



We Wish You Many ‘Merries’

BY CAROL L. ALLEN

There really are no words to express all the facets of this season’s joy. Of course the birth of Christ is truly the “reason for the season”, and many of us treasure that joy above all others. However, the celebration of that original event has evolved into beautiful traditions that even the non-religious can enjoy.

One we feature each year is the cutting of your own Christmas tree; it makes a wonderful and memorable time that family will remember for years to come. Another of our favorites is the lighted boat parades that sparkle the good news of Christmas.

And, gift giving -- another legacy of the original Christmas story -- brings special joy to both the giver and the receiver; John and Margie Anderson present some excellent shopping ideas to delight outdoor folk in your life.

So, whether you are celebrating the birth of the Christ Child in church or simply continuing traditions that have come from that magical moment in history, we wish you beauty and happiness throughout this month and into the New Year. Merry Christmas!

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Out with the old; in with the new.

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Here are some gift ideas for outdoor folk.



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WESTERN WILDLIFE

Sandhill cranes are on the wing again



JULIANNA ARJES

It's A Favorite Family Tradition

Cut your own Christmas tree through December.

It is that time of year again! The Tonto National Forest began selling Christmas tree permits online at Recreation.gov and at Cave Creek, Mesa and Payson Ranger Stations in November.

You and you family can enjoy trekking to your favorite Christmas tree cutting spot any time now. Christmas tree permits cost \$15 and are valid through December 31, 2022. In addition, Christmas tree permits are available for free with an Every Kid Outdoors pass. To learn more about the Every Kid Outdoors program for fourth graders visit the Every Kid Outdoors website. All online transactions are subject to a small transaction fee including the Every Kid Outdoors free Christmas tree permit.

“For many families selecting their own Christmas tree from the Tonto National Forest is a tradition but for some folks it is a new

TRADITION, continued on page 7

AZGFD Announces Winners Of Arizona Wildlife Photo Contest

Winning images are in the 2023 Wildlife Calendar available now with a subscription to Arizona Wildlife Views magazine

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has unveiled its 2023 wildlife calendar, which showcases the winning photographs from its annual contest.

Twelve winning photographs are included in the full-size calendar that is published in the November-December 2022 issue of *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine. All subscriptions ordered through Dec. 31, 2022, will receive the calendar issue and also get free bonus issue(s) added to the order. The calendar also is being sold at all Arizona Game and Fish offices for \$3 (while supplies last).

David C. Vincent’s photo of an American pronghorn in Sonoita was awarded best in



show and is featured on the cover of the calendar issue. “I had a feeling something was going to happen the day I took this photo because the light was magical,” says Vincent, of Tucson.

- The Winning Photographers**
- **Dave Getz**, Tempe: Merriam’s turkey
 - **Kat Guellich**, Green Valley: Antelope jackrabbit
 - **Bill Hamilton**, Phoenix: American red squirrel
 - **Tom Mangelsdorf**, Scottsdale: Burrowing owls
 - **Lee Marcus**, Chandler: Desert bighorn sheep
 - **Mark Navarro**, Tucson: Sandhill cranes
 - **Tam Ryan**, Mesa: Great egrets
 - **Cam Stewart**, Prescott: Great Plains toad
 - **David C. Vincent**, Tucson: American pronghorn
 - **Jeffrey Wagner**, Laramie, Wyo.: Mule deer
- CONTEST, continued on page 7

TOURNAMENT JOUSTING: THE NOBLE SPORT

Come Watch The Knights In Action At The Renaissance Festival

Jousting is given a 21st Century roar of approval at the Arizona Renaissance Festival. Jousting now, as it was 500 years ago, is a merrie sport; a make-believe pageant of Sir Galahads and Sir Lancelots, of villainous Black Knights versus the virtuous Red Knights, mounted on thundering steeds, plumes waving, chain mail clanking and the festival crowd sarcastically screaming “Cheat to win!”

On Saturdays And Sundays

On Saturdays and Sundays in February and March, Knights gear up with their heavy suits of armor, settle astride snorting chargers, take up their lances and tilt with each other. These Knights (stunt riders and actors) will be battling three times a day at the festival 5,000-seat arena. Words like” pomp, pageantry and chivalry” serve to evoke the romantic aspects of jousting. When you get close to see the dull glow of chain mail next to bright armor, you begin to grasp how tightly woven the joust is with its history.

