderson explains one of her favorite destinations as a hiker: Red Mountain Trail with its hoodoos, slot canyons, and spectacular views. Please join her on the trail.

### DESTINATION: 'DAY AT THE DOCKS'

## Visit San Diego's Showcase Of Sportfishing

From San Diego Sportfishing Council

### At A Glance

This is the 37th year the San Diego Sportfishing Council has sponsored its spe-

cial showcase of San Diego sportfishing. We hope you'll take this opportunity to join us and discover a bit more of what the Port of San Diego holds for you.

Come join in the fun and help us cel-

brate the season's official start! There's plenty more to see and do at The Port Of San Diego's Day At The Docks 2016. We hope to see you there on April 17th and often through the Year 2016 season.

Now let's get down to what's happening. It runs Sunday April 17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is absolutely free! You'll find plenty to see and do while you visit the San Diego Sportfishing Landings in Point Loma. Here are some of the highlights:

### Fishing Seminars

For the angler who wants to pick up a few tips for that next fishing trip, don't forget to look for the seminar schedule. You'll learn

See **DAY AT THE DOCKS**, Page 14



## It's Time For The Lake Havasu Boat Show

### The 25th annual Lake Havasu Boat Show celebrates its silver anniversary.

The 25th Annual Lake Havasu Boat Show, presented by Frontier Communications and Mohave State Bank, is Arizona and Nevada's largest boat show. This year, the Lake Havasu Boat Show opens on Friday, April 8 and runs through Sunday, April 10 at Lake Havasu State Park, Windsor 4 on London Bridge Road.

### More Boats Than Ever

"This will be a very special boat show since it's our 25th annual," said boat show organizer Bob Brown. "We'll have more boats and exhibitors than ever before plus plenty of great added attractions and some new surprises. Regardless of what kind of boat you're looking for, it will be at the Havasu show. Pontoon boat selection will be espe-

cially spectacular as will the always-popular, high-performance sportboats. In fact, there will more high-performance boat brands on display at Havasu than at any other boat show west of Miami."

### Chili, Salsa Contest Helps Local Club

But more exhibitors and new boat models aren't the only things that Lake Havasu Boat Show attendees have to look forward to on April 8-10. The boat show will host the 4th Annual Lake Havasu International Chili Society chili cook-off competition sponsored by Havasu Regional Medical Center on Saturday open to all chefs.

The chili and salsa contest, with proceeds

See **BOAT SHOW**, Page 19



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### Boating

#### Fires Often Start Here

If every boater paid attention to six things, over a third of all fires aboard boats would be prevented/Page 4



### Land Cruising

#### Here's A Start For New Campers

The Arizona Family Campout Program will provide some equipment and introduce families to the new adventure of camping/Page 11





We especially thank those who volunteer at the Phoenix Zoo (and others), teaching us, nurturing otherwise endangered species, and overall, caring deeply about the other beings who share our planet.

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## DOWNSTREAM: April 2016 Events Calendar

### BOATING

**27-30 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** 18th Annual Desert Storm Poker Run & Shootout — 602-578-5975 or <http://www.golakehavasus.com/events/details/1786>, [www.LakeRacer.com](http://www.LakeRacer.com)

**15-17 PARKER:** Lucas Oil Drag Boat Racing — BlueWater Resort & Casino, the fastest boats on water, <http://www.parkeraz.org>

**9 PEORIA:** Paddle Fest 2016 — Lake Pleasant Regional Park, try different forms of paddle craft from paddle craft, like kayaks, canoes, stand up paddle boards, rafts, and peddle craft, will be available to try out in Fireman's Cove, you can bring your own paddle craft too, free to use demo water craft (in designated cove), and live music, \$6/vehicle, 8 am – 5 pm, [https://www.maricopa.gov/parks/lake\\_pleasant/EventsDetailPublishers.aspx?EventID=23816](https://www.maricopa.gov/parks/lake_pleasant/EventsDetailPublishers.aspx?EventID=23816)

**8-10 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** Havasu Marine Association's 25th Annual Boat Show — Lake Havasu State Park, Lot 4, largest boat show in Arizona and Nevada; <http://golakehavasus.com/events/details/72/>

**8-10 LAKE HAVASU CITY:** Jettibee Lake Havasu Open of Watercross Gary Hart Memorial — 310-318-4012 or <http://www.golakehavasus.com/events/details/>

**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



### In Memory

We send our condolences to the family and friends of Dorothy "Dot" Cornell, Feb. 15, 1932–March 4, 2016. The family welcomes donations to the Phoenix Art Museum in her memory.

Online Training button (towards the bottom of the page).

### CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**15-17 PRESCOTT:** Becoming an Outdoors Woman — Camp Friendly Pines, 480-644-0077 or <http://www.azwildlife.org>

**8 TUCSON:** Sabino Canyon Sunset Run — Sabino Canyon, 7.4 miles from the Visitors Center, 5:45 pm, 520-326-9383 or <http://www.aeroadrunners.org>

**8 PHOENIX:** Music in the Garden Spring Concert Series — Desert Botanical Garden, featuring, advance purchase recommended, \$20-25, additional dinner is also available, doors open at 5:30 pm, concert at 7 pm, must be age 21+, 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org/music>

**7-10 PHOENIX:** Phoenix Bikefest — Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino Festival Park, emerge yourself in the world of motorcycles, enjoy an afternoon of full throttle entertainment with food and drink vendors, motorcycle test rides, Bike Shows and live music, riders, spectators and enthusiasts explore the world of motorcycles, clothing, gear design and more, experience the roaring inaugural spectacle of food, music and good times, free, <http://www.Phoenixbikefest.com>

**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.)

### EXPOS/SHOWS

**2-3 PHOENIX:** Arizona Game & Fish Department Outdoor Expo — Ben Avery Shooting Facility, Sat 9 am – 5 pm, Sun 9 am – 4 pm, 602-942-3000 or <http://www.azgfd.gov/expo>

### FISHING

**LAKE HAVASU CITY:** 36th Annual New Horizons Pro-Am Bass Tournament — Lake Havasu State Park, Lot 2, (928) 846-1052 or [www.golakehavasus.com/events/details](http://www.golakehavasus.com/events/details)

### SHOOTING SPORTS/ARCHERY

**7-11 PHOENIX:** 2016 AAE Arizona Cup — Ben Avery Shoot Facility, a world ranking and a US Archery Team qualifier, more than 300 archers from around the world compete, include Olympians and world champions as well as local archers including youth, free, <http://www.arizonacup.com/2016/>

### WATERSPORTS

**Diving**  
**SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS:** Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake Open Water Certification Dives, San Carlos, Mexico; Lake Pleasant, and more; Saguaro can plan your diving vacation for small groups or just one per-

son. How about Grand Cayman, Curacao, Cozumel, Belize, Roatan, Bonaire, Turks & Caicos Contact Saguaro Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or [sales@saguarosports.com](mailto:sales@saguarosports.com)

### Frozen

**14-17 SCOTTSDALE:** 12th Annual Desert Ice Bonspiel — Alltel Ice Den, 24 curling teams from Canada and the U.S. will participate in the tournament, <http://www.coyotescurling.com> or <http://www.deserticebonspiel.com/>

### Swimming

**28 TEMPE:** Ironcare Splash & Dash + Swim Only – Race 2 – Tempe Town Lake, an evening of fun and racing, a unique event with a relaxed atmosphere that is suitable for all levels of athlete, for those fine tuning for that big race or getting your feet wet at your first multisport event, splash 750m or 1500m/dash 5km | swim only 750m or 1500m, 6 pm, <http://www.4peaksracing.com/>

**17 SCOTTSDALE:** 11th Annual Southwest Valley Family Regional YMCA Olympic & Sprint Adult & Youth Triathlon/Duathlon — Bartlett Lake Rattlesnake Cove, **Adult Olympic Tri: 1600 m swim, 24 mi bike, 6 mi run (swim in a heated pool); Adult Olympic Tri: 1500 m swim, 24.8 mi bike, 6.2 mi run; Adult Sprint Tri: 400 m swim, 12.8 mi bike; 2.2 mi run, Adult Sprint PLUS: 1000 m. swim, 12.8 mi bike, 4 mi Run Adult Sprint Duathlon: 100 yard run, 12.8 mi. bike, 2.2 mi. run Adult Olympic Relay teams = same distances as Olympic, ranked the toughest, most beautiful triathlon in AZ, <http://www.trifamilyracing.com/>**

**10 TEMPE:** Marquee Triathlon — Tempe Beach Park, kicks off Southwest triathlon season, with sprint and international distance events, something for everyone from first-time triathlete to the seasoned pro, and featuring a start area and transitions located near the Tempe Center for the Arts in beautiful Tempe Beach Park, International Course: **1.5-kilometer swim** | 45-kilometer bike | 10-kilometer run, Sprint Course: **.75-kilometer swim** | 22.5-kilometer bike | 5-kilometer run, <http://www.redrockco.com>

**9 LITCHFIELD PARK:** 9th Annual Kiwanis Sprint in the Park Triathlon — Litchfield Park Recreation Center, includes a **300 yard swim**, 8.4 mile bike and a 2 mile run, course is a flat, palm tree lined, street course, age groups include under 25; 25-35; 36-45; and 46 and older, T-shirts, medals to the top three finishers in each age group for males and females, 801-791-3929 or <http://www.litchfield-park.org>

**3 GOODYEAR:** 9th Annual Southwest Valley Regional YMCA Youth, Adult, & Relay Sprint Triathlon/Duathlon — Goodyear YMCA, adult **OLYMPIC Tri: 1500m swim, 24 mi bike, 6 mi run; Adult SPRINT Tri: 400m swim, 12 mi bike, 3 mi run; Adult Sprint DU: 1/2 mi run, 12 mi bike, 3 mi Run; Youth Tri: 100m swim, 4 mi B; 1/2 mi Run; adult 2 or 3 person Olympic distance relay teams, 6 am, <http://www.trifamilyracing.com>**

### WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

**30-5/6 PORTAL:** Spring Migration Bird Tours — Southwestern Research Station, concentrates on spring migration and endemic birds of the Sky Islands, you may see more passage migrants such as Hermit Warbler, Townsend's Warbler and Cassin's Vireo, 520-558-2396 or <http://research.>



### EARTH DAY April 22

[amnh.org/swrs/visitor/package-tours](http://amnh.org/swrs/visitor/package-tours)

**23 PHOENIX:** PLANET Celebration — Earth Day – Desert Botanical Garden, focuses on the unique plant collection and guests explore all of the trails and the Spring Butterfly Exhibit as well as behind-the-scenes tours, photo ops and learn from plant experts and docents, Valley conservation organizations cover sustainability topics through hands-on activities and presentations and Brian Foley Dynamic Theatre presents a performance of colors and textures, 10 am – 2 pm, <http://dbg.org>

