



Western Outdoor Times

April 2017

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A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports

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

A Big Show, A Big Storm – Both Coming Soon To Havasu

Boating

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Western Wildlife

Page 16

PHOTO BY TODD TAYLOR, JOKERS WILD PRODUCTIONS



Southwest Events Celebrate Spring



Street Party

DESERT STORM POKER RUN & SHOOTOUT

This Powerful Storm Is Predicted To Be Bigger, Better Than Ever

It's with thanks to the multiyear returning main sponsors Shugrue's Family of Fine Restaurants, Spectre Powerboats, the Lake Havasu Convention and Visitors Bureau, DCB Performance Boats and Teague Custom Marine that we are able to bring you a bigger, better Desert Storm for 2017.

Along with the return of all that you love about this, the largest performance-boating event in the West, we have a new date, May 2-6 for the 18th annual running. Also new is the move of the Desert Storm headquarters and our Power in the Park Powersports Festival to Windsor Beach at the Arizona State Park to better serve you.

Power in The Park

Participant check in and registration will again be at the VIP tent at the Sunrise Rotary

Street Party on Thursday, May 4. This will be at the VIP tent on Springberg/McAndrew Park on McCulloch Blvd, and free participant parking is there. Sponsor and vendor opportunities still exist for that venue and the giant, free festival — Power in the Park.

Email jimm@lakeracerllc.com for sponsorship and vendor information.

The newly renovated Windsor Beach (known as the home of the Lake Havasu Boat Show) is located on London Bridge Road and fronts on the north end of the Bridgewater Channel where an imported sand beach is available for participant boats. This park affords prime viewing of the KNTR Parade of Power as the boats cruise past Friday morning on their way to the start of the Poker run. The

See **STORM**, Page 6



ON THE COVER

A Big Storm Hits Lake Havasu In May

BY CAROL L. ALLEN

One of the most popular boating events in Arizona is the annual Desert Storm Poker Run & Shootout, held each spring at Lake Havasu. This year, performance boats will be searing the waters May 2-6 for the 18th running.

The credit on the cover photo of the poker run goes to Todd Taylor of Jokers Wild Productions. He really helps with Desert Storm as a photographer and doing all kinds of major functions from dock installation to setup of the race courses.

This and the Lake Havasu Boat Show, April 7-9, highlight spring calendars and assure outdoors enthusiasts they have fantastic choices for fun-filled days and nights in the Southwest.

These two events plus a featured escape to another desert oasis, Lake Roosevelt, underscore the importance to so many people of water-related activities and opportunities in Arizona.

Lake Havasu Boat Show Adds New Special Attractions

Largest-ever Arizona boat show preps for record attendance.

"So big, you might not be able to see it all in just one-day," commented Lake Havasu Boat Show producer, Bob Brown. "The growth of this boat show has been astounding. We'll be 130 exhibitors and vendors strong when the Boat Show opens on Friday, April 7 at Lake Havasu State Park.

"This will be the first time we'll be using both special event areas at the Park, Windsor lots 3 & 4 plus the new launch ramp and courtesy docks for in-water demos during the show. I'd suggest visitors arrive early and plan to make a full day of it. The Boat Show is that big."

Come By Boat

Creating a lot of excitement among Lake



Havasu Boat Show visitors is the recent announcement that boaters will be able to come to the Boat Show by boat. "Arizona State

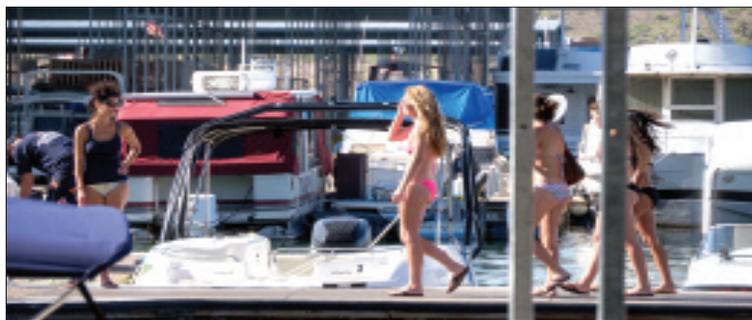
Parks has just finished a new 600-foot wide

See **BOAT SHOW**, Page 6

ARIZONA ROAD TRIP

Get Out To Roosevelt Lake, A Spectacular Desert Oasis

So close to Phoenix, but you'll feel as if you're worlds away.



Arizona has some remarkably beautiful destinations for outdoor enthusiasts. And, whether you're looking for a week or a weekend adventure, a trip to Roosevelt Lake is a must-see oasis in the desert.

The Roosevelt Lake Marina, home to great group of boat lovers, is an ideal location on the lake for boat and water toy rentals, docking your boat in a guest slip or simply escaping from the heat. The self-contained community has a floating bar with grill-your-own food, where you can enjoy spectacular views with friends and family.

Before you head out on the lake, the Marina's store has snacks, ice, drinks and sunblock to help make your adventure on the water relaxing and enjoyable.



Evenings Right On The Water

Evenings can be spent at the Marina's Floating Hotel, a cozy two-bedroom cabin that can accommodate up to eight and you're right on the water! It's an ideal option for a

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Land Cruising

Volunteers Needed
Popular Boulders OHV Area needs to be cleaned up to help ensure future recreation opportunities in the area/Page 18



Boating

It Won't Be Your 'Last Stop'
Bartlett Lake's new restaurant, "The Last Stop" will have you coming back time and time again/Page 20



Thank you to no-kill shelters such as *Lost Our Home* in Tempe, Ariz., and *Fur and Feather* in Pie Town, N.M., for their dedication to the many animals who have no forever homes.

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DOWNSTREAM: April 2017 Events Calendar

BOATING

7-9 LAKE HAVASU CITY: Jettibee Lake Havasu Open of Watercross Gary Hart Memorial – Lake Havasu State Park, Lot 4. Championship PWC racing returns to Lake Havasu. IJSBA-sanctioned event with some of the best PWC racers from the Western U.S. and Canada compete for points, two days of freestyle and closed-course racing. Free. 9 am. 310-318-4012 or <http://www.golakehavasu.com/events/details/1705/>

8 PEORIA: 8th Annual Paddle Fest 2017 – Lake Pleasant Regional Park, Firemans Cove. 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

14-15 PARKER: Lucas Oil Drag Boat Racing - BlueWater Resort & Casino. Featuring Top Fuel, Nitros, & more, the funny cars of boats, last year the world record was broken for the fastest on water at BlueWater Resort & Casino, fans may get to see a new world record. <http://www.parkeraz.org>

22 LAKE HAVASU CITY: Another Dam Race: Desert Paddle Series - Nautical Beachfront Resort. 9-mile paddle race around the Island on Lake Havasu. Open to any paddlecraft. Conditions can range from glass water to downwind roller coaster rough. Sat 9 am - 3 pm. 602-513-3067 or <http://www.golakehavasu.com/events/details/1598>

2/29/2018 GOAT CRUISE: Sign up now for this family fun goat cruise. Kids are welcome and nannies will be provided. Call Billy for reservations: (619) 523-3091.

May 2-6 LAKE HAVASU: Desert Storm Poker Run & Shootout (See story on page 1.)

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

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.us-sailing.org/training and clicking on the Red Cross Online Training button (towards the bottom of the page).

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

3-7 WICKENBURG: 70th Annual Desert Caballeros Ride – The greatest trail ride in the American West. 170+ mounted riders leave town for a journey of a life time. <http://www.outwickenburgway.com>

4-9 YUMA: 65th Annual County Fair - Yuma County Fairgrounds. Entertainment, concerts, 4H & FFA exhibits, livestock show & auction, demolition derby, Yuma Gem & Mineral Society, carnival. \$ 8 am – midnight. 928-726-4420 or <http://www.visityumacity.com> or <http://www.yumafair.com>

5-9 SCOTTSDALE: 21st Annual Arizona Bike Week – WestWorld. Motorcycle, racing, flat track racing, charity rides, concert, vendor show, motorcycle demo rides, entertainment, food. Free. 10 am – 8 pm. 480-644-8191 or <http://www.azbikeweek.com>

21-23 PRESCOTT: Becoming an Outdoors Woman - Camp Friendly Pines. Offers adventure and life skills, for women age 18 and older to learn to camp, fish, rappel, hike, cook with Dutch ovens, photograph wildlife & a range of outdoor recreation skills, "hawk talks" and nature hikes, \$235 includes meals, lodging and classes. 480-644-0077 or <http://www.azwildlife.org>

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

COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL

Note: There are many events scheduled to celebrate the Easter season; see <http://www.visitarizona.com/events>.

6-9 FLORENCE: 2017 Country Thunder – 4 days of the hottest country acts, this year headliners include in addition to 20 other national and local country acts. 866-802-6418 or <http://www.countrythunder.com>

12-16 PHOENIX: 42nd Annual Maricopa County Fair – Here We Grow Again - State Fairgrounds. An annual occasion to celebrate & pursue the traditional values of educational opportunity, agricultural prosperity & love of family, midway, commercial exhibits, hobbies, agriculture & youth exhibits, motorized events. \$9, children 7 & under are free. 602-252-0717 or <http://www.maricopacountyfair.org>

22 TEMPE: 13th Annual Pat's Run – Sun Devil Stadium. 4.2 miles run, .42 free kids

fun run/walk. Finishes inside Sun Devil Stadium, camo race shirt & merchandise, new collector series medal for all 4.2 Mile finishers, post-race party with beer & music, new coral technology that validates coral assignments based on actual finish times, advanced Light Rail tickets for purchase with registration. \$40-50. 7 am. <http://www.patillmanfoundation.org/pats-run/>

EXPOS/SHOWS

7-9 LAKE HAVASU CITY: Havasu Marine Association's 26th Annual Boat Show – Lake Havasu State Park. Largest boat show in Arizona and Nevada featuring over 100 exhibitors and 60 different brands of boats for sale, nearly 10,000 local and out-of-area visitors attend this event, "Legends by the Lake" car show, IJSBA Jettibee PWC "WaterCross" racing, 5th Annual Chili Cookoff, boating accessories for sale, food vendors and beer gardens, boat demos and test drives by appointment. \$5, 6 & under free. <http://golakehavasu.com/events/details/72/>

FISHING

9 SAN DIEGO: Day at the Docks (See graphic on page 12.)

22 LAKE HAVASU CITY: 37th Annual New Horizons Pro-Am Bass Tournament – Lake Havasu State Park, Lot 2. Learn from the pros during a friendly competition for the Big Fish prize or catch a tagged fish for a chance to win. \$225/team. 5:30 am/safe light. 928-846-1052 or <http://www.golakehavasu.com/events/details/116/>

SHOOTING SPORTS/ ARCHERY

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

19 BEN AVERY SHOOTING FACILITY: "Shot Heard 'round the World Day" is a day when recreational shooters can join together to symbolize the first shot fired in 1775 to mark the beginning of the American Revolution, while enjoying a fun shooting event.