**21-24 COTTONWOOD:** 16th Annual Verde Valley Birding & Nature Festival - Dead Horse Ranch State Park, field trips, local tours, workshops & seminars, educational activities for kids, exhibits, key-note speaker, entertainment, \$, 928-282-2202 or <http://www.BirdyVerde.org>

**16-22 PORTAL:** Spring Migration Bird Tours —Southwestern Research Station, concentrates on spring migration and endemic birds of the Sky Islands, you may see more passage migrants such as Hermit Warbler, Townsend's Warbler and Cassin's Vireo, 520-558-2396 or <http://research.amnh.org/swrs/visitor/package-tours>

**10 SCOTTSDALE:** Dinner with Wolves – Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center, benefits Defenders of Wildlife and Arizona's Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center, guests take guided tours of Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center and see the resident Mexican gray wolves, followed by a silent auction, 4 pm, \$250, <http://www.dinnerwithwolves.com>

**7-10 NOGALES:** Santa Cruz Nature & Heritage Festival 2016 — Quality Hotel Americana, cross border birding, cultural and history tours, tours throughout Santa Cruz Country, all birding tours include a professional birding guide or historian, welcome reception on 4/8, includes an overnight visit to a ranch in Mexico for birding and riding at Rancho Cocospera on the 7th, 520-988-5425 or <http://www.natureandheritage.org>

**1-5/6 PORTAL:** Spring Migration Bird Tours — Southwestern Research Station, concentrates on spring migration and endemic birds of the Sky Islands, you may see more passage migrants such as Hermit Warbler, Townsend's Warbler and Cassin's Vireo, 520-558-2396 or <http://research.amnh.org/swrs/visitor/package-tours>

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

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[azbw.com/AZBW-WOT-Media-Kit\\_2016.php](http://azbw.com/AZBW-WOT-Media-Kit_2016.php)



# 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).

### April 2016

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	April 9 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	April 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 Carefree Hwy Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	April 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Building 2176 McCulloch Blvd., Suite 8 Lake Haasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	April 23 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Arizona Paddle Sports Education Arizona Game and Fish Region 5 555 N. Greasewood Road Tucson	\$0	(623) 236-7219

### May 2016

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	May 14 8 a.m. - 12:30 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	May 21 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 Carefree Hwy Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	May 21 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Building 2176 McCulloch Blvd., Suite 8 Lake Haasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	May 21 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Arizona Paddle Sports Education Arizona Game and Fish Region 5 555 N. Greasewood Road Tucson	\$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 navigation buoy not intended for mooring
- ◆ Mooring, anchoring, or fastening to shore for more than 14 consecutive days any vessel on public waters.

### Forget a life jacket or need to borrow one?

Boaters at Lake Pleasant, Lake Havasu and Lake Mohave that need a life jacket can borrow one from the stations placed near each lake's boat ramps.



The stations contain jackets for infants to adults. However, boaters are reminded to **please return** the life jackets to the station once they are done with them so they can be used by other boaters.

## Prepare for boating season with watercraft inspection

The official start of the boating season is on the horizon and the Arizona Game and Fish Department recommends that all watercraft owners thoroughly inspect their vessel to help prevent problems that could keep them off the water. To ensure you encounter only smooth sailing, watercraft owners should conduct the following inspections:

1. Check the **fuel system** for any leaks or damages. Give special attention to any fuel lines and connections.
2. As with fuel lines, inspect all **belts, cables and hoses** that may have

been damaged while in storage.

3. Inspect all **electrical connections** to ensure they are clean, tight and corrosion free. All electrical systems should be regularly inspected by a qualified technician.

4. Check all **fluid levels** including engine oil, power steering, power trim reservoirs and engine coolant. Change the engine oil, oil filter and drive lubricants.

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

tions and cracks. Also make sure the vessel's **drain plug** is in place before launching.

6. Check to ensure all **life jackets** are still in good condition, that they are the right size and fit for your passengers. On average in Arizona, life jackets should be replaced every five years.

7. Take a **free safety** course. The department offers free courses in Phoenix and Lake Havasu City every month. Visit [www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating) and click "Boating Safety Education" to register.

This information brought to you by:  
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5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086  
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### Clean, Drain and Dry your boat. It's the Law.



Stop Aquatic Invasive Species.

# Boating

## BOATUS FIRE FACTS

# Claim Files Show Six Ways Boat Fires Happen

Fire ranks number five among all boat losses according to the BoatUS Marine Insurance Program claims files. Dig a little deeper, and those claims files also tell you the six specific areas that lead to most-reported boat fires.

If every boater paid attention to these six things, over a third of all fires aboard boats would be prevented. So what are the top six ways boat fires happen, and some

lessons to take home?

**26 percent of fires are due to “off-the-boat” sources:** Over a quarter of the time, a BoatUS member’s boat burns when something else goes up in flames — the boat next to theirs, the marina, their garage, or even a neighbor’s house. It’s every boater’s responsibility to prevent fires, but when all else fails, having a good boat insurance policy is the last backstop.

**20 percent of fires are due to “engine electrical”:** For boats older than 25 years, old wiring harnesses take a disproportionate chunk of the blame here. A good electrical technician can put one together for you as most boats of this age had relatively simple electrical systems.

**15 percent of fires are due to “other DC electrical”:** The most common cause of battery-related fires is faulty installation of batteries - reversing the positive and negative cables or misconnecting them in series (when they should be in parallel). So take a picture. Label the cables. Use red fingernail polish to mark the positive lug. By gosh do everything to hook it up right the first time.

**12 percent of fires are due to “AC electrical”:** Most AC electrical fires start between the shore power pedestal and the boat’s shorepower inlet. Inspecting the shore power cord routinely (connector ends especially) and for boats older



**DANGER!** — This shore power pedestal inlet and cable aren’t that far away from sparking a major boat fire.

than 10 years, inspecting or replacing the boat’s shorepower inlet, could prove wise.

**9 percent of fires are due to “other engine”:** This one is all about when an engine overheats due to blocked raw water intake or mangled impeller, the latter of which can also happen after experiencing a grounding or running in mucky waters. Be sure to check the engine compartment after getting underway and replace impeller every other year.

See **BOAT FIRES**, Page 6

## 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.

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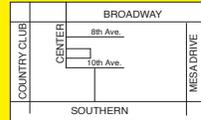
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25TH ANNIVERSARY

# Lake Havasu Boat Show

LAKE HAVASU STATE PARK WINDSOR 4

## APRIL 8-10

FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY

### ARIZONA'S LARGEST BOAT SHOW

OVER 100 EXHIBITORS.....  
MORE THAN 65 BOAT BRANDS

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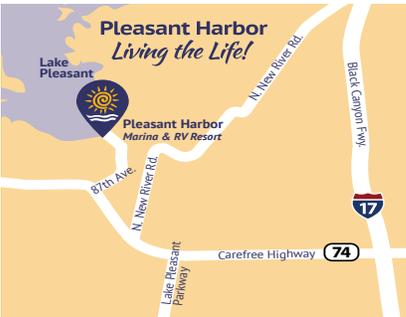


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## What's wrong in this photo?

There are at least 11 technical faults that, if not addressed, could cause serious problems. How many can you find? Here's a hint - they fall into two main areas: electrical and fuel/ventilation. To find the answers, go to [BoatUS.com/findthefaults](http://BoatUS.com/findthefaults).

## BOATUS FOUNDATION GRASSROOTS GRANTS

# Easier '365-Day Rolling' Application Announced

*Groups can apply all year for funds for boating safety and clean-boating projects.*

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water just made it easier for nonprofit organizations including community-based groups, boat clubs, angling and environmental organizations, USCG Auxiliary, or US Power Squadrons to apply for a Grassroots Grant.

Started over 25 years ago, the BoatUS member-funded grant program provides groups up to \$10,000 to help educate boaters on safe and clean boating topics. The Foundation announced recently a completely new "365-day rolling" grant application process that allows applicants to apply at any time throughout the year,

speeding the review process and allowing more flexibility in funding projects.

Submitting a short letter of intent explaining the idea is all an applicant needs to do to start the process. If the idea is strong and meets Grassroots Grant program guidelines, BoatUS Foundation will ask for a full proposal. Gone is having to wait for the once-a-year "cycle" of funding, and groups will have better ability to apply for funds when they need them. Decision-making will also be greatly expedited.

Past projects have ranged from public service announcements on the effects of boating under the influence and installing fishing line recycling bins, to hands-on education about the effects of marine debris and a unique airborne blimp adorned with boating safety messages.

Since 1989, the Foundation has awarded more than \$1.3 million to organizations that have developed creative projects to promote safe and clean boating on their local waterways. For more information or how to apply, go to [BoatUS.org/grants](http://BoatUS.org/grants).

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

# New Boating-Safety Online Course Available



BY CAPT. DAVE ESPARZA

Why take a navigation class when just boating on our local lakes? The very good reason is because prudent mariners should know and understand basic navigation principles no matter how small or large the size of the waterway they are boating on.

Knowing north, south, east and west, how to use a basic chart or map, and how to read your compass are musts for safe-boating principles. Take this class and become a safer boater with knowledge.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary has authored and developed a stimulating new interactive online course called *Modern Marine Navigation* with Web implementation and hosting by the Boat US Foundation. This is the only navigation course offered anywhere that has been completely vetted by the US Coast Guard Navigation Center.

Boaters who enroll in this course will learn, using their own computers or tablets, in the comfort of their own homes.

The Modern Marine Navigation online interactive self-study course will cost \$39.99 and became available on the BoatUS Foundation Web site at the beginning of March. However, with a promo code (1141011), the cost will only be \$34.99.

## BOAT FIRES

*Continued from page 4*

**8 percent of fires are due to "batteries":** This fire fact is for the outboard folks to pay attention to. On older outboards, by far the most common cause of fires is the voltage regulator. At 10 years of age, failure rates on these important electrical components begin to climb. Once it hits 15 years old, it's time to replace.

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## WHY TAKE A GUN CLASS?

# There's More To Shooting Than Just Pulling The Trigger

BY JOHN ANDERSON

If you're like a lot of shooters, you probably think that taking a gun class is a waste of time and money. After all, there's not much to it — you just aim and pull the trigger, right? That might be okay if all you want to do is go put a few holes in a piece of paper, but what if you decide you want to step up your game?

Target shooting is fun, but at some point you may want to get better, and that usually means taking a class.

### Even For The Seasoned Shooters

I've been shooting for decades, and I fancy myself a pretty good shot, but I signed up for a Defensive Pistol 1 course at Shooters World with Margie and our boy David. The three of us had no idea what to expect, and we were pleasantly surprised that not only did we have a lot of fun, but also we all learned quite a bit, even though all three of us are seasoned shooters and hold CCW cards.

Of course, the class started with a ton of safety reminders, which everyone needs, regardless of how long you've been shooting. In fact, I think safety is even more important to stress around long-time shooters because they have a tendency to get complacent.

They've been around guns for so long and for so often that they might get sloppy, whereas beginners still have that tinge



**SAFE DRAW** – Instructors Travis and Mike teach the safe, correct way to draw from a holster.



**UP CLOSE** – Participants got to do some close-range shooting.

of fear around firearms that makes them very careful. It never pays to get complacent around guns.

### Even Skilled Shooters May Have Bad Habits

Most long-time shooters have some bad habits that they may not even be aware of. There are many mistakes to be made in grip, trigger pull, aim, and follow-through. Margie has been shooting since she was a small kid, but she found out she has a bad habit with her grip — folding the thumb on her non-dominant hand around the back of the gun. You can lose some flesh that way! A good grip does more than keep your fingers safe — it makes you a more accurate shooter.

A good grip and a good stance are crucial for controlled shooting. A class will help you identify any bad habits and the instructors can tell you why they're bad

and how to fix them.

### Beginner Classes

If you're a beginner, you need to take a beginner class. These can be found at Ben Avery, Shooter's World, and many other gun stores and ranges. Just Google it and you'll find one near you. You will be able to learn how to load a gun, clear a malfunction, aim properly, how to hold a gun, and how to stand — all in a safe environment.

This is a great thing to do with your kids. Even if they won't take advice from you, odds are they'll take it from the 40-year veteran or the guy with a police background who is teaching the class.

### Advanced Classes

Our class was a bit more advanced, and I learned a lot. We shot at many dif-



**LOTS TO LEARN** – Margie, John, and David had lots of shooting time and learned a great deal.

ferent distances and learned how skewing your sight picture affects your shooting. We were taught the best and safest way to clear a malfunction. We also learned the four steps to drawing your gun and how to draw and replace the gun in the holster safely.

Speaking of holsters, we also learned the best and worst types of holsters to buy, and the best kind of magazine holders to use.

### A Little Competition Added Interest

It was a little nerve-wracking at first, especially when you're shooting in front of the class, but after the first time, everyone calmed down and there was a great camaraderie among us. The class was small — only seven of us, so we each got a lot of one-on-one with the teachers, which was very helpful. There was just enough competition involved to keep it interesting.

The class was an all-day event: nine to five, so we all had a lot of shooting and

instruction. During our lunch break the three of us all talked about how much fun we were having and discussed which class we would sign up for next.

### Experienced, Helpful Instructors

Our instructors both had years and years of experience in the police and/or military, and they were extremely knowledgeable, but not at all intimidating or overbearing. This is not a boot-camp kind of experience. Your teachers will be people who really enjoy shooting and want to help you have fun with it and be better at it.

### Many Types Of Classes

You may be surprised at how many different classes there are out there — for beginners, for women, for kids, for everyone. The money you pay for a shooting class is a great investment in your safety, plus you'll have a great time. Visit the Ben Avery Range or your local indoor range and find out what kinds of programs they offer. You'll have a blast.



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LAKE POWELL SPRING FORECAST 2016

## It Should Be A Banner Year For Striped Bass

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON

Lake Powell sportfish were warm and happy when tucked in for the winter in 2015. Shad production has been at peak levels for the past two summer seasons. Gizzard shad dependably produce a consistent number of offspring, but in 2014-2015, threadfin shad were produced in record numbers.

Stripers, bass and walleye absolutely "love" threadfin shad. The shad boom came at just the right time for an aging striper population comprised of old stripers that were worn out from searching for the scarce shad supply in 2012. The shad resurgence has created a very large population of husky two-to-four-year-old striped bass heading into 2016.

### Anglers Are The Winners

The winners here are the anglers who like to catch lots of 3-4 pound stripers. It should be a banner year for striper fishing in the spring. The details of how to catch these fish is yet to be determined. The key to understanding where and how to catch fish again depends on threadfin shad. Another boom year for threadfin shad would push striped bass size and numbers to the

next level. Stripers would grow to 4-5 pounds for schooling fish and much larger size for the free roaming, genetically superior fish destined for trophy size.

It is very rare for three consecutive threadfin shad booms to occur. More likely, threadfin shad numbers will be small in comparison to the previous two years. If that happens, then stripers will maintain their current size and weight and become easy targets for bait fishermen using anchovies or dead shad in deep water.

I am hoping for a shad boom which makes stripers harder to find in the spring as they stay in the backs of the major canyons instead of running to the deep main channel areas. I like trolling, casting and spooning at 40 feet while searching for schools in the murky water at the shallow end of the canyon. Fishing and catching is easier in the spring if the striper schools congregate in deep water at the dam or near Moki Wall near Bullfrog. However, if threadfin shad thrive in 2016 then the extremely addicting summer striper boils will blow up once more.

The striper summary is that it will be a good year no matter what. There are lots of fish to catch and the spring reports in March and April will dictate where to



**A BANNER YEAR** — The shad resurgence has created a very large population of husky two-to-four-year-old striped bass heading into 2016. The winners are the anglers who like to catch lots of 3-4 pound stripers. It should be a banner year for striper fishing in the spring.

look and how to target these fish schools.

### Largemouth Bass, Crappie Face Double Standard

Largemouth bass and crappie also face a double standard. These are brush-loving fish that are currently enjoying some aquatic weeds that have grown in the clear shallow water in the backs of coves and canyons. When water warms and spring runoff occurs, bass and crappie must come shallow to spawn.

Largemouth and crappie depend on brush for food and shelter. A large snow

melt and runoff will allow the lake to rise quickly and cover terrestrial brush that now is found 15 feet above lake level. If the lake comes up 20 feet, then brush-loving fish will be able to live and hunt in luxury of these brushy condos. If rain and snow does not persist in March and April, then largemouth and crappie will suffer while rock-dwelling smallmouth will thrive.

### Walleye Are Abundant

Walleye are abundant but secretive.

See **STRIPERS**, Page 19

### LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

## There's A Lot Of Fishing To Do This Spring

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

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON

HTTP://WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM

Warm weather is settling in, resulting in big changes in fishing conditions. Shallow colored water warms more quickly than deep clear water. Cold-blooded fish gravitate to and hang out in warmer water.

The expected springtime fish movement to shallow, warmer water is now occurring. Stripers that were holding at 40-100 feet can now be found at 15-30 feet. Bass that were in deeper water are making their move to the backs of canyons and coves. Anglers should react accordingly.

Use the thermometer on your graph to find the "hot spots" and then spend valuable fishing time on the warmest water available.

### Trolling In Padre Bay

We started our weekly fish-report trip trolling in deep water in Padre Bay. The first striper activity was found near a sandy beach that abruptly fell into deep water as the beach transitioned into a rocky cliff. In clear water, we could see the cliff stair-stepping into deeper water. The graph confirmed that the depth changed from 15-20 feet and fell to 30-40 feet or

deeper.

The secret to catching fish in this spot was to follow the shallow edge of the cliff by zig-zagging in and out as the depth changed. We changed to shallower-running lures to prevent snags in the shallow rocks.

With a few fish in the cooler, we then tested the new pattern by searching for similar cliff drop-offs where water transitioned from very shallow to deeper water. We found a similar spot a mile away and began trolling. We followed a rocky reef that extended well out into the bay. Within five minutes, the graph lit up with the



GUSTAVESON

**IT'S YOUR CHOICE** — Decent numbers of stripers have been caught on bait at Glen Canyon Dam this week. Reports from two groups recently found that anglers in the back of Navajo caught 21 stripers trolling while the group fishing at the dam caught 28 fish. The choice is yours. If you like to chase fish while trolling and casting, then head to shallow water in the canyons. If you like to kick back and fish bait, then go to deep water in the main channel.

largest striper school seen this year.

I held my breath hoping that the school would respond to our trolled rattletraps. It took 30 seconds before we doubled up with stripers. We got those two fish in the boat and immediately cast to the following school and caught 2 large stripers. This was reminiscent of striper boils as the trailing fish came into view and then swam off into deep water. We caught one more big striper and missed one before the school ran away not to be found again.

Then we went to the back of Padre Canyon and trolled up two more stripers and caught largemouth while casting rattletraps in 10 feet on murky water in the back of the canyon. This summarizes what to expect during the next week over the length of the lake.

### Bait Time Is Here Again

The subtle changes in fishing conditions have been confirmed as we have filleted fish from the past few trips. In mid-February we found a few shad in stomachs of fish caught spooning. Most fish were empty. Recently, most of the striper stomachs are empty but those fish that did find food were eating crayfish and sunfish. These food items are in shallow water so fish that are searching for food are going to be found in shallower



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EXCERPTS FROM AZGFD FISHING REPORT

# Anglers Can Have Banner Days

## Tip Of The Week

At Lake Havasu, a.k.a. Arizona's West Coast, anglers can have banner days on the bedding smallmouth bass. Crappie and largemouth bass will follow with their egg protecting endeavors. (Did I say, "crappie"? Yep, and it looks like Alamo Lake is ripe to be targeted for this great-tasting fish. Just get some good advice from an area tackle shop – if you need it -- and mean business.)

## The Reel Deal

Most bass are in pre-spawn mode in most of the desert lakes. Before recent storms, some desert drinks such as Saguaro Lake were said to have decent numbers of bedding bass.

## Mr. Whiskers Comes Back



Haillie's First Fish

their bucket mouths.

A lot is going on right now and it's nearing one of the best times of the year to fish — Mr. Whiskers is coming back to Community waters, trout will be a refreshing mountain option, and bass will be feeding and attacking almost any bait you can throw in front of

## Good Time To Visit Powell

At Lake Powell, the expected spring-time fish movement to shallow warmer water is now occurring. Stripers that were holding at 40-100 feet can now be found at 15-30 feet. Good time to visit this scenic, red-rock gem.



Fish Arizona!

## First-Fish Recipe

This is the first fish Hailee has caught. Her family fished from shore as they were camping at Davis Camp on the Colorado River. The family wasn't getting any bites and Hailee decided to rub cheese flavored stink bait on the anchovy and caught that fish. A great call by the young angler! They estimated it was 3-4-pound striper.



Cat Leader Boy Foy

## Big Fish Of The Year

Bob Foy is the leader in the channel catfish category with this 9-pound, 10 1/4-ounce, 28 1/4-inch channel catfish taken from Red Mountain Lake at the first of last month.