7-9 PHOENIX: 2017 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>

WATERSPORTS

Diving
SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS: Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake: sales@saguarosports.com
Frozen

Ongoing LEARN TO CURL LESSONS: learntocurl@coyotescurling.com

IN MEMORY

In Memory Of
Our Uncle Jack
M. Fitch
June 18, 1928
March 12, 2016
(If desired, honoring donations may be made to www.furandfeather.org.)



20-23 SCOTTSDALE: 13th 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

TEMPE: Ironcare Splash & Dash + Swim Only – Race 1 – 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. \$45-50. 6 pm. <http://www.4peakracing.com/>

9 PEORIA: 13th Annual Bartlett Lake 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/>

23 CHANDLER: The Tri-Family Racing Chandler Adult & Youth Sprint Triathlon/ Duathlon - Hamilton Aquatic Center. Maxi Tri Plus: 600y swim, 16mi bike, 3mi run (swim takes place in a heated pool), Maxi Tri: 400y swim, 12mi bike, 3mi run, Mini Tri: 200y swim, 8mi bike, 2mi run, Youth Tri: 100y swim, 4mi bike, 1/2mi run, Maxi Du: 2mi run, 12mi bike, 2mi run, Adult 2 or 3 person relay teams = Same distances as Maxi Tri Plus listed above. <http://www.trifamilyracing.com/>

WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

2 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

See **CALENDAR**, Page 18

For a complete list of Arizona events, visit www.visitarizona.com/events

IN MEMORY



In Memory Of
Steve Weaver
March 29, 1968-
March 24, 2017
(If desired, honoring donations may be made to www.rubyranchrescue.org.)



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.

April 2017				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	April 8 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 15 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	April 15 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Bldg. 2176 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-08	April 15 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(510) 386-2356
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-07	April 22 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bell American Plaza 7121 W. Bell Road Glendale	\$30	(928) 310-4603

May 2017				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	May 13 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 20 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	May 20 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Bldg. 2176 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-08	May 20 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(510) 386-2356
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-07	May 20 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bell American Plaza 7121 W. Bell Road Glendale	\$30	(928) 310-4603

Know the Rules: Learn to identify “Navi-Aids”



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



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

Controlled

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



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



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

Other Non-Lateral Markers

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



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

Mooring Buoy

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

Note, the following actions are illegal:

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

Need to borrow a life jacket?

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

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

Registration Decal



Spaces or hyphens should appear here.

Register your watercraft

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

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

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



Boating



LOAN TIPS — How will you finance it? BoatUS has some suggestions re: getting a boat loan.

Ten Tips To Get The Right Boat Loan

How do you get the right boat loan for your new or previously owned dream boat? Here are ten tips from Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS).

1. Check your credit: Before applying for a loan, ensure your credit report is accurate, and get your current credit score. The closer to 700 and higher, the better the rate you'll get. A free copy of your credit report is available annually from each of the three national credit bureaus at www.annualcreditreport.com. To get your credit score, first try checking with your credit card issuer or bank you do business with. If it's not provided, you will need to speak to a credit counselor, use a fee-based service or purchase it from the credit bureau. More at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

2. Find the right loan type: A fixed-rate, fixed-term, simple-interest loan is the most common. This offers the same monthly payment for the life of the loan. Variable rate or hybrid options may offer a combination of a fixed rate for a few years then a variable rate. With interest rates forecasted to rise in 2017, the appeal of variable rate loans may increase. Don't forget to ask if there are prepayment penalties for paying off the loan early.

3. Compare loan rates: Generally, rates are lower and available loan terms are longer for newer boats and larger loan amounts. However, each is dependent on a variety of factors including model year, loan amount and down payment. Be prepared for lenders to require larger down payments, have higher rates and offer shorter terms on older boats, especially those over 20 model years. There could also be a .25 percent rate difference between some consecutive model years, so

See **TIPS**, Page 5

C&U Upholstery LLC
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 480.621.7725 | clupholstery.net

Department Receives \$46,000 For DUI/OUI Checkpoints

AZGFD, Governor's Office of Highway Safety to target impaired boat, OHV operators.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) will enhance its efforts to target removal of impaired watercraft and off-highway vehicle (OHV) operators from Arizona's recreation areas through a partnership with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

AGFD was awarded nearly \$46,000 in grant funding for officers to target DUI/OUI offenders on the state's waterways and those riding OHVs. In addition to funding overtime for increased DUI/OUI patrols, officers will also target helmet, seat belt and child restraint compliance when required while riding in a UTV, an ATV or motorcycle.

Safe Recreation

"AZGFD has a strong relationship with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, which has always supported our efforts to keep our waterways and recreation areas safe for families to enjoy

Arizona's beautiful landscapes," said Tim Baumgarten, AZGFD boating law administrator.

"Safe recreation means taking care of your friends or family by designating a sober operator and wearing proper safety equipment, including a life jacket while on the water and a helmet when on trails."

Drowning was the reported number-one cause of death in approximately 76 percent of 626 boating fatalities in 2015 and alcohol use was the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents nationwide, according to the U.S. Coast Guard's most-recent statistics. Additionally, approximately 85 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

Life Jackets, Helmets

In Arizona, anyone under 12 years old must wear a life jacket while aboard and



the vessel must have one life jacket available for every passenger. Those under 18 years old riding an ATV, UTV or motorcycle are required to wear a helmet.

In addition, under the grant funding, AZGFD will deploy its cadre of drug recognition experts to assist in the DUI/OUI checkpoints statewide. This will allow officers to perform additional enforcement without taking manpower and funding away from other AZGFD patrol responsibilities.

For more information on boating in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.gov/boating. For more information on OHVs in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.gov/ohv.

Boat Trailer Insurance Mysteries Revealed By BoatUS

If you get in an accident while trailering your boat, do you know which insurance policy will pay for repairs to the trailer?

If it's a simple accident with damage to the trailer only, it's likely to be the trailer insurance coverage that pays. But what happens when you back the trailer into a neighbor's stone wall or a tree comes crashing down on your trailer in your backyard? Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) understands how the combination of homeowners, auto, boat and boat trailer insurance add up to protect trailer boaters and offers these tips:

Start with the basics. When shopping for insurance for your trailer boat, ensure to ask if the policy provides boat trailer coverage. Not all insurers provide it.

Know the trailer value. If you decide to add trailer coverage to your boat's insurance policy, your insurer needs to know the cost of the boat and trailer separately. If you don't separate each out, the insurer may have difficulty in fairly compensating you in the event of a claim.

How far can you trailer? Ask if there are geographic limits on where or how far you may trailer your boat.

Check your auto insurance. Ensure your tow vehicle's insurance policy includes liability coverage for any damage to others' property caused while trailering your boat, for example, backing into your neighbor's stone wall. This liability coverage is not provided by your boat and trailer policy.

Check your homeowner's insurance. Ask your homeowner's insurance company if your trailer is covered while stored at home. (And try not to park a



WHO PAYS? — A tree came crashing down on this boat that was sitting on its trailer. Which insurance policy is likely to pay for repairs to the trailer?

boat trailer under a tree!)

Read the fine print. If you store your boat trailer at your marina or other storage facility, read the fine print in your contract as it relates to insurance. Many include language that holds these facilities harmless. Review these clauses with your insurance company to make sure you're not in danger of a breach of the insurance contract, which could result in no coverage.

Roadside assistance. For a nominal fee, many auto insurance policies offer roadside assistance. Boat trailers, however, aren't likely to be included in the coverage and if there is a breakdown of

the tow vehicle or the trailer, your boat could be left on the side of the road. Consider adding separate roadside assistance for your boat trailer.

For BoatUS insurance policyholders, roadside assistance for both the tow vehicle and trailer (while towing) is included with the insured trailer. Or it may be added for \$14 to any BoatUS membership. In either scenario, BoatUS Unlimited Trailer Assist will tow both a boat trailer and its disabled towing vehicle up to 100 miles.

For more information, go to BoatUS.com/insurance or call 1-800-283-2883.

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"The Boat Men" TURNER
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 Fax: 480-833-6508

Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association Campaigns For The 1100-Mile Waterway On Capitol Hill

Hazardous shoaling reduces depth to less than 5 feet in several sections.

The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, the famed 1100-plus mile coastal waterway stretching from Norfolk, Virginia to Miami, Florida, is getting "thin." Shoaling has created hazardous conditions in some areas with depths reported less than 5 feet — which reflects a remarkable 7 feet of water depth lost in the waterway's authorized minimum depth of 12 feet. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association (AIWA), a waterways interest group, recently gathered in Washington, DC, to ensure the Department of Transportation-designated marine highway M-95 is a top priority for Congress and the Trump Administration.

AIWA members are requesting legislators allocate \$50 million for additional dredging needs to come from within the

US Army Corps of Engineers operating and maintenance budget. AIWA members also pressed the case for continued allocations for operations and maintenance of navigation projects.

An estimated 13,000 recreational boaters, or "snowbirds," make the annual boating migration from the Northeast (and other areas) to Florida each year, averaging \$300 per day in spending supporting small-business jobs along the way. Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), a charter member of the AIWA, has concerns about boaters potentially forced to take more hazardous offshore routes due to ICW shoaling. BoatUS's on-water TowBoatUS towing responders in South Carolina and Georgia report shoaling to be an on-

going issue in some locations.

"The waterway is critical US infrastructure and important to recreational boaters," said David Kennedy, Manager of BoatUS Government Affairs. "We vigorously support efforts to improve navigation and waterway access."

Brad Pickel, executive director of AIWA, said, "We appreciate the high level of support by the Congressional delegation along the entire waterway. We look forward to ongoing investments in Marine Highway 95 as part of the infrastructure and jobs focus in the new administration."

Additional AIWA members include the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, America's Great Loop Cruisers' Association, Florida Inland Navigation District, Waterways Journal, and the National Marine Manufacturers Association, as well as state and local agencies, marinas and commercial shipping businesses, tour-



(L to R) Brad Pickel, executive director, AIWA; David Kennedy, manager, BoatUS Government Affairs; Mark Crosley, chairman of the board, AIWA, and executive director, Florida Inland Navigation District

ism groups, publications, associations, dredging companies and tug and maritime businesses.

For more information about the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association visit atlanticintracoastal.org.

Lifting Eyes Create Boat-Moving Options

Boats can be hoisted out of the water or off a trailer using properly-sized lifting eyes. They provide an owner flexibility in how the boat is stored and moved, and create an additional tie-down point when towing. Accon Marine offers a line of Lifting Eyes rated up to 12,000 lbs. that conveniently fold flush to the deck when not in use.

Accon Marine's durable Lifting Eyes are manufactured from stainless steel: series 316 for the eye and base, and 304 for the lifting eye. The slings are solid castings for increased strength and safety. The fittings are connected inside the hull to a structural member or piece of hardware, such as a bow eye, using threaded rod for added strength.

The compact Oval Lifting Eye is only 4.25" L x 2.6" W and sits flush against the deck. Raised, the 1.75" W x 1.9" H eye has a maximum working load of 4,000 lbs. It can be drained or sealed. The hub pivots to overcome misalignment for easy installation, using four #10 screws.

Accon Marine's Round Lifting Eye is 3.5" round and mounts flush to the deck with four #10 screws. Its eye accommodates up to 1" line. It also has a maximum working load of 4,000 lbs.

For serious loads, the Extra Large Round Lifting Eye is hard to beat. With



THE 'EYES' HAVE IT! — Boats can be hoisted out of the water or off a trailer using properly-sized lifting eyes. They provide an owner flexibility in how the boat is stored and moved, and create an additional tie-down point when towing. Accon Marine offers a line of Lifting Eyes rated up to 12,000 lbs. that conveniently fold flush to the deck when not in use.

grade 8 bolts, it's rated for 12,000 lbs. and has an actual failure figure of 36,000 lbs. It's 4.9" round, requires a 3-1/4" hole and fastens with four 1/4" screws.

Accon Marine's Oval Lifting Eye costs \$263.89, the Round Lifting Eye is \$262.98 and the Extra Large Round Lifting Eye is \$441.42.

Contact local dealers or Accon Marine, 13665 Automobile Blvd., Clearwater, FL 33762. 727-572-9202; Fax: 727-572-7621. www.acconmarine.com.

TIPS

Continued from page 4

be sure to talk with your lender and understand their rate and term structure.

4. Don't be fooled by ads: You may see rates advertised as low as 3.99 percent, but there usually will be some small print that could make that loan less attractive. For instance, the rate might only be fixed for a few years or the loan period might be only seven years.

5. Get pre-approved: Ask if you can get preapproval, or if your lender allows you to start the underwriting process before you have a signed sales agreement. This may save some time.

6. Consider a HELOC: Thinking of using a home-equity line of credit (HELOC) to buy your boat? This might work if you have equity in your home and you plan to pay the boat off while interest rates remain relatively low. Unsecured loans (loans not secured by your boat) are also an option for well-qualified individuals.

7. Explore tax benefits: A boat can qualify as a second-home loan interest deduction if it has a berth, head and galley, so buying a boat just large enough to have these features could offer a tax advantage. There's an overall limitation on

the second-home deduction. You can only deduct two homes, and it can't total more than \$1 million in loans. If you count the HELOC, the threshold is \$1.1 million.

8. Get it surveyed: So you've secured the loan and found the boat you've wanted. Hang on! While you might think the boat is perfect, hire a qualified marine surveyor to inspect the boat to ensure it is in good condition and you won't have any unexpected repair bills. A list can be found at BoatUS.com/surveyors. Also, many lenders will require a marine survey.

LED Light Consumes 1/50th Of An Amp

LED lighting has changed how people enjoy the outdoors at night. Davis Instruments takes this innovation to a higher level with its Mega-Light. Two models provide bright, clear light, while only drawing 1/50th of an amp.

With their advanced, easy-to-replace LED bulbs and high-output circuit boards, Mega-Lights are so efficient, they'll run for 2,000 hours—over 80 days—on a fully charged 12 volt car battery. They even feature a light sensor that turns them on automatically when it gets dark.

Rugged Mega-Lights are built for the outdoors. They're 100% waterproof with an O-ring seal. The Fresnel lens projects light an impressive 2 nm/2.3 mi., and an included 320 mA bulb provides the option for twice that illumination. While not USCG approved, Mega-Light is commonly used in addition to an anchor light. This allows dinghy operators looking forward in the dark to see its illumination.

Perfect for boaters, anglers, RVers or anyone with a 12V DC outlet, the Mega-Light Utility light comes with a UL-approved, 15' heavy-duty cord with fused plug and hanging bracket. An incandescent bulb is included for softer lighting.

The Mega-Light Masthead is perfect for use as a navigation, interior or security light. It comes with a stainless steel bracket to mount to a mast or bulkhead, or inside an engine compartment. With six



LET THERE BE LIGHT! — LED lighting has changed how people enjoy the outdoors at night. Davis Instruments takes this innovation to a higher level with its Mega-Light. Two models provide bright, clear light, while only drawing 1/50th of an amp.

#10 holes and two key-way slots, it offers a wide variety of installation options, and even comes ready for use with a Davis Windex. It's pre-wired with a 12" lead.

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BOAT SHOW

Continued from page 1

white-sand boater beach located along the northwest shore of London Bridge Channel adjacent to the Kings View condos," said Brown.

"This new stretch of beach will allow boaters to beach their boats and walk directly into the Boat Show during show hours. The beach is available on a first-come, first-served basis and there is no charge for beach access. Boaters have been waiting for this opportunity for a long time and it's a unique and very special addition to our show."

'Coolest' Contest

Lake Havasu Boat Show is also providing a new interactive element to the show, encouraging the public to become engaged in deciding the winner of "Havasu's Coolest Boat" contest. Located in the new Windsor lot 3, the "Havasu's Coolest Boat" pavilion will contain a diverse selection of the most exotic boats in the Southwest.

Show visitors will have the opportunity to cast a vote for their favorite boats. Winners will be announced on Sunday afternoon before the Boat Show closes at 3 p.m.

Presented By LHMA

The Lake Havasu Boat Show, April



7-9, is co-sponsored by JetRenu and Mohave State Bank, and presented by the Lake Havasu Marine Association. Other Boat Show special attractions include 3rd Annual IJSBA Gary Hart Memorial Jet Ski Watercross races, the 5th Annual ICS Chili and Salsa Cook-off Championships, daily in-water boat demos, and a lifejacket swap (Saturday only, while supplies last) old for new, compliments of Arizona Game and Fish Department

More Information

Boat Show hours (rain or shine) are Friday, noon to 6pm, Saturday 9am to 6pm and Sunday 9am to 3pm. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, kids 6 and under are free (cash only at the box office) and parking is also free. Dogs on leash are okay. The boat show also has several tasty food courts and multiple beer gardens.

If you need more detailed information, please visit the Website at <http://www.lakehasubootshow.com> or contact Bob Brown (951) 501-0210 or info@lakehasubootshow.com.

STORM

Continued from page 1

vehicle parking for participants' rigs and spectators alike at this venue is unparalleled in Havasu — and it's free!

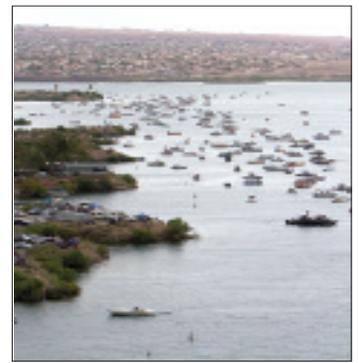
Brand New Boat-Launch Ramp

Thanks to Arizona State Parks, the Desert Storm participants will now have the use of Windsors Parks brand new boat-launch ramp included in their registration. This features six 15-foot-wide launch lanes leading to over 10,000 square feet of ramp underwater especially made for big boats.

Saturday will feature the DCB Racing-sponsored Shootout high speed runs on our two-mile-long course off Site Six. Last year the King of the Desert set a speed record of 187 mph in a 50-foot-long, twin-turbine-powered boat!

Action Heats Up

Meanwhile, the action at Power in the Park heats up both Friday and Saturday with the Big O Burnout Contest, Car-Quest Hot Hundred car show, Flying X & KJJJ Stage Shows, Quality Inn PWC freestyle show, Nitro Cackle Cars, GN boat race and more — and it is all free to spectators due to all of our great sponsors; please visit them via our Web page links! www.desertstorm.info



Shootout

Saturday At Shurgue's

For our participants, a 5,000-square-foot tent at Windsor Beach serves as VIP headquarters for the event with Friday's card turn-in beach party and the Saturday Shurgue's banquet and awards presentation.

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ROOSEVELT

Continued from page 1

family seeking a unique experience on the water. Others, who might like to rough it a bit, can camp out right on the shore. Pitch a tent or set your camper and you'll enjoy the convenience of being right on the water and near the marina's boat launch ramp.