## Fish Salvage At Tempe Town Lake

Water is being drawn down at Tempe Town Lake to remove the previous dam system. The lake is closed for water activities until April 30. Meanwhile, Arizona Game & Fish is working with the City of Tempe to save as many fish as possible.

## Fish Stocking Update

The following waters were stocked recently: Red Mountain; Encanto; Cortez; Rio Vista; Surprise; Pioneer; Desert West; Alvord; Lynx Lake; Silverbell; Kennedy; Sahuarita; Lakeside; Copper Sky; Veterans Oasis; Desert Breeze; Tempe Kiwanis; Riverview; Chaparral; Oak Creek; Frances Short Pond; Deadhorse; Verde River; Goldwater; Parker Canyon; Frances Short, City Reservoir, Cataract.

The first load of catfish has arrived at many Community lakes and ponds.

For more timely stocking updates, follow @NickFishAZ on Twitter and look for tweets with #AZfishtracker

## Fish Kill Temporarily Hampers Angling

A moderate fish kill occurred at Lower Lake Mary in Flagstaff in March and water-quality testing by the Arizona Game and Fish Department discovered areas of low dissolved oxygen that remained from the past winter.

Lower Lake Mary has been stocked with trout, and although fishing will slow temporarily, be on the lookout for when fish become active on the surface. The Department will be monitoring the water quality at Lower Lake Mary and will stock more fish once it has improved.

Meanwhile, fishing at Dogtown Lake south of Williams or Frances Short Pond in Flagstaff will be good alternatives.



Patterson Ponds

## Patterson Ponds Join CFP

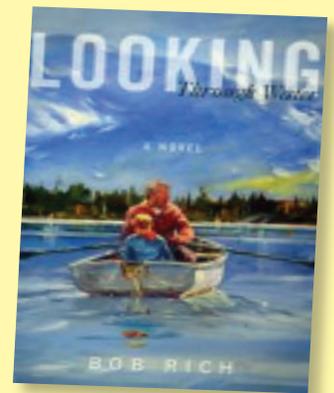
Patterson Ponds, located in the rural community of St. Johns in the White Mountains of northeast Arizona, will become the Arizona Game and Fish Department's newest Community Fishing Program (CFP) water. The ponds received their first stocking of rainbow trout during the week of March 21-26.

## How Fishing Opportunities Are Funded

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

Conserving fishing for future generations will require, in part, dedicated anglers to purchase licenses each year to maintain funding for conservation of all Arizona's wildlife species.

Buy your license online and fish our great state for a year (and help conserve all species of wildlife while doing so).



**HEALING WATERS** — He's the long-time Chairman of the Board of the renowned Cleveland Clinic, is one of the world's most successful businessmen, owns three baseball teams, and is an avid world-class fisherman who, for decades, has hosted dozens of fishing tournaments raising millions for cystic fibrosis cure research. And, Bob Rich, of Buffalo, N.Y., and Islamorada, Fla., also finds time to write books. The author of four non-fiction books – three on fishing and sports – Rich continues to receive five-star verified reader ratings on Amazon.com for his new novel *Looking Through Water*. Through his "Project Healing Waters" Rich helps veterans and active-duty military heal from physical and emotional wounds through fly fishing. *Looking Through Water* is also available on BN.com, and at BobRich-Books.com.



## Congrats to Miss Yellowtail Derby 2016

The Yellowtail Derby Committee has selected Ciara Church to be the 2016 Miss Yellowtail Derby. She is the daughter of Derby anglers, Ray and Jill Broadfoot and is a senior at Mission Hills High School. She has been fishing with her parents on their boat and loves the ocean. The 2016 Derby will run for 37 days from April 30, fishing until June 5. June 6 at 6 p.m. will be the Derby awards at the Bali Hai Restaurant, San Diego, Calif.

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## WAKE ZONE

# Ducey, Legislature Need To Help!

*An antiquated, broken system needs to change — now.*



BY JOHN (JK) KOLESZAR

In 2006, I wrote a lengthy article about the inequities involved in the pay structure for the law enforcement personnel in the Arizona Game & Fish Department. The department was losing their personnel to competing agencies across the board. Some were leaving for DPS (Department of Public Safety) some were opting for local police departments and some were going to the local county sheriffs offices.

At that time, the then director for the Arizona Game & Fish Department was Duane Schroufe. The irony was that by simply switching uniforms, the law enforcement people were upgrading their income by 20 percent across the board. Sportsmen agreed to a fairly substantial increase in big-game tags so that the department could afford to pay for those employees who needed it the most. The promise was made that the rank and file would be taken care of.

## Wild Burro, Wild Horse Populations Draw Opinions From Both Sides

To: John ("JK") Koleszar & *Western Outdoor Times*, Arizona Boating and Watersports

Re: "Western Wildlife" article in the February 2016 edition, "Wake Zone, What Price is Enough?"

### Challenge Accepted

I would like to submit a response to the heavily opinionated piece that was published in the February 2016 "Western Wildlife" section of the *Western Outdoor Times* by John Koleszar.

My response is that Mr. Koleszar seems to have written a biased piece without including many facts about wild horses and burros. Yes, indeed the BLM's wild horse and burro program cannot go on as business as usual. It is costing taxpayers in the millions to warehouse all the wild horses that are being captured and put into holding. However, to say they are no answers or solutions is just not true.

#### Sterilization, Predators?

In 2013, the National Academy of Sciences published their report on the BLM's wild horse and burro program. To help reduce the need for removals, it was suggested that the BLM should utilize the fertility control that is readily available. PZP is an immunocontraception vaccine that has been proven safe, effective, and humane. If the population growth rate can be slowed, then fewer removals will be required, thus reducing the long-term holding costs. Other advocacy groups have also suggested the re-introduction of natural predators in herd-management areas (HMAS).

#### Re: The Salt River Herd

The other comment made that seemed out of place was about the people who write the Arizona legislature when talks of roundup are mentioned. I am assuming that the writer of this article was referring to the uproar over the Salt River



### Op/Ed

#### Sportsmen Pay, Not The General Fund

Oh, by the way — all of the pay for all Arizona Game & Fish Department personnel comes from sportsmen. Not a single penny comes from the Arizona general fund. Remember that!

Spring 2016. Here we are, 10 years later. The same issue has reared its ugly head again. We are losing people to competing agencies and the income rate for starting law-enforcement personnel is at a rate that helps them qualify for food stamps!

This past year, the Department and the Arizona Game & Fish Commission worked hard at trimming their budget so that starter law-enforcement personnel could be brought up to a minimum standard that would be roughly equivalent to other wildlife agencies across the West. That "trimming" that the department worked hard to accomplish provided over

\$800,000.00 for new law-enforcement folks. Care to guess what happened?

#### Pay Increases Refused

Governor Doug Ducey and staff refused to allow the pay increases. For some unfathomable reason, started many years before me, the department and all personnel are lumped together with all other State of Arizona agencies under what is termed the ADOA (Arizona Department of Administration). Since it appears that Arizona Game & Fish personnel have always been under paid, the trend has continued as far back as you care to research.

Here is the kicker: Law-enforcement personnel for the Arizona Game & Fish Department are required to have a degree. To qualify for other agencies, you must have a high school degree or a GED. With a moratorium on pay increases and hiring, the fiscally conservative Governor Ducey and staff refused to increase the most-needed areas for the Arizona Game & Fish Department. Remember that the Arizona Game & Fish personnel are paid

out of sportsmen's dollars — not a penny from the general fund!

#### System Is Broken; This Needs To Change

Changing anything in our state takes time and voices. This article is meant to inform anyone who hunts or fishes about the inequities regarding the pay structure of our very qualified law-enforcement personnel in the Arizona Game & Fish Department. Common sense says that they should earn, at the very least, what other law-enforcement personnel make in this state.

Let the legislators in your district know that the pay increase needs to happen. It won't cost the state a single penny!

The system in place is antiquated and broken. For wildlife law-enforcement people to qualify to be on food stamps is despicable. For a department that takes *no general fund money* to have to abide by the less-than-informed legislators and governor is just wrong. This needs to change.



### Letters

Herd. To be clear, the upset was because these horses are not currently protected under the 1971 Wild Horse and Burro Act, and they are also not under the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); they are on United States Forest Service (USFS) land.

I am not quite sure why there needs to be a solution about this particular herd of wild horses in Arizona. The Salt River herd has been documented as wild horses in this area for well over 100 years with no management and no cost to taxpayers. So why not just leave them be?

#### Question Posed

Next, I have a question. Has the writer of this article ever been around wild horses? Has he ever watched their behavior? To say that wild horses are burros are protective of their water sources is well, just incorrect! Horses will go to their water source and drink. They will drink with other wildlife around and after they drink, they will move on. The horses and burros do not spend all of their time hanging out at their water source protecting it as the writer suggests.

#### 'Scapegoats' Addressed

Now I will address the convenient scapegoats. Per the data and numbers from BLM and USFS, in 2014 there are 2.1 million cattle on the public western rangelands. The number of wild horses and burros was 56,656. Cattle far outnumber the horses and burros, 37 to 1.

Also, it was mentioned that the cattlemen do pay for grazing. Yes, they do pay. In an article by The Center for Biological Diversity, it is stated that they pay a mere \$1.35 per cow and calf per month. For the school kids, your Micky D burger most likely did *not* come from cattle that were grazed on public lands. The cattle on public lands account for less than 3 percent of what is in our food supply. You are right Mr. Koleszar. The numbers



don't lie.

Then for your article to go on and say that all the horses do is eat and breed just makes it seem that there is no value in something if it cannot make money. Although it can be argued that the wild horses and burros do generate revenue in the form of tourism. Besides that, the wild horses and burros mean so much more than money to the majority of Americans.

#### In The Hands Of BLM

The truth be told, yes, issues in certain areas do need to be addressed. Most responsible advocates are not suggesting that horses and burros should come first at the cost of other wildlife. The answer falls into the hands of the BLM, the agency that is supposed to be in charge of the protection of the wild horses and burros, to start off with better management practices using science based solutions.

The BLM should, in fact, utilize the fertility control vaccine PZP. Also, perhaps a re-introduction of natural predators. The horses and burros in Arizona are not anywhere near the danger of starvation as the wrap up of the original article suggests.

To be honest, I cannot imagine Arizona without its wild horses and burros. They bring life to the desert and contribute to the diversity of what is here. Now I could go on and on, but I think I have made somewhat of my point.

More interesting reading for people who may want to further their knowledge should read the R.T Fitch article "Indian horses BEFORE Columbus" as well as "Wild Horses as Native North American



Wildlife" by Jay F. Kirkpatrick, Ph.D. and Patricia M. Fazio, Ph.D.

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Scottsdale, AZ  
Mdsaddlebred2@aol.com

### A Response To 'Challenge Accepted'

Hello, Dawn.