Other options for an overnight stay include several local hotels, where you can retire after a day of water fun. Approximately 10 to 20 miles from the lake are the Roosevelt Lake Resort and the Punkin Center Lodge. Both hotels are favorites on travel sites such as *Yelp*, *Google* and *Trip Advisor*.

Hiking, Biking Trails

In addition to plenty of lake fun, Roosevelt Lake is surrounded by wonderful hiking and biking trails. The Roosevelt Lake Visitor Center is a great resource for hikers and bikers, and can help you find the trail that will deliver a perfect outdoor adventure. Also, the Tonto National Monument features amazing cliff dwelling tours November through April, as well as unique archeology that's worth discovering.

To Please Your Palate

Explore the beautiful terrain before lunch, and you'll be ready for substantial local dining experience! The most popular nearby local restaurants are also within 10 to 20 miles of the lake. Try Big Daddy Pizza, Boston's Lake House Grill, M&M Reno Creek Cafe, and the Punkin Center Grill.

And finally, for those of you who enjoy cooking by campfire, food and other supplies can be picked up at the Tonto Basin Marketplace, and the Spring Creek Store.

It takes a little planning, but it's well-worth the adventure. And, although it's located less than two hours from Phoenix, it feels like you're worlds away!



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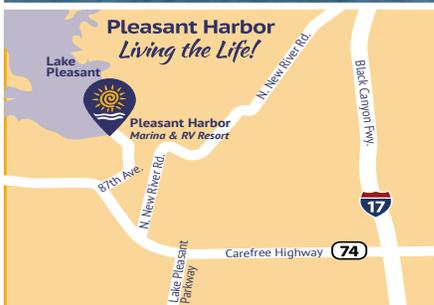
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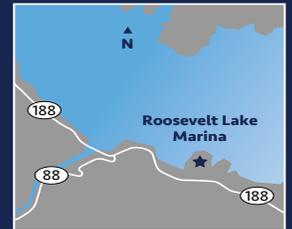
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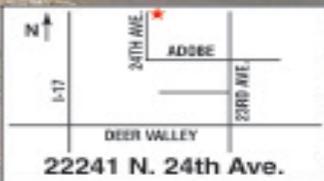


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Tackle & Target



Arizona Lakes, Arizona Pros: Gary Senft

From tournaments to teaching, he enjoys it all.

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Gary Senft is an Arizona icon when it comes to bass fishing. I've been doing stories with him for decades, and he has a wealth of knowledge about techniques and tactics for catching bass in our desert reservoirs. The amazing thing is, he doesn't try to keep this information to himself — he loves to teach other people about fishing.

Started Early

Gary's mom and dad started taking him fishing when he was just a tyke — they'd hit the local lakes and ponds twice a month or so. The bass fishing bug took hold of him at the ripe old age of 8, when he bought his first crankbait at Yellow Front — it was a Heddon River Runt and the first bass he ever caught took that bait at Boulder Creek at Canyon Lake. That bait is now framed and displayed at Senft's home at Roosevelt Lake. He kept fishing the local waters with his mom and dad until high school, then he started going alone and got a job so he could afford to fish.

Gary started at the U.S. Postal Service when he was 19 and he still works there. That's where he met outdoor writer J.B. Wagoner, who used to ask him about the

fishing every time he came in. Gary ended up working on outdoor stories with JB for years, covering Arizona and California.

Tournaments Begin

Pretty soon Gary was fishing small tournaments and doing those articles regularly, and that all led to a radio show for KOY one night a week, sharing his love for bass fishing and helping other fishermen learn how to bass fishing. His first big tournament was an AllStar Bass team tournament in 1992 and his partner was Kevin Finley. They were so happy with their \$3000 winning check that they decided to keep doing AllStar. Gary joined Phoenix Bassmasters in 1993 and was elected president of the club in '94. A couple years later he started Junior Phoenix Bassmasters and that club is still going today, with 40-50 kids.

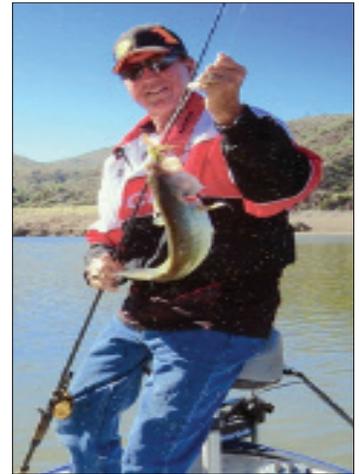
While all this was going on, Senft was also running a couple of tournaments a year for the Post Office employees. He also did shows with Wes Keyes on the Game and Fish's *Wildlife Views* programs, and many shows with David Jones and John Shaw's *Fishing With the Good Old Boys*. He is now partnered with Jones and they are doing videos for the YouTube channel *Fishing with Gary Senft*.

AllStar Angler Of The Year

All this time he was still fishing tournaments including AllStar, Monterey, WON, etc. He won Angler of the Year five different times in the AllStar circuit. Right now, he is one of the pros at the Mesa Bass Pro Shops store, along with Matt Shura. They do seminars over there all the time, so if you'd like to learn more about Arizona bass fishing, go to the website and they have dates and times listed. Also, be sure to check out Gary's YouTube channel. He's a great teacher and a really good guy.

Fishing Tips From Gary

A drop shot is one of Senft's favorite ways to fish for bass on just about any lake in Arizona. Right now, the fish are starting to move up for the spawn, so here's how to drop shot for them. A spinning rod and spinning reel are ideal. Gary uses 12-pound-test line, then ties on a swivel. To the swivel, he attaches a length of 8-pound-test. Slide a bobber stopper onto the line, then a 1/0 worm hook, and another bobber stopper. Tie a drop shot weight onto the end of the line. A drop shot weight is like a bell sinker, but usually cylindrical. Use a knife to round out the eye, or you can just go ahead and use a little bell sinker. Use the lightest weight



Gary Senft

you can get away with — max ¼ ounce.

The bobber stoppers let you put the weight anywhere you want. Start out with about 12- to 14-inches between the weight and the hook. Just cast it out and let it sink to the bottom. Once it hits bottom and the line goes slack, gently reel up the slack so the line is taut, and just gently shake it. You don't want to lift the weight, you just want the worm (a 4-inch plastic

See **SENFT**, Page 12

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Flagstaff Man Breaks 30-Year-Old Catfish State Record

FROM AZGFD

A giant fish tail, dark and maybe two feet in length, curled beneath the surface of the water.

Carson Pete, shore-fishing about 50 yards away, hiked to where he spotted the tail Sunday at Upper Lake Mary near Flagstaff.

He happened to have brought a heavy spinning rod with 50-pound braided line, a 60-pound fluorocarbon leader, and a 7/0 Gamakatsu circle hook. Just before the sun crawled beneath a horizon of pine trees, Pete grabbed a few frozen anchovies he'd dipped in a homemade fish oil/garlic mix and slid them onto the hook. Then he cast the bait near a brush line in 2 feet of water depth.

Immediately, a fish took the bait, drifted away — and then bolted. Pete said he set the hook three times as the fish peeled out about 60 yards of line during a cool and breezy evening. After about 20 minutes of wrestling and reeling, Pete got the huge fish to shore. Monday morning at the Arizona Game and Fish Department office in Flagstaff, the catfish weighed 33.36 pounds, measured 39 ½ inches in total length, and set an inland waters hook-and-line state record for channel catfish.

"Before I left, my 7-year-old daughter kept saying, 'You're going to catch a big fish. Send a picture when you do,'" said Pete, a Flagstaff resident who was targeting northern pike. "Well I saw a few people fishing for pike and no one was having any luck. So I just kept fishing and fishing."

As one reward for his persistence, Pete has quite the picture to send his daughter.

Pete broke the previous record by



Carson Pete

about one pound. That record belonged to Chuck Berndt of Sierra Vista, who caught a channel catfish at Parker Canyon Lake that weighed 32 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 38 ¾ inches. Berndt caught that previous record fish in 1987.

It is possible that Pete's catfish is as old as the record. "It is feasible that this new record catfish is 30-plus years old," said AZGFD Wildlife Specialist Scott Rogers, who helped weigh the fish. "The oldest on record for this species is 40. These slow-growing cats live a long time. Perhaps he was hatched the same year the old record was set."

The inland waters, catch-and-release record catfish also was taken from Upper Lake Mary. Jared Sandall of Rimrock caught that 34-inch channel catfish in 2015.

With an elevation of about 7,000 feet, Upper Lake Mary has excellent spring-time fishing and refreshing summertime temperatures.

Keep Your Shooting Skills Sharp — With Or Without Going To The Range

BY JOHN ANDERSON

There is no denying that the best way to keep your skills sharp is practicing. Shooting is no different. If you want to be good at it, you have to practice. Going to the range is good practice for trigger control, etc., but there are limitations at the range. You can't move around, you can't draw, you can't rapid fire, you can't shoot from cover — etcetera, etcetera. To practice defending yourself, you need to develop some special skills. A lot of those can be practiced at home.

First Things First

First off, I'm going to recommend that you go online and find good pistol classes in your area. Margie and I take classes at Shooters World, where they have excellent teachers, including military and law-enforcement guys. Once you've been taught a few skills correctly, you can practice them at home.

Safety First: If you are going to practice at home with a real firearm, unload the firearm, empty the magazine, and double and triple check that the firearm is completely safe and unloaded. Keep all ammunition and loaded magazines in a different room, locked up. There should be *absolutely no way* you could absentmindedly load live rounds while practicing.

Reloads

At the classes, you will learn and practice a couple kinds of reloading tactics. The two basic ones are called Administrative Reload and Tactical Reload. You can practice both of these at home.

An Administrative Reload is something you do while your gun is holstered. You simply reach back, remove the magazine, and insert a new one. I have absolutely no idea why you would need to do that. As far as I'm concerned, a gun in a holster is left alone unless you pull it out to use it.

We were taught two different kinds of Tactical Reloads. A tactical reload is something you do when you've fired several rounds and you're not sure how many, so you slam in a new magazine just in case. In one, you just hit the magazine release and let it drop. In the other, you grab the fresh magazine and hold it in your non-shooting hand, remove the magazine

that's in the gun with that same hand, put the fresh magazine in, and stow the used one in your pocket. Only full magazines should be in the magazine holder.

This is something you can practice at home, but first you have to be taught how to do it. That's why you need classes. I'm sure they have videos online that show you how as well, but there are a lot of weirdos out there, so be careful who you listen to.

An emergency reload is called for when you're in a gunfight and you've fired your last shot. In this case, you just drop the empty magazine on the ground, slam and new one in, and get back to business.



Make sure when you rack and roll that the barrel is pointed down range and the open side of the chamber is facing down.

Misfires

There are several reasons why a gun might misfire, and one of the most common reasons is called a stovepipe. After the gun is fired, if the empty shell doesn't get away in time, it gets stuck between the slide and the barrel and it sticks up like a stovepipe.

There is a standard procedure that should be the first thing you do if you get a misfire. It's called tap, rack, and roll. First, pull the weapon back into your workspace, in front of yourself. Keep the barrel pointed downrange at all times. Tap means smack the bottom of the magazine, hard. If the magazine isn't inserted properly, the gun won't fire. Rack and roll are performed together: Grab the slide in your non-shooting hand, hold it firmly, and push the gun forward hard while rolling the gun over on its side so that the stovepipe can fall out. Make sure you roll it the right way — only one side will be open.



An outdoor class will give you the opportunity to practice shooting on the move and shooting from cover.



A stovepipe occurs when a shell doesn't get clear before the slide comes forward.

If tap rack and roll doesn't fix it, you may have a double feed. In this case, drop the magazine, then rack and roll. If you don't drop the magazine, it will try to put another round in the chamber, and that won't work if there are already two trying to get in there. If there is a shell *stuck* in the chamber that doesn't come out when you rack, you can't fix it without prying it out of there. In this case, run like hell — you're out of the fight.

Tap rack and roll should become second nature. You can practice by using an empty shell and making a stovepipe. We practiced having a round stuck in the chamber by using dummy rounds and an empty shell. Again, going to a class to learn this first hand makes practice on your own a lot easier.

Trigger Control

In this practice you will be pulling the trigger, so it is imperative that you double and triple check that your gun is unloaded, there is no live ammunition in the room, and that there are no loaded magazines in the room. If you're worried about pulling the trigger on an empty gun, use dummy rounds. You can get them at any sporting goods or gun store.

Find a wall in a safe direction. Even though the gun is completely unloaded, you still want to point in a safe direction. Stand with the gun in shooting position with the end of the barrel about an inch away from the wall. Line it up so you can see the front site *through* the back sites. Your trigger finger should be along the slide. It is *never* on the trigger until you are ready to fire.

Put your finger on the trigger and press it back until you hear it click. If the front sight moves, it means you're moving the gun. This will make you miss. Remove your finger from the trigger, then rack the gun and try again. You should do this over and over, keeping your eyes on that front sight *through* the rear sites. If you do this right, it will help you train yourself to look at the sights, press the trigger without moving the rest of your hand, and keep your eyes on the sites instead of prairie-dogging to see where you hit.

If you get good at this, you can try it

with an empty shell or a coin balanced on the front site. This isn't possible with all guns, but if you can, give it a try.

Drawing From Concealed

The thing about classes and the range is, that even if you get to actually shoot, and even shoot while being timed from a draw, you almost never get to shoot when drawing from a concealed carry. There is a famous drill called the Tueller Drill. This is a pretty old drill (1983) and the premise is that a healthy male can cover 21 feet in 1.5 seconds. It could be even less time that. The point is, if someone is coming at you with a knife, how long will it take you to draw your weapon and fire? In most cases, especially from concealed like inside the waistband with your shirt tucked in over it, it will take you a lot longer than that. A guy with a knife could kill you before you even got your gun out.

The best way to practice doing this is with a blue gun. These are plastic replicas that don't shoot. LaserLyte makes great ones — it's the kind I have, and you can get them to match your actual carry weapon. They also sell lasers that fit in the barrel of the blue gun, and targets that will show you where the laser hit — more about those in minute.

Get a blue gun to match your carry gun, and put it in your concealed carry holster. Get someone to time you. Maybe have the person stand 21 feet away then hit the stopwatch as they run toward you. Did you get the gun out before they got to you? Have them keep moving back and try this over and over. Practice until you can get the gun out smoothly, *aim*, and fire. Don't get frazzled and just point and shoot. *Aim*. You may be amazed at how far away an attacker has to be in order for you to be able to shoot him before he is on you.

Another fun thing you can do with the LaserLyte gun is practice shooting moving targets. You'll need the laser and the target as well. Margie got me the whole set for Christmas and we have a blast with it. Have someone hold the target while they are running toward you. Our hall is about 21 feet long, so we hold the target while darting from room to room across the hall, then charging down the hall. It's amazing how few hits you get!

Final Words

Practice makes perfect, and if you're going to carry a gun for self defense, you absolutely need to practice. Try some of these drills, get a LaserLyte gun, and join a competitive shooting league. Go to uspsa.org and find a league near you. There are all kinds of shoots at all different levels and you'll get to shoot moving targets, shoot while you are moving, shoot from cover, etc. It will really improve your shooting and you'll have a lot of fun, too. It isn't expensive, either — except for the ammo, of course. Have fun, be safe, and practice, practice, practice.



Attending a class is the best way to learn defensive pistol skills.

LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

Whichever Species Is Your Favorite, They Can Be Caught Now

'The quality of life is measured by the amount of time spent fishing.'

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON

HTTP://WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM

Lake Powell is rising. Spring runoff has begun a bit early due to warm days in March. That may change as another storm front is now on the way. Early runoff is a double-edged sword for fishing success from Trachyte to Good Hope Bay. This week, reports indicated good steady fishing success for smallmouth bass, walleye, strippers and largemouth. Catching was steady for those using bass jigs along the shoreline and trolling with wally divers and shad raps at 2.5 to 3 mph in open water.

Early Runoff Impacts

Early runoff will "muddy the water" and have some impact on fishing success in the northern lake. Right now the mudline is in the vicinity of White Canyon/Trachyte. The muddy water could move quickly downstream depending on the strength of the Colorado River inflow. Anyone headed to the northern lake will find good fishable water and good success in catching a wide range of species.

In the southern lake bait fishing was working better for strippers than most other methods. Most anglers were finding suc-

cess at the dam. One reported suggested cutting an anchovy in half and hooking it on a 1/4 oz. leadhead. "Then cast the bait out about 50 to 60 feet into deep water and let it just drift down on its own arc controlled by the length of line out. By the time it gets to about 40 to 50 feet deep you'll get a good bite." The Wahweap fish cleaning station was busy every day with many fishing crews bringing in 20-30 fish to fillet.

My weekly trip was less productive than the previous trip. This time we went to Last Chance to see if the schools there were cooperating. We found only a few striper aggregations that would respond to our trolled lures, but when we did we often doubled by tossing out a lure behind the hooked fish as it was reeled in.

We tried Buoy 25 cove on the return trip and found the shallow visible stripers still holding there but they were less aggressive than they were a week ago. Stripper count there was only 12 fish with a total of 24 strippers filleted at the cleaning station.

Best Reports From Warm Creek

We should have focused on Warm Creek where the best reports were coming from. Large schools of strippers were

in the back of the canyon past the floating restroom where bottom depth quickly changes from 60 to 40 feet. These fish were willing to hit diving lures attached to downriggers set at 40 feet. Graph a school and then drop a lure deeply to catch lots of fish.

Choose Your Species

Right now you can choose which species of fish you wish to catch by using the technique best suited for that species. Bass are in the backs of canyons and on rock slides in the main channel and main canyons anxious to find plastic grubs. Crappie are hiding in certain spots with overhanging rocks or a submerged weed pile. They like small plastic or hair jigs.

Strippers can be caught trolling, casting, and bait fishing. Walleye are feeding at first light in the morning. They really like night crawlers near the bottom. A slow retrieve works best for them. Whichever species is your favorite, they can be caught now, lakewide, through the end of May.

It's time to go fishing at Lake Powell. *Editor's Note: At press time, lake elevation was 3594 and water temperature was 58-63F.*



CRYSTAL CLEAR — There are innumerable fishing spots on beautiful Lake Powell. This one had crystal clear water and visible strippers that would occasionally attack our lures. It reminded me of fishing for trout on a high mountain lake. There is some place and fishing technique to excite each angler in this amazing lake.

AZGFD FISHING REPORT EXCERPTS

Get Ready For 'Break-Out' Fishing

Tip Of The Week

Mark April 10 on your calendar — at the full moon. If a weather front doesn't change the equation, that should be the massive spawning time for crappie, and a

spawning surge for largemouth bass.

For now, these storms didn't help crappie fishing — they don't feed too actively during stormy weather.

The Reel Deal

Some erratic weather is making fishing hit-and-miss in general across the state, but, no doubt, this is the time to be ready for break-out fishing. Watersheds across the state are receiving record moisture — Roosevelt Lake will likely exceed 70-percent full in the next two weeks. Let's get right to some Fish AZ news:

Channel catfish are back in core Community waters. See the stocking schedule through the summer. They were stocked Thursday, March 23 and word is the fish are large and healthy.

The gate to Willow Springs Lake is open and reports are that fish are biting. There are tiger trout at Willow Springs (pictured above) — go see how much they might have grown during the winter.

All of the Williams-area lakes are full. Since all of the lakes are full this year, we don't have enough trout to stock all of the lakes (if you don't stock enough fish in a lake, folks can't catch them). This year we are only planning on stocking Kaibab

Lake and Dogtown Lake with rainbow trout. As soon as the lakes stop spilling we will start stocking Kaibab and Dogtown.

Most Flagstaff area lakes are full and spilling. Ashurst Lake, Lower Lake Mary, and Frances Short Pond will be stocked with trout this year. Lower Lake Mary has had about 16,000 larger (10-inch plus) rainbow trout stocked during the past couple of weeks along with about 8,600 smaller (6-8 inch) rainbows.