The numbers do not lie — \$425 million dollars over the past five years? Yes, I spend a lot of time outdoors and in the wild. I appreciate your response, and it is as biased as you say mine is.

Any idea on the cost of making sure every mare is handled? There are many photos of burros hoarding water. The Arizona Game & Fish Department (whom I rely on for some of my information) notes that the burro population is at 400 percent of carrying capacity. Denuded trees are all around Lake Pleasant; please take a tour some day.

#### Balance In Nature

I am for *balance* in nature. Name me a predator in Arizona that will take on burros and horses. Perhaps an occasional mountain lion will try, but the easier food is in deer and elk fawns.

To say that they have been here (Salt River Recreation area) is a bit misleading. That herd is exploding, some because animals that were left loose during the last

See **BURRO**, Page 15

# RV Land Cruising



## Celebrate Earth Day And Bats At Kartchner Caverns State Park

Kartchner Caverns State Park will celebrate Earth Day and the return of the colony to Kartchner Caverns State Park at "Bat Day" on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The day will be filled with family activities, presentations and hands-on activities. The cave will be open for tours but those should be reserved in advance.

The event will include presentations in the theater by State Park Rangers and guest speakers including Keith Graves and Joel M. Diamond, PhD and live animal displays by Forever Donkeys, Rescue and Adoption. There will also be displays by Arizona Game & Fish Department and US Forest Service.

During the summer months, the cave's Big Room serves as a nursery for around



A *Myotis velifer* Bat

1,000 female cave myotis bats (scientific name *Myotis velifer*). Pregnant females return to Kartchner Caverns around the end of April, where they give birth to a single pup in late June.



MIKE LEWIS

The Big Room

Arizona State Parks conducted several studies before development to see how the bats could be best protected. The results of the studies led Arizona State Parks to close the Big Room for tours while the bats are using it. The bat populations are monitored each summer to see that they remain stable.

For more information visit [AZStateParks.com/parks/KACA](http://AZStateParks.com/parks/KACA). The admission cost is the \$7 park entrance fee. Guided cave tours will also be available but should be reserved in advance for an additional cost.

The Park is located on Highway 90, nine miles south of Interstate 10 near Benson. Full hookup camping sites are

\$30 per night. Stay at the park for the whole weekend and enjoy nearby attractions in Benson, Bisbee, Sierra Vista and Tombstone.

For information about all 30 Arizona State Parks and Natural Areas, the Trails and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs and State Historic Preservation Office call (602) 542-4174 or (877) MY-PARKS or visit [AZStateParks.com](http://AZStateParks.com). Campsite reservations can be made online at [AZStateParks.com](http://AZStateParks.com) or by calling the Reservation Call Center at (520) 586-2283. Open 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. MST. Follow [AZStateParks](https://www.facebook.com/AZStateParks) on Twitter and Facebook.

## Fort Verde State Historic Park Honors Veterans

Fort Verde State Historic Park in Camp Verde will honor veterans at its annual "History of the Soldier" event on Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, April 10, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event offers visitors a living history timeline of military and civilian encampments up to the present day and will include a presentation by Marshall Trimble, official state historian, at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Through living-history interpretation, the Park will honor the dedication, commitment and sacrifice military men and women from around the globe in the Armed Forces of all eras. Veterans from around the state are encouraged to attend.

Activities will include flag raising ceremonies and special memorial services as



MARINE 69-71

Commanding Officers' Office

well as the drill calls, colors and retreat, the firing of the cannon and Gatling gun, and military tactics and demonstrations, all performed as part of the event.

Don't forget to stop by the Dutch Oven Cookshack to see demonstrations held throughout the day.

For more information about the activities at Fort Verde State Historic Park call (928) 567-3275 or visit [AZStateParks.com/parks/FOVE](http://AZStateParks.com/parks/FOVE). Fort Verde State Historic Park is located in downtown Camp Verde. Take I-17, Turn Right onto Hwy 260 (east), Turn left onto Finnie Flat Road, which becomes Main St, Turn left onto Holloman St. to 125 E. Holloman St. The main entrance is two blocks on the right side.

The cost is the Park Entrance Fee of \$7 per person for children and adults aged 14 and older. Youths aged 7 to 13 years of age are charged \$4 per person. There is no charge for children 6 years of age or younger. Learn more about the AZ State Parks Veteran Discount Program at [AZStateParks.com](http://AZStateParks.com).

## Arizona State Parks' Family Campout Program Spring Registration Now Open

Have you ever wanted to bring your family camping but weren't sure where to start? The Arizona Family Campout Program is a one-weekend adventure designed for families who have little or no experience camping. The award-winning program will provide some equipment and introduce families to the new adventure of camping at an Arizona State Park.

Throughout the weekend families will work with a camp coordinator and other families to learn how to set-up their tent and make meals on a camp stove. In addition there will be activities, including (depending on the park): mountain biking, hiking, fishing, archery, geocaching, animal demonstrations, campfire stories, birding, and more. Families will also get to work on a service project.

Participating state parks and remaining weekend dates for spring 2016:

- Catalina SP, Tucson: April 16 & 17
- River Island SP, Parker: April 23 & 24
- Dead Horse Ranch SP, Cottonwood:

June 4 & 5

Families should bring food, sleeping bags or any bedding, pillows, camping chairs, clothing, sturdy shoes and personal items including toothpaste, towels, soap, etc. The program will provide tents, sleeping mats, flashlights, chairs and all activity equipment. Beverages provided include water, coffee, tea, and sports drinks. Snacks provided include seasonal fruit, granola bars and more.

Families are responsible for bringing for two lunches, dinner and breakfast. Menu ideas and packing tips are provided on the Web site at [AZStateParks.com/Family](http://AZStateParks.com/Family) and will also be given upon registration.

Registration is now open for spring sessions at [AZStateParks.com/Family](http://AZStateParks.com/Family). The program fee is \$70 for a family of 4. Additional immediate family members are \$5 each. Sorry, children 5 years and younger or pets cannot attend this program. Registration is limited and is first-come, first-served.



For more information and to register visit [AZStateParks.com/Family](http://AZStateParks.com/Family).

The Arizona State Parks Family Campout Program is supported by one Arizona State Parks Coordinator and a host of volunteers passionate about the outdoors. Arizona State Parks' Family Campout Program was the recipient of the 2015 Youth Enrichment Award from the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association.

## State Parks Add Cabins For Your Camping Comfort

Imagine your next camping trip — waking up from a good night sleep on a comfortable bed, you walk out the front door onto the porch and breathe the fresh cool morning air while the sun warms your face. As you look out across the placid lake, birds sing gleefully around you. Welcome to the camping cabin, Arizona State Parks' version of glamping!

Arizona's state parks provide perfect destinations for family camping adventures without the need for a RV or tent. Nice cozy camping cabins are currently available at Roper Lake State Park in Safford, Ariz., Dead Horse Ranch State Park in Cottonwood, Ariz., and new cabins at Lyman Lake State Park near St. Johns, Ariz., are now available. Alamo Lake near Wenden, Ariz., adds to the list with newly built cabins that became available to stay on April 1.

The new cabins at Lyman Lake feature two rooms, a full-size bed in the front room and bunk beds in the back room. Two-room cabins also line the lake at Roper Lake State Park, which offers a plethora of recreational opportunities, including swimming. One-room camping cabins available at Dead Horse Ranch State Park are tucked away from the other campgrounds and make an ideal getaway for couples and groups.

Cabins are furnished with the following (campers supply their own linens):

- Bunk beds and/or full size beds
- Electricity and air-conditioning/heating
- Picnic tables and charcoal grills right outside of the front door
- Restrooms and showers within walking distance

Elevate your camping experience with a little comfort and less hassle, and start glamping at Arizona State Parks! Cabins are available for renting 24-hours per day at [AZStateParks.com](http://AZStateParks.com) or by calling (520) 586-2283, seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. MST.

## County Parks Greet Spring With A Fresh New Look

After months of planning and development, Maricopa County's Parks and Recreation Department has unveiled a fresh, new Web site.

"We're very excited about our new look," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation director. While the Department's former site was functional, the tools being used were outdated, which left the Department unable to accommodate visitors coming to the site on mobile devices.

The new visually stimulating Web site, designed by *Americaneagle.com*, features a completely overhauled navigational structure, and provides visitors with easy access to a wide variety of park services and resources. Visitors can book a campsite, download a trail map, and discover things to do in the parks directly from the home page.

The Department's ever-popular interactive programs may now be exported directly onto Outlook calendars while site-wide search and quick links tools offer visitors the option of finding exactly



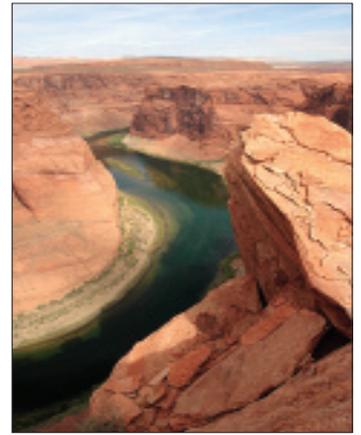
what they are looking for in moments.

In addition, Search Engine Optimization (SEO) tools such as improved meta descriptions and page titles have been added to make it easier for park visitors to pinpoint Maricopa County Park programs, services and parks in their search results.

"We wanted a responsive design that would showcase Maricopa County's

beautiful regional park system while providing park visitors a user-friendly experience. With this new Content Management System (CMS), I believe we've accomplished that goal," added Cardin.

The Department's Web site was last updated in 2004. To take a tour of the new website and learn more Maricopa County's regional parks, visit [www.maricopacountyparks.net](http://www.maricopacountyparks.net).



JAMES PHELPS

## Help Glen Canyon Look Its Best In 2016 And Beyond

The National Park Service invites you to help Keep Glen Canyon Clean and looking its birthday best for the National Park Service Centennial in 2016. A community and partner collaboration to improve resource conditions at Lake Powell will be underway throughout 2016.

Breathtaking scenery and spectacular recreation are what Lake Powell is all about. However, park neighbors, including local photographer and author Gary Ladd, have noted that the Lake Powell experience is all too often marred by litter, human waste, graffiti, fireworks, serious injury and even death. Enough is enough! With 1 1/4 million acres and 2 1/2 million annual visitors, park rangers at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area are asking for your help.

### Know Before You Go

The Know Before You Go public outreach campaign focusing on unsafe and illegal activities is launching for the 2016 boating season. Information will be shared with boaters at all Lake Powell marinas.

The new Powell Watch asks visitors to keep a watchful eye on park resources. Tips from the public are key to detecting and prosecuting damage to the park's vast and often remote resources. If you see something, say something!