Ashurst Lake is full. The road is open and the first load of 2,700 rainbow trout was stocked last week.

Bartlett Lake is full and the water is clearing up. Bass fishing is good in 2-12 feet from the dam to the river using crankbaits, spinnerbaits (white or chartreuse) and baby brush hogs.



FISHING GOLD — Once again at Lake Havasu, someone has hooked fishing gold. "I thought it was a tree stump or rock," Sue Nowak said. "Then the snag moved." The "snag" turned out to be a 21-inch, 6.28-pound smallmouth bass that is a Colorado River waters hook-and-line state record.

SENF

Continued from page 10

worm is the usual bait) to gently wave around a bit. After a minute or so, gently pull the rod to move the rig a little, reel up the slack again, and start shaking. Usually you won't feel a bite — the rig will just be heavy when you try to move it. When that happens, just reel while pulling the rod to the side. Don't rear back like the guys on TV or you'll rip it out of the fish's mouth.

If you get snagged, you can usually get free by giving it a little slack and shaking it good and hard.

Good worm colors on Arizona lakes are Aaron's Magic, Morning Dawn, green pumpkin, and pumpkin seed. Yamamoto 4-inch worms are awesome. So are Berkeley Power Worms and Roboworms. Gary uses Bass Pro Shops rods and reels, and also their line. It's not as expensive as some of the big name brands, and it's great line.

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Gear Up For Camping Season

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

The only bad thing about camping is putting all that stuff away when you get home, right? Well, when I was a kid, we camped and hunted all the time, and my dad had a big old Army field desk that we called the Camping Box.

The front panel of it was removed, then it became a table by hooking the front panel to the side of the box and folding the legs out. The inside was all drawers, and we put all the usual camping stuff in there — paper towels, dish soap, seasonings, silverware, dishes, matches — you name it.

Then all we had to do was stow the box in the closet when we got home. It saved a lot of time. But — that box was *heavy*. And you had to have a pickup truck, because there was no way to fit that in a car or even an SUV.

A Duffel Bag

I found a giant duffel bag at a discount



The Flexware bucket has many uses.



These Flexware items are just the ticket.

store and made a camping bag instead of a box. We keep our dedicated camping dishes, stove, waterproof matches, etc., in the bag. It even has inflatable pillows that make sleeping so much more comfy. At the SHOT Show this year I saw a lot of great stuff that I'm planning to get to replace some of my old camping gear. Here are some of the nicest things we saw.

Flexware

Flexware by UST is perfect for camping, and even backpacking or stowing on the boat. Flexware folds up like an accordion, and they've got everything from

glasses and bowls to kitchen sinks and buckets. There is even a kettle and mugs. Since they collapse down so small, they are all ideal for the camping bag.

SlothSak Chair

Another great thing from UST is the SlothSak Chair. These are the perfect camping chairs because they fold up to almost nothing, weigh less than two pounds each, and they are comfy as all get-out. All you have to do is swoosh it through the air to fill the two big chambers, then roll up the end and snap the buckle. If



The SlothSak is light, compact, and incredibly comfortable.

it's really windy at the campsite, peg the chairs down.

They are just \$40 each and come in lime green, bright blue, and orange. Your kids will love them and so will you. You can see all their camping and survival gear at ustbrands.com.

Essential Cookware

Cookware is essential. You can cook a lot of things by simply enclosing them in foil and putting them on the grill, but you'll always have a need for a pan or two. I found an excellent cooking kit that includes a 1-liter pot and a skillet, as well as a couple of bowls, a folding spork, a spoon, a pot cover, a cleaning sponge, and

See **CAMPING GEAR**, Page 14

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CAMPING GEAR

Continued from page 13

a drawstring pouch for just \$20 on Amazon.

The pan handles fold away to the sides of the pan, and it's very light and compact. It's by MalloMe and it's called the MalloMe Camping Cookware Kit. You know those little round plastic containers you can buy with cookie decorations in them?

You can get those with spices, too, and they are perfect for the camping box. I found one on Amazon for under \$5. It's Coghlan's Multi-spice and it has paprika, curry, cayenne, garlic salt, pepper, and salt. It's perfect.

Lights And Stove

Another thing you always need when camping is lights and a stove. I have a Biolite Stove that will cook with twigs or pinecones and generate power to charge my phone as well. They aren't cheap,



Lantern/Fan combo is perfect for inside the tent.

This compact cooking kit is just the right size for the camping bag.



This inflatable solar lantern is more than handy.

but they sure are nice and small and they work great. Check them out at bioliteenergy.com.

You're not always allowed to have an actual fire in the woods, so I also have a JetBoil Flash stove that runs on canned gas. This is one of my absolute favorites because I have the French Press add-on. It boils water in almost no time, and I can enjoy real coffee almost as soon as I wake up.

JetBoil has a bunch of different cooking systems, and they are especially good for backpacking. You can see them all at jetboil.com

For lights, we ditched the old white gas lantern and switched to inflatables. We even have a couple that are solar. The beauty of these is that you don't have to worry about batteries.

The Biolite also a lighting system that the stove powers. You can get inflatable lanterns in a lot of different places. Sportsman's Warehouse has some very good 75 lumen LuminAid ones for around \$15. They weigh just 4 ounces and they're almost a 5-inch cube when inflated, but pack down to about an inch high.

They have different levels of light settings, including a flash setting, and they recharge in about ten hours. They'll run for 24 hours on low. They're ideal for the boat — they float and and they're waterproof, so you could even use them as fishing lights. The 150 lumen version is \$30.

Keeping Cool

Another essential for camping in Arizona is a way to cool off the tent. It can get pretty stuffy in there with four people and a dog! One of the best things I ever bought was a Stansport 18-LED camping

lantern with fan.

It was only \$20 and it has super bright lights that illuminate the whole tent, as well as a fan that can be set on something and pointed where you need it or it can be hung from the top of the tent. You could even hang it from a tree to cool yourself on days with no breeze. It takes two D batteries and is only 6.25 x 6.25 x 7.25 inches. We love it.

Camping Bag Checklist

- Compact Stove
- Coffee making supplies
- Matches/fire making equipment
- Cooking gear: compact pan set, cooking utensils
- Dish/hand towels
- Dish soap, biodegradable
- Seasonings
- Plates, cups, bowls, utensils
- Paper towels
- First aid kit
- Lanterns, flashlights
- Can opener
- Oven mitt/pot-holders
- Grill
- Aluminum foil
- Water purification tablets
- Flexware bucket/sink for doing dishes
- Wind-up radio
- Emergency ponchos
- Inflatable pillows
- Hatchet for wood and for pounding tent stakes
- Fuel for stove, if needed
- Sunscreen
- Knife
- Cutting board
- Toilet paper
- Comb (comes in handy for removing cactus, too)
- Dog dish (Flexware again!)
- Playing cards
- Glow sticks
- Rope



MultiSpice is perfect for the camping bag or backpack.

MultiSpice is perfect for the camping bag or backpack.

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- Wind-up radio
- Emergency ponchos
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- Dog dish (Flexware again!)
- Playing cards
- Glow sticks
- Rope

This is the kind of stuff we keep in our camping bag. It's ready to go with just a quick check-over to replenish any needed supplies like batteries and spices, and we just stick it back in the closet when we get home.

Of course you still have to pack the tent and stuff like that, but it sure helps to have the small stuff that you always need already packed. If you find that you're getting too much stuff in the bag and it's getting hard to carry, just switch to two smaller bags.

You can also find really big, lightweight nylon bags that are big enough for your tent and inflatable mattresses to go in. There may even be room for any special blankets or throws you always bring. We just find it easier to have a few large bags than 20-30 individual things to load and unload. Happy camping!

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GCNP Annual Passes Available

Visitors interested in purchasing the Grand Canyon National Park annual pass can do so at any of Grand Canyon's entrance stations and park headquarters building. This annual pass costs \$60, is non-refundable or transferable, and is valid for twelve months from the date of purchase.

This annual pass provides unlimited visits to Grand Canyon for the purchaser and any accompanying persons in a single, private, non-commercial vehicle or the purchaser and accompanying immediate family (spouse, children, parents) when entry is by other means (train, shuttle, bicycle, and foot). Only entrance fees are covered by this pass; it does not affect fees for camping, reservations, tours, or use of concessions.

Entrance fees are not charged to persons under 16 years of age or holders of the Grand Canyon National Park annual,

America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational annual, Every Kid in a Park, Senior, Access, or Military passes. The Grand Canyon annual pass is different from the America the Beautiful annual pass which provides entrance to all national parks.

General admission to Grand Canyon National Park is \$30 per vehicle, \$25 per motorcycle, and \$15 per person for seven days including both the North Rim and South Rim.

Fee free days for 2017 include April 15-16 and April 22-23 during National Park Week, August 25 to celebrate the National Park Service's birthday, September 30 for National Public Lands Day and November 11-12 in honor of Veterans Day Weekend.

For additional information about fees and passes, visit www.nps.gov/grca/plan-yourvisit/fees

Motorized Access Opens For Agua Fria River At Lake Pleasant

Motorized access to the upper arm of the Agua Fria River at Lake Pleasant will again be available thanks to a special development project of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Boating Access Program.

Through the cooperative efforts of the Department, the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department (MCPRD) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, this unique boating and fishing opportunity will be available each Friday through Sunday throughout the spring. Operating hours are from 6 a.m. – 5 p.m., and regular park entry fees ap-

ply (exact change required).

Although not highly developed, this facility is accessible by most two-wheel-drive vehicles with adequate ground clearance and includes a boat ramp that can accommodate most common fishing boats. All watercraft motor sizes and types are allowed, but this river section of the lake is entirely a no-wake zone.

Please note the area remains closed to ATVs, UTVs, shooting and overnight camping. Foot access and shoreline fishing also is allowed all days of the week, but the high level of the lake has limited the amount of shoreline readily available.

Known by its formal name as the Agua Fria Conservation Area, it has historically been a springtime fishing hot spot for white, striped and largemouth bass, and is also recognized as one of the premier paddlecraft waters in Arizona.