If you happen to be in a remote area with poor cell phone reception for phone calls, a new messaging service will allow you to text non-emergency tips to park dispatch at 928-614-0820. Calling 9-1-1 or hailing via VHF radio are other emergency communication options on Lake Powell. Pick up your Powell Watch wristband with contact numbers at the Love Your Lake Community Cleanup or at launch ramps throughout the year.

### Adopt A Canyon

Local tour and service providers have signed up to Adopt a Canyon on Lake Powell, including McNabb Fishing Guide Service, Hidden Canyon Kayak, Lake Powell Paddleboards, Four Corners Adventures, National Outdoor Leadership School, the Wildland Trekking Company, Aspiro, Far Out Expedition, and Zion Adventure Company. As canyon stewards, these companies will remove trash from their canyons throughout 2016.

After a two-year hiatus, the True GRIT (Graffiti Removal and Intervention Team) will be back in action. Teams of volunteers will be on the lake removing unsightly graffiti from canyon walls. True GRIT is a partnership with the Glen



## Expect Long Lines, Full Parking Lots, Plenty Of Fun At Grand Canyon This Spring

Visitors to Grand Canyon National Park this spring break can expect long lines and full parking lots. Last year, Grand Canyon's visitation hit an all-time high. Based on visitors coming to the park this spring, 2016 will probably set another record.

As a result of increased spring break visitation, traffic regularly backs up at all entrance stations, with the longest wait time between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Parking



lots, especially near Grand Canyon Visitor Center, start reaching capacity by 11 a.m.

### Arrive Early

"Warm sunny weather, low gas prices, and the National Park Service's Centennial year make Grand Canyon a perfect spring break destination," said Fee Business Manager Marlon Avantyr. He added, "There's no reason not to expect more visitors this year than ever before."

Avantyr and other park staff encourage visitors to arrive to the park early, take advantage of the free shuttle bus system, and consider parking in Lot D at the Backcountry Office or parking lot C on Center Road.

### Kid's Ranger-Led Day Camp

Once in the park, visitors have many opportunities to experience Grand Canyon

See **SPRING**, Page 13



## Grand Canyon Seeking Participants For Open-House Earth Day Celebration

**OPEN HOUSE** — Grand Canyon National Park will celebrate the 46th anniversary of Earth Day with an open-house style celebration from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday, April 22 at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center Plaza. This year's activities will focus on water, including conservation, quality, and encouraging people to develop a broader understanding of this precious resource. To learn more about Grand Canyon's Earth Day celebration, please contact Green Team member Pamela Edwards at (928) 638-7713 or [pamela\\_edwards@nps.gov](mailto:pamela_edwards@nps.gov).

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## Born Free RVs Stay Warm With Aqua-Hot

Born Free builds some of the finest Class C motorhomes in the country, using only top-quality components. When customers are configuring their dream RVs, many choose innovative Aqua-Hot Heating Systems to make their luxurious coaches even more comfortable.

Simple to use, Aqua-Hot hydronic heating systems produce even, moist, fume-free heat and continuous, on-demand hot water. They're renowned for their quiet and efficient operation.

Owners of a Born Free RV with Aqua-Hot on board know just how pleasant the warmth can be. Not only does the addition add value to the high-end motorhome, but fits with the overall level of quality one expects from this builder.

"I've been installing Aqua-Hots in RVs with different manufacturers for over 20 years," said Jeff Butler, Born Free president. "I know most customers want a more effective and efficient heating system,



with unlimited hot water in their coaches." Born Free currently offers Aqua-Hot upon request, but is reviewing adding the system as permanent option.

Each of the nine models of Born Free coaches is handcrafted by skilled, exper-

See **AQUA-HOT**, Page 15

## Arizona Site Stewards Honored For 30 Years Of Protecting Cultural Resources

The Arizona Site Stewards Program was honored at the 4th Tri-National Sonoran Desert Symposium held in Ajo, Arizona on March 7-10.

The International Sonoran Desert Alliance (ISDA) presented the honor, which commemorates 30 years of volunteerism to preserve Arizona archaeological resources, and ongoing participation with the agencies and entities of the Sonoran Desert. Among those present included the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Arizona Site Stewards Program, led by Arizona State Parks and established in 1986, is a statewide group of volunteer citizen scientists, who provide monitoring and protection of traditional cultural archaeological and historic properties for various partnering land managing agencies.

The chief objective of the Stewards Program is to report to the land managers destruction or vandalism of prehistoric

and historic archaeological and paleontological sites in Arizona. Stewards are also active in public education and outreach activities.

Arizona Site Stewards will hold their 30th annual conference June 7-8, highlighting the site steward's contribution to Arizona's cultural preservation and protection. The conference will be held at the Crown Plaza Airport Hotel, Phoenix, and is the precursor to the annual Arizona Historic Preservation Conference.

The 4th Tri-National Symposium was organized by representatives from the Tohono O'odham Nation, Mexico, and the United States to address successes and continued challenges of conserving the magnificent Sonoran Desert. The symposium focused on cultural and natural resource issues, and Native American tribal perspectives, with a new theme: "Converging Trails: Past, Present, and Future of the Sonoran Desert".

The Symposium was sponsored by

See **STEWARDS**, Page 15

### SPRING

Continued from page 12

and learn about its natural and cultural history. Kids age 7-12 even have a chance to attend a ranger-led day camp weekend this spring. The remaining camp is April 8-9; parents can drop their children off at park headquarters for a day full of games, discovery, and activities with park rangers. To register for this free program, call 928-638-7924 or visit [www.nps.gov/grca/learn/kidsyouth/day-camps.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grca/learn/kidsyouth/day-camps.htm)

### Meet The Neighbors

Grand Canyon's visitors are also encouraged to explore neighboring national parks and monuments, such as Petrified

Forest National Park and Wupatki National Monument to help celebrate 100 years of the National Park Service. A helpful trip-planning tool, [findyourpark.com](http://findyourpark.com) has a list of park sites, experiences, events, and opportunities throughout Northern Arizona and across the country.

Have an unforgettable spring break by enjoying not only Grand Canyon, but all the national park sites that make Northern Arizona unique and extraordinary!

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 409 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

### GRAND CANYON

Continued from page 12

Canyon Natural History Association.

The Trash Tracker program will be back for a 27th season in 2016. Teams of volunteers will be on the lake picking up trash and educating visitors. The Trash Tracker program is a partnership with Lake Powell Resorts and Marinas.

A Canyon Hosts program slated for later in the summer will expand the National Park Service presence on the lake. Volunteers on houseboats throughout the

lake will fly a National Park Service flag, and provide information and assistance, similar to campground hosts.

"Happy Centennial and thanks for doing your part to keep Glen Canyon looking its birthday best," said Acting Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Superintendent Billy Shott. "I hope to see you out at the Love Your Lake Community Cleanup Day, and please help us keep an eye on park resources by participating in Powell Watch."

[www.nps.gov/glca](http://www.nps.gov/glca)

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## FLAGSTAFF

Continued from page 1

### Gorgeous Weather

We went up to visit during February, which technically is winter, and in fact there was snow on the ground in patches. However, the weather was gorgeous — about 60 degrees. Our usual favorite hikes are high up on the mountain, but that was definitely out on this trip — the snow might be patchy in town, but the San Francisco Peaks were in prime skiing conditions, and all of our trails were covered by several feet of snow.

There was a trail we'd been meaning to try for several years, but it is at a much lower elevation than the mountains, and we always felt that it would have been too hot for a summer hike. This was the perfect time to try it, so we headed up highway 180 past the Snow Bowl road.



**EASY BUT STEADY** – The Red Mountain Trail starts in juniper country and climbs easily, but steadily.

### Red Mountain Trail

The trail we were heading for is Red Mountain trail. My source must have been old because it told us to watch for a sign about a geologic area at around mile marker 247. We saw a sign there, but it was announcing the trailhead. There is about a ¼ mile of dirt road to the trailhead itself.

My source also said that this trail was lightly used, but in fact, the parking at the trailhead was just about full. It must have been that gorgeous weather — everyone wanted to be outdoors. From the trailhead, you can see where you're headed — the mountain is actually a cinder cone and on the exposed side, erosion has carved hoodoos and slots that are most definitely red.

The trail is an easy hike of just under a mile and a half each way, with a slight but steady uphill climb on the way in. It starts down in junipers and even in February it got a bit warm on the first part of the trail. I suggest you bring a lot of water if you hike during the warmer months.

### Enjoy The View

While you're on your way in, don't



**STEEP** – The sides grow steeper and steeper and are covered with volcanic gravel.

forget to turn around now and then. You have a beautiful view of several mountain peaks, and of course when we were there, they were covered in snow. There are some really amazing trees along the trail too — old, twisted trees. Take your time on the way in and enjoy the scenery along the way.

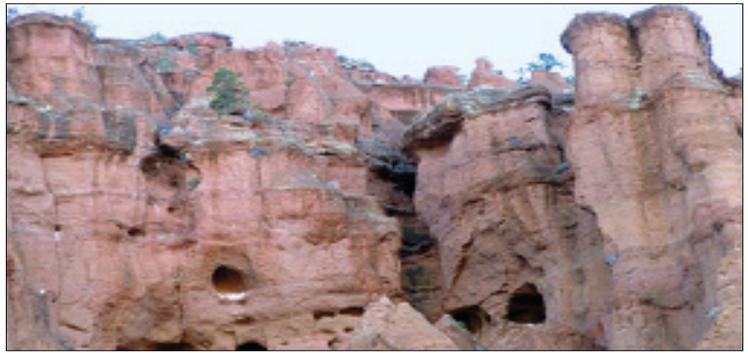
As you get closer to the hoodoos, the trail begins to follow a streambed. As you get even closer, the sides of the streambed rise and you're walking along the bottom of a V. The right side is all volcanic gravel. When we were there, some young men and their dogs were having a blast, using the steep bank of gravel as a slide. Dirty, but fun! At this point you start to see huge boulders and there is a small but very steep cliff between two boulders. It's only about six feet high, and a very sturdy kind of combination stair/ladder has been built to get you over it. I don't know about you, but I absolutely love hikes that have bridges or ladders or stairs — somehow they make it more fun.

### In Another World

Just another little way beyond the ladder and suddenly you feel as if you're in another world. Reddish hoodoos tower above you, and there are endless huge rocks to clamber over and around. We explored several small slot canyons, and we could hear trickling water from the snow melting. Up here, in what they call "the amphitheater", there was still snow in the shady places. In fact, there was a lot of snow, and some of it was coated with ice, which made for slippery footing but somehow enhanced that feeling of being an explorer that every good trail gives you.

### On The 'Top-Ten' List

We have taken our granddaughters



**AWESOME!** – The amphitheater is an awesome sight.

on hundreds of hikes, and we have seen some gorgeous places, but Trinity told us that this was probably the best hike she's ever been on. Her roommate Danielle agreed, and they spent quite a long time exploring and climbing around the boulders and hoodoos. Such a huge reward for such an easy hike! This one is definitely on my top-ten list, and we will be coming back for sure.

This hike, though short, took us the whole morning because of all the time we spent exploring and photographing the amphitheater. The walk back to the trailhead is a piece of cake because it's a gently downhill all the way. Even though the trailhead parking was full (at least 15 or so cars), we saw few people on the trail itself.

### Now It's Time To Eat

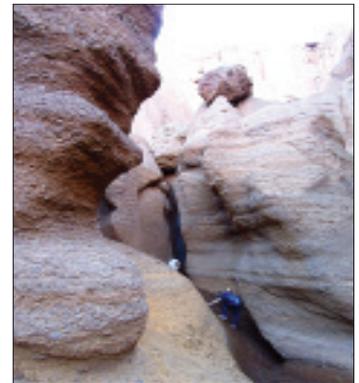
Half the fun of going on a hiking trip is discovering not only new trails, but also new places in the towns you're near. Before our hike, we had stopped for breakfast in Flagstaff. Now there are plenty of restaurants in Flagstaff, but we wanted to go somewhere different. I can go to Denny's at home if I want to. Trinity and Danielle like "quirky" places — coffee shops and little restaurants with atmosphere. We found a little place called the Toasted Owl (12 S Mike's Pike, open 8-4) and that's where we had breakfast.

It was awesome — it's a little place and the inside is covered with owls — embroidered, painted, printed, ceramic — you name it, they have an owl made from it. Also, the tables and chairs were all different, and they look like the kind you grew up with if you grew up in the late '50s and '60s. Our waitress told us that a lot of the stuff you see there is for sale, too.

No matter how cute a place is, it doesn't make up for bad food. But the food at the Toasted Owl was delicious, and served up in vintage plates and bowls. All the plates and glasses were different, too. The girls loved it and so did I. We will definitely go here again, too. Trinity and Danielle said they could walk there from school, so they were happy to try it.

### A Special Cool-Weather Trip

If you go up to Flagstaff to ski and the town itself isn't covered in snow, take a drive out to Red Mountain Trail if you get a chance. And, even if you don't ski, you won't be sorry if you make a special trip just to do this trail. It's pretty spectacular. I'd suggest going in cool weather, and take the kids. They'll love it.



**EXPLORING** – The college students on this hike had a blast exploring small slot canyons and caves.

## DAY AT THE DOCKS

Continued from page 1

the "how to's" and get "insider tips" from the San Diego fleet skippers and other industry experts.

### Kids' Fishing Adventure

Sponsored by Okuma Fishing Tackle & Everingham Bros Bait Company. From 9 am-4 pm. For kids 4-12 years old. The Kid's Fishing Adventure are areas set aside and stocked with fish, providing kids with the chance wet a line and make a catch. Expert assistance is provided by members of the San Diego Rod & Reel Club and the San Diego Anglers. Don't miss out — there just might be a tasty fish biting at the end of the line.

### Catch, Prep, Cook Center

Sponsored by Catalina Offshore Products and Specialty Produce. Throughout the day on April 17, our *Catch, Prep & Cook Demos* will provide ideas and techniques to improve the enjoyment of your catch. There will be presentations on proper handling, storage and preparation of fresh fish to ensure that every fish caught and kept is fully enjoyed. Recipes and samples will be available at the seminars.

### Casting Contests

You've got to try your hand at this true test of an angler's skill. If you have never cast a line in your life, don't worry. This competition, sponsored by Seeker Rods & Avet Reels, is for everyone, pro and novice alike. Competition is set for 11 am and 2 pm. Points are awarded for distance and accuracy. Fishing trips and tackle awarded to the winners!

### Izorline Knot-Tying Competition

Young and old alike can try their hand at tying the strongest fishing knot with assistance from the Pro staff at Izorline. Knot-tying demonstrations will be followed by hands-on competition in which individual knots will be tested against the Izorline Knot Gauge, a device that measures a knot's breaking point by pressure.

Competition will take place in three divisions: Small fry (up to 10 years old), Juniors (11-16 years old) and Adults. A voluntary donation of \$1-5 to enter the competition will benefit the Rollo Fund program to take kids fishing. The contest runs all day from the Izorline exhibit booth. Winners in each division will be announced at the end of the day. Prizes include ½-day and full-day fishing trips.

### Fishing Videos

Look inside the Sportfishing Land-

ings and Tackle Central for continuous showings of dramatic sportfishing videos. From San Diego to Baja, Clipperton Island and Costa Rica — get a glimpse of the sportfishing adventures and action that are available on the San Diego fleet.

### Boat Rides Around The Bay

The whole family will want to take a boat ride around San Diego Bay and it only costs \$3. Trips run continuously throughout the day from the three sportfishing landings.

### Gourmet Galley

There is great variety to choose from... Seafood, Thai, Chinese, Mexican and more. Many local restaurants around the harbor will also be serving up Day at the Docks specials.

### Hot Tackle

Find out what's hot on the fish equipment market. The top manufacturers will be there to show off their latest. Some really new technology has hit the scene. Be prepared this season with the latest and greatest! You'll find some great bargains on fishing tackle from exhibitor retailers and in the Landing tackle shops.

### Lots Of Boats

You'll find boats of all shapes and

sizes. The modern sportfishers in the San Diego fleet will be hosting a grand open house. You are welcome to climb aboard and look around. Joining the fleet for the day will be a U.S. Coast Guard Special Purpose Craft, the Harbor Police Fire Boat, Vessel Assist and Sea Tow tow-boats, some smaller fishing kayaks and trailerable boats.

### Marine Art

Glory Giffen showcases her marine watercolors, Peter J Galleries art features painting atop marine charts. And, there are many other marine artists.

### Open House On Fleet Boats

Step aboard and meet the captains in the San Diego fleet. Have you never been on a San Diego sportfisher? Well now is your chance. You'll see that the accommodations are quite nice, with many of the comforts of home.

### Entertainment All Day On Stage

On the Main Stage things get going at 9 a.m. The day will also feature three raffles benefitting The Burn Institute. Raffles will be drawn at noon, 2:30 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. — all from the Main Stage. Great prizes include fishing trips, tackle, tickets to area attractions and much more.

# It's Almost That Time Of Year Again: The Season

Two words that strike fear in many a shelter workers hearts — "kitten season". What is kitten season you ask?

Kitten season is the time of year when cats give birth, flooding animal shelters across the nation with homeless litters. Kitten season is really three seasons in one, starting in spring, peaking in late spring or early summer, and ending in fall. It may begin sooner and last a little longer here in Arizona because of our nice warm weather (lucky us!).

We are also in need of puppy fosters. Although dogs will mate all year long, (they don't care about the weather), puppy litters do go up slightly in the warmer months so we will also occasionally be



looking for puppy fosters.

Puppies and kittens can only be adopted when they are eight weeks or older and they cannot be at the shelter when they are any younger than that because their immune systems are so fragile. This is where our amazing foster families come in so they have a place to stay until they are ready to come back to the shelter to be altered and put up for adoption.

In preparation for this crazy time of year, we are getting all of our fosters lined

up and ready to go. If you are interested in fostering kittens or puppies that are too young to come into the shelter we would love to have you. Here are a few guidelines —

- You must be a current foster or a newly approved foster.
- New fosters must attend our Foster Orientation and be approved to foster.
- You must be able to take more than one puppy or kitten (unless they are singletons) along with the mom cat/dog (if the kittens/puppies are nursing). Of course, each situation will be a little different.
- Fostering is not for everyone; we understand that, but we also need dedicated

fosters parents who will be able to keep the kittens or puppies for the duration of the foster period.

How do you get started? Just fill out our online foster application to get the ball rolling. Once we have a need for a foster, you will be contacted and if you are available, you will soon have kittens or puppies in your care.

Here's the link to the online foster application: <http://lostourhome.rescuegroups.org/info/display?PageID=9793>

If you have any questions or are interested in fostering for Lost Our Home please contact Tracey Varga at [tracey@lostourhome.org](mailto:tracey@lostourhome.org). Let the kittens (and puppies) begin!

## Fur And Feather Sends Update

**FROM THE GREAT FOLKS AT FUR & FEATHER**

Hello everybody and we hope this update finds you all doing well. It is a wonderful new year and spring is upon us! A lot has happened over the last few months.

Tango, our special girl who has been with us six years, found a forever home. She chose her person. It is going well with Tango and her new family.

We have had a few great adoptions, and many new dogs have come to us recently.

### New Team Members

We have been moving forward as usual, and a lot has changed. Two new people have joined the team and have been staying at Fur and Feather as our new caretakers for the premises. They are a great asset, and have been a tremendous help. We are looking to build a small living structure or are looking for a larger single-wide trailer to make their stay more comfortable. Any leads in this area would be greatly appreciated.

Brad, Jennifer and I have been working hard keeping FFAA running smoothly. With this new year underway, many new goals and ideas are ahead of us.

### Using Tires For New Dog Houses

Our plans for expanding dog runs is

on the top of the list as well as making ten new tire dog house shelters. With new dogs coming in, it seems we should make some more room for dogs to have larger areas to run and a cozier place to rest. We want to make permanent dog houses for each of these larger dog runs out used car tires.

Jennifer was inspired by Mike Reynolds Earth Ship concept in Taos, N.M. She thought, if these types of homes can be built for humans, why not make smaller versions for dogs? These are nearly indestructible, well insulated and will provide warmth in the winter and be nice and cool in the summer.

Once built, they are beautifully covered with stucco and are quite eye appealing. We started a prototype and it took about a day to build. We are excited about this new project getting started soon! Any help or ideas in this area will also be greatly appreciated.

### Fundraising Plans For 2016

We are also hoping to do some type of a fundraiser in the near future, and would like some outside help with organizing and setting it up. Any good ideas are welcome.

Now that we have a new year ahead of FFAA, I would like to be more involved with the community by, doing workshops, talking with local groups, and working with the local sheriff's department and raising awareness about our purpose here

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## AQUA-HOT

*Continued from page 13*

rienced technicians. Master joiners build the solid cabinetry at the company's Humboldt, Iowa factory. The molded fiberglass bodies are designed and formed on location. Its website is [www.bornferv.com](http://www.bornferv.com).

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## BURROS

*Continued from page 10*

economic downturn, some through the Native America tribes that have a huge issue with them and some through the birthing that takes place. Remember, a herd size doubles every four years.