With incredible views, calm waters and abundant wildlife, it is truly a must-see destination and a great reason to get your watercraft back on the water.

See more information on the Maricopa County Web site, or contact Lake Pleasant Regional Park directly at (928) 501-1803.



High Water Levels Limit Available Shoreline For Day-Use, Camping Activities

As temperatures begin to warm up, locals and tourists alike have begun flocking to valley lakes in hopes of securing a space along the shoreline to camp, fish, swim, or simply dip their toes in the water.

This year, those visiting Lake Pleasant Regional Park are encouraged to arrive early to secure a spot. "The water levels at Lake Pleasant Regional Park are unusually high this year, and high water levels impact the amount of shoreline we have available for day-use and camping opportunities," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation director.

The water stored at Lake Pleasant Regional Park comes from two main sources: the Colorado River via the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal, and runoff from the Agua Fria River. CAP pumps Colorado River water into the lake during the fall and winter months, and releases water during the spring and summer.



continue to occur through mid-July until CAP has drawn down enough water to increase shoreline availability. Currently, the Concrete Spillway is under water, and Two Cow Cove, Jet Ski Point, and Fireman's Cove — popular destinations for shoreline camping — are near capacity.

At this time staff are asking park visitors to do the following:

- Plan ahead, and arrive at the park early;
- Anticipate possible closures and delays, especially during holiday weekends;
- Understand that temporary fire bans may be issued due to the lack of available shoreline;

- Respect the land, and
- Stay on designated roadways and parking areas.

To notify the public when areas have reached capacity and have been closed, an alert will be placed at the top of the Web site and on the park's home page. Alerts will remain active until the area can be reopened. When feasible, the park will also post information on social media sites, as it becomes available.

Paddlefest Open To Public

Paddlefest will close down the north entry station to event traffic only on April 8. The closure will impact traffic to the areas of Fireman's Cove, Cottonwood Cove, and parking at the four-lane boat ramp. To avoid event traffic, staff recommend using the main entry station and ten-lane boat ramp. The family friendly event runs from 5:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is open to the public to attend for no additional charge, except for the standard park

entry fees.

While a campsite in the Roadrunner or Desert Tortoise campground may not be the preferred choice for camping, it does ensure park visitors will have a dedicated campsite awaiting their arrival. Individuals considering a visit over the Memorial Day holiday are encouraged to book sites as soon as possible as there are a limited number of sites available. Reservations may be booked at <https://maricopacountyparks.org/>.

Check The Web Site

It is recommended that those planning a visit to the park check the Web site at www.maricopacountyparks.net/park-locator/lake-pleasant-regional-park/shoreline-access/ for current updates, or contact the park's entry station at (928) 501-1710. As temperatures continue to rise, so will traffic at the entry station, which may prohibit staff from answering calls. The Web site is available 24/7.

Challenge To Continue Into July

Staff anticipate this challenge will



Courthouse Square In Downtown Prescott

Prescott's Outdoor Opportunities Gain More National Recognition

FROM KELLY TOLBERT
RECREATION SERVICES COORDINATOR
(WITH CONTRIBUTOR NANCY NESBIT)

With the cleanest air in Arizona, a mild four-seasons climate, diverse ecosystem, and vibrant outdoor lifestyle, Prescott has been receiving positive press over the last few years. Several publications have listed Prescott as one of the best small towns in which to retire. Others have focused on the outdoor lifestyle, making Prescott a perfect place to live and visit, especially for hikers and mountain bikers.

Olympic mountain biker Chloe Woodruff was quoted in a *Sunset Magazine* article stating, "Almost anyone can ride a bike and hike here. The terrain is so diverse, and every season there are new trails going in".

Many of the City's expanding 80 plus miles of trail are included in the 50-mile Prescott Circle Trail, which also takes vis-

itors through the Prescott National Forest.

Most recently, the February 2017 edition of *Sunset Magazine* listed Prescott in their 2017 Best Value Towns at number four. The piece focuses on the outdoor experiences available, especially hiking and mountain biking. A nod to Prescott's history and western flavor was depicted with photos of the Palace Saloon and Whiskey Row.

In October 2009, *National Geographic* included Prescott in their Best 100 Adventure Towns. For online links to this and other information on trails and mountain biking in Prescott, visit the City's Web site trails page at www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/trails/. The links are located near the bottom of the main trails page under "Trail News".

For more information, email kelly.tolbert@prescott-az.gov or call (928) 777-1558.



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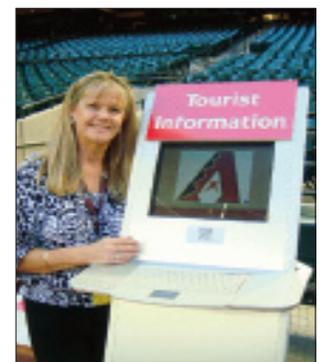
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Western Wildlife



AZGFD Accepting Applications For Desert Tortoise Adoptions

Nearly 100 desert tortoises will soon awaken from their winter slumber and the Arizona Game and Fish Tortoise Adoption program will be once again be looking for good adoptive homes. There is no charge to adopt a tortoise.

The desert tortoises up for adoption are a wide range of ages and sizes. AZGFD is accepting applications for those willing to provide a special home. Adoption application packets and general information

can be found at www.azgfd.gov/tortoise.

Adopters need to have a securely enclosed yard or separate enclosure in their yard, free from potential hazards such as a dog, fire pit or unfenced pool. The enclosed area must include an appropriate shelter for the tortoise to escape Arizona's extreme summer and winter temperatures.

All of the desert tortoises eligible for adoption will be given health checkups before going to their new homes. Tor-

toises are only available for adoption to residents living within the species' native range, which includes the Phoenix, Bullhead City, Kingman, Prescott, Lake Havasu, Tucson and Yuma areas.

Desert tortoises offer a unique alternative to more traditional family pets and can teach many of the same life lessons to children, including responsibility, compassion and commitment. Contrary to many assumptions, desert tortoises can



be interactive and provide companionship without as many demands as a cat or dog.

Social Tolerance, Genetic Diversity Equally Important To Mexican Wolf Recovery

Cross-fostered pups into wild packs increase genetic diversity, lower human conflict.

The success of Mexican wolf recovery across Arizona and New Mexico hinges more immediately on maintaining social tolerance than on genetic diversity, according to a recently published peer-reviewed study.

The study was published in *Biological Conservation*, a leading international conservation science journal. In it, the authors, which include Arizona Game and Fish Department biologists, conclude that maximizing genetic diversity in Mexican wolf recovery must be strategically balanced against impacts and concerns from local communities or the entire recovery program might be compromised.



Mexican Wolf

Concerns Need To Be Weighed

"It has become increasingly evident that recovery of Mexican wolves will need to consider and weigh both the so-

cial concerns voiced by local communities and the numbers of wolves required for sustainable populations in the wild," the study states.

The authors state that "cross-fostering" — a technique where captive wolf pups are placed into a wild-born litter of the same age to be raised in the wild — is a viable means for increasing genetic diversity in the wild Mexican wolf population. The practice has also proven successful and helps to reduce potential wolf-human conflicts.

One of two wolf pups cross-fostered into the wild Dark Canyon Pack in 2014 is now the alpha female of the Leopold Pack and produced wild offspring of her

own last year. A male pup cross-fostered with her in 2014 is now paired with a female creating the Baldy Pack.

Cross-Fostering Works

"Science has proven that cross-fostering young pups works," said Jim DeVos, assistant director of wildlife management for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "Cross-fostering allows us to place pups that haven't yet been habituated to humans to increase the chance that they will grow up to reproduce in the wild, which will contribute to greater genetic diversity."

This is significant because some advo-

See **WOLF**, Page 17



MAPS & MORE!

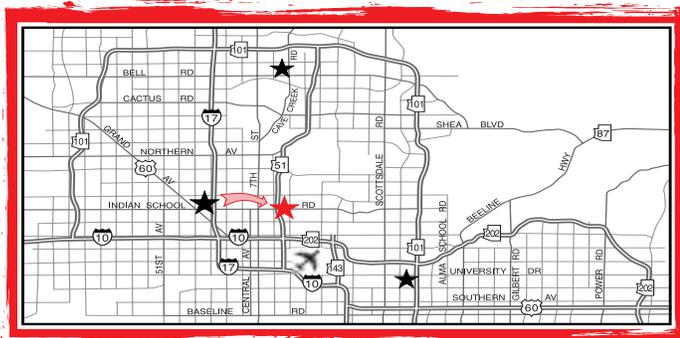
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**The NEW Store is at
2133 EAST Indian School Rd, Phoenix, 85016.
Same phone number 602-279-2323.**



Still on Indian School Road - Now on the eastside between SR51 and 24th Street on the south side of the street.

You can also visit one of our Mini-Store locations:

EAST VALLEY 480-348-8917
2155 E University Dr, Tempe, AZ 85281
Inside LowerGear Outdoors

NORTH PHOENIX 602-795-4868
17232 N Cave Creek Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85032
Inside Lookout Mountain Outdoors

Also located inside Changing Hands Bookstores and now in Lake Havasu City at Southwest Kayak Center

Fur And Feather Offers Sanctuary To Homeless Animals

This rescue is opening a thrift store and needs your help via GoFundMe and/or donations.

The original founders of Fur and Feather Animal Assistance have been helping animals in rural Catron County, N.M., for more than a decade. Despite being the largest county in New Mexico, there is no animal control, so our work is critical.

In addition to spaying and neutering more than 1,500 animals since 2003 and matching hundreds of animals with loving families, Fur and Feather is dedicated to rescuing lost and abandoned animals, stepping in when pet owners pass away or become incapable of caring for their fur babies. Needless to say, we are hard at work improving the conditions and lives of our animals on a daily basis.

Relies On Small Grants, Donations

Our animal rescue relies on small grants and community donations to keep our program able to succeed. Opening a thrift store benefiting the animals will allow us the sustainability we need to achieve our long-term goals for the non-profit, without solely relying on donations.

Fur and Feather Gallery and Thrift will be located in Quemado, N.M., and act as an information and event center as well as

a thrift store. Under the guidance of both Sarah Ross (F+F CEO) and Nicole Long (Store Manager and Grants), the location will eventually host several community events such as family movie night, Farm to Fork Fundraisers, Animal Meet and Greet Days, and more!

The profits from the store will go towards improving pens, expanding our 90-acre sanctuary, and making sure we have all the necessities to provide these animals with a safe and secure loving home.

Donations And Go Fund Me

Fur and Feather Animal Assistance, Inc (FFAA.INC) is now one of the largest sanctuaries in the State of New Mexico for small animals. We average anywhere from 55-70 or more dogs at any given time depending on our intake and number of adoptions. Our cat population averages around 100, and even though most of them are up for adoption, many of the cats we take in will spend their lives living with us.

Our store will be accepting donations of food, bedding, toys, fencing, building materials, gently used clothing, tools, fabric, craft items, art and more. This campaign will provide us with startup cost for Fur and Feather Gallery and Thrift.



Along with permits and licensing, we will need things like hangars, racks, tags and other basic retail items to function on a daily basis. Please help us reach our goal of \$1000 for store-opening expenses.

Please Copy, Paste, And Share

Please consider donating — even a small amount — to help these animal caregivers succeed. Also, copying, pasting, and sharing the following URL will be a huge benefit to Fur And Feather: <https://www.gofundme.com/fur-and-feather-animal-thrift>

Editor's Note: Several years ago, our

Uncle Jack became unable to care for his two dogs. Since the family was moving him from New Mexico to Arizona, they needed a place to take-in "Shadow" and "Puppy". At the time, the late Laurie Beauchamp was in charge at Fur and Feather, and she welcomed our uncle's dogs. Although our uncle passed recently, we have wanted to support this wonderful facility and honor the memory of its founder Laurie. We are inviting those who wish to honor Jack Fitch to join us, either in direct donation or through the Go Fund Me site mentioned above.

WOLF

Continued from page 16

cacy groups contend that the best solution to wolf recovery is to simply release additional captive-raised adult wolves into the wild.

While that could increase genetic diversity, the study shows that captive wolves are more habituated to humans and thus are prone to getting into conflicts, which erodes public support for the wolf recovery program. The inexperience of captive-raised wolves reduces their overall survival and limits their ability to pass their genes on to the next generation.

Social Tolerance Important

Equally important for the success of the overall wolf introduction effort is social tolerance of the reintroduction program. Of the 124 documented Mexican wolf mortalities from 1998 to 2015, 53 percent were attributed to illegal shooting and trapping of the animals. In 2016, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has confirmed 14 wolf deaths, most of which are still un-

der investigation.

"Despite the illegal shootings, it is clear the Mexican wolf population is well on its way to successful recovery with an average annual population growth of 16 percent since 2009, a rate similar to the first 10 years of successful wolf recovery in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park," said Jim Heffelfinger, AZGFD wildlife science coordinator and co-author of the study.

"Genetic diversity is important to any endangered species, but illegal killing and lack of social tolerance is what is holding Mexican wolf recovery back, not lack of genetic diversity."

To Reach A Sustainable Population

It has become increasingly evident that any Mexican wolf recovery effort requires acknowledging social concerns to reach a sustainable population of wolves in the wild.

"Cross-fostering will continue to play an important role in adding genetically

valuable animals into the overall wolf population," deVos said. "Experience has shown us that this not only lessens the possibility of negative wolf-human contacts, but helps to advance genetic diver-

sity into the recovering population."

The AZGFD biologists who co-authored the study are Larisa E. Harding, Jim Heffelfinger, Esther Rubin, Jeff Dolphin and Anis Aoude.

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FOSTERS, BOTTLE FEEDERS NEEDED — It's that time of year again: kitten season! You may be wondering, "Kitten season? What is that? It sounds cute!" As cute as kittens may be, there's nothing cute about the season that lands tons of homeless litters of kittens into shelters. As the weather warms up, stray cats and outdoor cats will begin to mate frequently and leave so many litters of kittens in need of our help. Did you know that a single pair of unaltered cats can produce 420,000 kittens in just 7 years?! This is where we need your help during these trying spring and summer months! Please contact me directly (Sandra, program manager) at Sandra@lostourhome.org if you may be interested in kitten fostering. I would be more than happy to answer any questions.

Boulders Cleanup Helps Ensure Future Opportunities

The Boulders OHV Area is very popular with recreational target shooters, off-highway vehicle riders, equestrians, mountain bikers, hikers, and others because of its close proximity to the Phoenix area. Unfortunately, this area is also prone to illegal dumping, littering, and debris that needs to be cleaned up. This important work will help ensure future recreation opportunities to this popular area.

Join in the cleanup on Saturday, April 29 at Boulders OHV Recreation Area from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Volunteers should bring water, work gloves, hat, sunscreen, trash pinchers, buckets and wear long pants and sturdy shoes. 4WD and OHV vehicles are useful. (Lunch for all volunteers will be provided)

If you have questions, please contact Evan Robins, Tread Lightly! Project Lead at evan@treadlightly.org or (801) 627-0077, ext. 15

CALENDAR

Continued from page 2

resident Mexican gray wolves, followed by a silent auction. 4 pm. \$250. <http://www.dinnerwithwolves.com>

22-23 SCOTTSDALE: The Phoenix Amazing Pet Expo - WestWorld of Scottsdale. Pet-friendly exhibitors and rescues, live demos in positive-reinforcement obedience training, the latest pet sports, learn about pet care & activism, giveaways and prizes, discounts on pet products, talent and costume contests, and retailers, plus shopping, adoptions, free nail trims, low-cost vaccinations, agility and more. Free. Sat 10 am - 6 pm, Sun 11 am - 4 pm. <http://www.phoenixpetexpo.com>

22-28 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>

27 SCOTTSDALE: Wild on the Greens - Talking Stick Golf Club. Play golf. Save animals. Benefiting the Zoo's world-renowned conservation initiatives. Enjoy a day of golf, games and lunch. Phoenix Zoo Animal Ambassadors, prizes, fish bowl

Mark Your Calendars

APRIL 9
Palm
Sunday

APRIL 10
Passover
Begins

APRIL 14
Good
Friday

APRIL 16
Easter
Sunday

APRIL 22
Earth
Day

MAY 5
Cinco de
Mayo



raffle and auction. Presented by Crescent Crown Distributing. <http://phoenixzoo.org/event-items/wild-on-the-greens/>

27-30 COTTONWOOD: 17th Annual Verde Valley Birding & Nature Festival - Dead Horse Ranch State Park. Field trips, local tours, workshops & seminars, educational activities for kids, exhibits, keynote speaker, entertainment. \$ 928-282-2202 or <http://www.BirdyVerde.org>

Through 5/14 PHOENIX: Butterfly Pavilion - Desert Botanical Garden. Provides visitors an opportunity for up close interaction with butterflies while learning about their role as pollinators, characteristics of the butterfly in different lifecycles, and conservation efforts to protect them. 10 am - 5 pm. <http://dbg.org>

EMPTY PET FOOD BANK IN TEMPE: Ongoing — A unique food bank which serves cats and dogs needs your help. Lost Our Home Pet Foundation has been providing food and pet supplies to the pets of family in need since 2009, all

through community donations. Donations can be made at the shelter location at 2323 S. Hardy Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282; Jodi Polanski, Jodi@lostourhome.org

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

RAISING MONEY FOR ANIMALS: Ongoing — Supported by Heather L. and the late Steve Weaver: www.rubyan-chrescue.org

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

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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The Last Stop

BARTLETT LAKE'S NEW RESTAURANT

APPETIZERS

Buffalo Wings
 Boneless Buffalo Wings
 Beer-Battered Onion Rings
 Mac 'N Cheese Bites
 Mozzarella Cheese Curds &
 Ancho Chili Ranch Dressing

BURGERS

Served with your choice of French Fries, Onion Rings, Cottage Cheese, Mac 'N Cheese Bites, or Sweet Potato Fries

Original Bartlett Burger

1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus, choice of cheese, lettuce, tomato, on a brioche bun

The Whiskey Bourbon Burger (on the sweeter side)

1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus, Bourbon glaze, pineapple ring, served on a Hawaiian sweet bun

Black and Blue Burger

1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus, caramelized onions and blue cheese crumbles and bacon

Smoke House Melt

1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus, cheddar cheese, pulled pork piled on top with a beer-battered onion ring

The Hangover Burger

1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus, fried egg, jalapenos, cheddar cheese, served on a brioche bun

Chili Cheese Burger

1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus, cheddar cheese, chili, served on a brioche bun

The Top Deck

(2) 1/3 lb. fresh Gold Canyon ground Angus patties, bacon, 3 kinds of cheese, lettuce, tomato, and onions, served on a brioche bun

The Vegan

Veggie patty grilled with sautéed peppers & diced onions with lettuce, on gourmet bun

CHICKEN

Buffalo Chicken Sandwich

Crispy chicken breast, with buffalo sauce, lettuce, tomato on a brioche bun

Crispy Chicken Sandwich

Crispy chicken breast, with lettuce, tomato, mayo on a brioche bun

Chicken Strip Basket

Crispy chicken strips served with fries

Black 'N Blue Chicken Sandwich

Crispy chicken breast, caramelized onions, blue cheese crumbles, bacon on a brioche bun

The Whiskey Bourbon Chicken Sandwich

Crispy chicken breast, bourbon glaze, pineapple ring, served on a Hawaiian sweet bun

OTHERS

Pulled Pork

Pulled pork served on a gourmet bun with your choice of sides

Grilled Cheese And Bacon

Cheddar cheese and bacon on wheat bread

The Bartlett Grilled Cheese

Cheddar cheese, turkey, bacon, lettuce, tomato, toasted, on wheat bread

Menu items are subject to change. Last Stop is open on weekends, but please call for hours and any additional days.

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