### Water For All Wildlife

I have issues with horse lovers who refuse to "belly up to the bar" and put their money where their mouth is. Each year, groups I belong to raise in excess of \$1,000,000.00 for habitat and wildlife. I do work on projects where we put waters in so that all wildlife thrives.

I have been hunting in unit 3A, 3C along the Rim Country for over 30 years now. Prior to the Rodeo Cheddeski fire, there were only four or five horses that

were documented in those units. After a lot of work to improve the habitat after the fires, horses came in fairly large numbers from the White Mountain Apache Reservation. Drive through south of Heber now and all you see are horse droppings along every road. It will reach critical mass somewhere along the line and then it will be too late.

### Species Specific

I have issues with housing over 40,000 unwanted animals across the Midwest at taxpayers' expense. You are basing your love for a single species without a natural predator. Without adequate funding from the horse lovers, the taxpayers will continue to foot the bill and that is flat out wrong. The cattlemen across Arizona have been working the land for well over

## Their remarkable rescue and shelter facility in New Mexico needs our support.

in Catron county and other surrounding areas.

### Our Wish List

Even from a distance (e.g., Arizonans reading this article), animal lovers can be of great help in our mission of caring and shelterin. Our current needs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Camper trailer and or single wide trailer,
- Ply wood and or siding,
- Fencing,
- Any building materials,
- Money,
- Volunteers for Fur and Feather,
- Storage sheds,
- Dog and cat food, and
- Any dog and cat supplies.

So far this year is heading off with a good start. We hope all of you are enjoy the sunny weather and doing well. Thank you all for considering these requests and for your continued support.

### Two Of Our Adoptable Residents

#### Squeaky

Squeaky loves everyone. He hasn't chased any of the cats and he is great in the house. He loves to play with Sarah's Husky-Cross dog Seer. We can't wait until he gets his forever home.

We are taking applications now. If you are interested you can fill out the applica-

tion online and email it to [furandfeather-animalassistance@gmail.com](mailto:furandfeather-animalassistance@gmail.com). We will go over the applications and pick a lucky person to take him home. Prepare yourself for a love of a lifetime. He is a keeper!

#### Felina.

This sweet little hound girl was brought to us by some very good people. They had found her on the highway between Datil and Reserve, N.M., running stray and scared.

Felina was half starved and had a horrendous wound on her hip. She had been attacked by some sort of predator and had several large puncture wounds in her hip.

We had some good luck with a new mobile vet from Magdalena, N.M., named Jane Fassing. She was doing a clinic in PieTown. Jane thoroughly cleaned and dressed Felina's wounds and gave her a good dose of antibiotics.

Felina is very lucky. The vet said she must have had a run in with a large cat of some kind. She is just about a year old and has a great personality. She is very loving and eager to please. She is healing very well.

### Please Contact Us

Our email is [furandfeatheranimalassistance@gmail.com](mailto:furandfeatheranimalassistance@gmail.com) and our mailing address is Fur and Feather Animal Assistance, Inc., P.O. Box 555, Pie Town, NM 87827

## STEWARDS

*Continued from page 13*

ISDA, a non-profit corporation founded in 1993 representing the indigenous and non-indigenous populations of the U.S. and Mexico to: promote the concept and practice of conservation throughout the region; provide education in ways of protecting and respecting valuable biological and cultural resources and traditions; develop creative and sustainable solutions

to critical local issues such as housing and economic development; and provide practical opportunities for individual and community action.

ISDA designs and implements environmental, cultural, real estate and business development projects intended to preserve and enrich the environment, culture and economy of the Sonoran Desert. For more information about the Arizona Site Steward Program call (602) 542-4174 or visit [AZStateParks.com](http://AZStateParks.com).

100 years and they monitor range conditions, put in dirt tanks for water and are stewards of the land.

Horse lovers nickname their perceived 1300-pound pets and ridicule anyone who challenges what is going on. At the far end of the spectrum, China imports 500,000 tons of horse meat every year for food for their country. While not on the American table fare, it is served across Europe and Canada.

### At Taxpayers' Expense

I used the statistics available on the Wild Horse and Burro Web site regarding costs, so that is not imagined. I would love to see a balance out there, but your only solution comes at taxpayers' expense and says nothing about herd reductions — and that is where my angst comes from.

Just an FYI, I do love horses, I have owned them and I see them every year up north where they do whatever they want with impunity, since they are no longer afraid of humans. The cattle you speak of are culled every year; they are moved from pasture to pasture and the permittees are liable for managing the landscape. What say you?

There is no denying the beauty of horses, but there is also no denying the beauty of a bull elk during the rut, or a herd of deer in the wild.

Sorry for the length and meandering, but horse lovers need to get a grip and pay for what they love, just as sportsmen do for our wildlife — and not through taxpayers' money.

**John Koleszar**  
[elkhabitat@gmail.com](mailto:elkhabitat@gmail.com)



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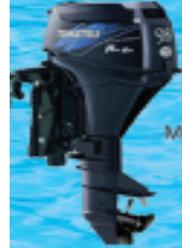
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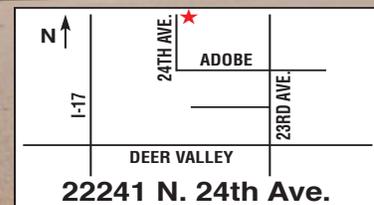
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# Public Comment Period Extended

In response to several requests for an extension, the Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the National Park Service (NPS), is extending the public comment period for the Glen Canyon Dam Long-term Experimental and Management Plan (LTEMP) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to May 9. Reclamation and the NPS will accept comments that are received or postmarked by that date.

The LTEMP is a proposed framework for adaptively managing Glen Canyon Dam over the next 20 years with the goal of creating certainty and predictability for power and water users while protecting environmental and cultural resources in Grand Canyon National Park and the Colorado River ecosystem.

For more information about the draft EIS, visit <http://ltempis.anl.gov>. To submit a comment, visit [parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=39292](http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=39292).

## BOAT SHOW

*Continued from page 1*

going to benefit the Lake Havasu High School Athletic Booster Club, has guaranteed over \$5,000 in cash prize money to the various winners in each category. More than 50 chili and salsa teams are expected to compete. Best of all, attendees have the opportunity to sample all the recipes by purchasing a \$5 tasting kit while at the boat show.

### Family Fun Day Proceeds Benefit LHHS Boosters

Then on Sunday, get ready for "Family Fun Day" at the Boat Show. Grade-school-aged kids wearing their school spirit and/or team/sport shirt to the boat show will be admitted free. "Family Fun Day" will be highlighted by a People's Choice chili cook-off, a host of carnival games and activities for the entire family, plus tasty fair-food favorites like hot dogs, cotton candy, and kettle corn.

All proceeds from "Family Fun Day" go to benefit the Lake Havasu High School Athletic Booster Club.

## WaterCross Races, Cornhole Competition

Also returning as a boat show favorite will be the IJSBA Jettribe Gary Hart Memorial PWC WaterCross Races featuring over 150 of the fastest personal watercraft racers in the country hitting speeds up to 70 miles an hour around a challenging motocross style race course. Competition begins on Saturday and Sunday at 9am.

And, for those who fancy themselves expert "Cornhole" players, there will be the second annual Lake Havasu "Cornhole" Championships at the boat show with classes for all ages, both singles and doubles/teams plus cash awards for the winners.

### The B's Have It: Boats, 'Beach Bash', Beer, Bar, BBQ, Band

Brand new for 2016 will be the Friday, April 8 afternoon/evening "Boat Show Beach Bash" with beer garden, adult beverage bar, barbecue food favorites and a live band performing. Happy hour will begin at 5:30 pm for food and drinks followed at 6:30pm by a classic rock concert.

The "Beach Bash" is free to everyone who purchases a boat-show admission ticket earlier on Friday. For those only wanting to attend the "Beach Bash", there is a nominal \$2.00 per person cover charge.

### Details, Including Schedule

- Friday, April 8 from noon to 6 p.m. ("Beach Bash" starts at 5:30 p.m.)

- Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

- Sunday, April 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Admission is \$5.00 for adults and kids 6 and under are free.

- Parking is also free.
- Food courts and two beer gardens will also be open to serve visitors.

- For those interested in buying a new boat, boat demos are available on a by-appointment basis immediately following the boat show on Sunday afternoon and all day on Monday, April 11.

For additional boat show information, please visit <http://www.lakehavasu-boatshow.com>. Another contact is Bob Brown, 951-501-0210 [info@lakehavasu-boatshow.com](mailto:info@lakehavasu-boatshow.com).

## STRIPERS

*Continued from page 8*

Since they feed in low light, it is necessary to fish for them at night or in low light at dawn and dusk. They are vulnerable in May when the water warms rapidly and food is not readily available. In these conditions, walleye must feed during the day to obtain enough food to thrive. It

is wise to use live worms on bass jigs in May to catch many of these great-tasting food fish. There is no limit on walleye so fill the freezer in May for good eating all year long.

We are planning to tag some walleye in late April and then pass out prizes to the lucky anglers who catch a tagged fish. The purpose is to make more anglers aware of walleye presence and teach

them the specific techniques needed to target walleye in Lake Powell.

### Reports Will Be Shared

Lake Powell really has a very complementary population of fish that respond to existing conditions that favor one fish species this year and another the next. In any given year, there will be different fish species and fishing techniques that work

well. Each season will favor a certain group of fish and different effective fishing techniques.

I will do my best to gather reports on fish locations, species and techniques, which I will then share with you to make it easier to find a fish finding starting point when arriving at this beautiful destination from your home far away.

## FISHING

*Continued from page 8*

water. The lack of shad in the backs of canyons has caused fish movement of the large schools to the main channel. Large schools are swimming along the canyon walls looking for food. For those who have missed bait fishing the last two

years, it seems the wait is over. Bait time is here again.

Decent numbers of stripers have been caught on bait at Glen Canyon Dam this week. Reports from two groups yesterday found that anglers in the back of Navajo caught 21 stripers trolling while the group fishing at the dam caught 28 fish. The choice is yours. If you like to chase fish while trolling and casting then head

to shallow water in the canyons. If you like to kick back and fish bait then go to deep water in the main channel.

The good bait fishing spots from previous years should be in play. Be the first to report catching fish on bait at the dam, Buoy 3 on the corner near Antelope Canyon, SRP power plant intake, Warm Creek Wall, Labyrinth Wall, and many other popular locations such as the Nava-

jo Canyon points past the double islands.

Personally, I am going to try the most productive bait-fishing spot in the past five years by heading to the cove near Buoy 25 on the corner before reaching Gregory Butte.

I better rest up. There is a lot of fishing to do this spring!

*At press time, lake elevation was 3,594 and water temperature was 51-55F.*

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