KNIGHTS, continued on page 18



Many Of Our Favorite Events End The Year In December

***Editor’s Note:** We begin with two notes to our hunters then move to the many Christmas celebrations in the Valley. Room does not allow for all the wonders ahead, but here are a few of our favorites that are not covered in other sections of the paper. Be sure to check your own community for its holiday events; there are many!*

DECEMBER 4

QuailFest

Get ready for a top-notch event that’s all about the popular bird with the topknot.

If you’re a fan of Arizona’s quail, the fifth annual QuailFest is the place to be from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 4 in Pioneer Hall at the Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association in Sonoita, Ariz.

The free event, hosted by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Southern Arizona Chapter of Quail Forever, will feature representatives from more than a dozen organizations, including hunting groups, conservation organizations, land management and wildlife management agencies, working dog clubs, birding groups, researchers, and more.

Hamburgers and hotdogs, as well as assorted quail “swag,” will be available for purchase.

The Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association is located at 3142 S. Highway 83, Sonoita, AZ, 85637.

As a reminder, the general quail season runs through Feb. 12, 2023. The season for Mearns’ quail, primarily found on oak-grassland or pine-grassland savannas in the southeastern corner of the state, opens Dec. 2.

THROUGH JANUARY 1

Second Dove Season

While the bigger white-winged doves, prized during the traditional 15-day season in September, have long since migrated to Mexico, the more acrobatic mourning doves remain abundant and widespread. The second season is a long one, lasting a whopping 45 days and running through Jan. 1, 2023.

DECEMBER 5

Fishing Coordinator Job Opening

We have reposted the job opening for the Full Time Fishing R3 Coordinator position. It closes Monday, Dec. 5. Please share with your networks so we can find the best candidate to move the FishAZ Network partnership and HAHWG forward. This is a great opportunity for the right person. Lots of exciting things are coming up. ~ Best, Doug Burt, AZGFD
Apply online at: <https://bit.ly/3AT0gOc>

CHRISTMAS EVENTS (BY CITY)

Chandler

Tumbleweed Tree Lighting Ceremony

Sat, Dec. 3, 4:30 – 9:00 PM
Dr. A. J. Chandler Park, 3 S Arizona Ave
Some things are simply synonymous with the holidays — pumpkin pie, peppermint mochas, gingerbread houses, and of course, the City of Chandler’s Annual Tumbleweed Tree Lighting and Parade of Lights. Every December, Mayor



Chandler’s Tumbleweed Christmas Tree

and City Council invite you to celebrate the holidays in Downtown Chandler. Behold the iconic Tumbleweed Tree, visit with the jolly man himself, Santa, and enjoy musical performances and glowing pageantry of lights. It’s an evening of merriment the whole family can enjoy.
Parade of Lights starts at 6:45 p.m.
Tree Lighting takes place at 8 p.m.
<https://www.chandleraz.gov/explore/special-events/tumbleweed-tree-lighting-ceremony>

Glendale

A Northwest Valley Walk Through Christmas

Fri, Dec 16, 6:00 p.m.
Northwest Valley Baptist Church • Glendale, Ariz.



TARA D LA O GARCIA

Glendale Glitters

Glendale Glitters 2022

The excitement of Glendale Glitters includes the Murphy Park lights and displays, performances in the amphitheater, the Hometown Christmas Parade, Movies by Moonlight, and additional events held by the downtown merchants. Free Parking all season long is available at the City Hall Parking Garage and the Bank of America Parking Garage.

Mesa

Nativity Displays: Celebrate the original Christmas story by visiting the Mesa Temple International Nativity Display — with more than 100 nativities from around the world. We invite you to explore the Christmas story as you witness inspiring works of art depicting Christ’s birth. Open 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. each evening from Nov. 25 to Dec. 31 at the Mesa Temple Visitors’ Center, 455 E. Main St. (just west of the temple grounds on the corner of LeSueur and Main Street).



Phoenix

Celebration of Christmas — “The Brightest Star”: This Broadway-style musical theater performance features a full live orchestra and state-of-the-art technology with incredible special effects. Culminating in a beautiful nativity with a majestic kings’ procession, this year’s show includes exciting new dance numbers, professional acrobatic silk artists, awe-inspiring aerial stunts, and so much more! At Dream City Church 13613 North Cave Creek Road Phoenix, AZ 85022 Dec. 8 through 18.



The Nutcracker Ballet

The Nutcracker
December 10-24, 2021
with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall, Choreography: Ib Andersen, Music: Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky. Ballet Arizona returns to Symphony Hall in grand fashion with this holiday classic. Celebrate the joy and wonder of the season with Ib Andersen’s *The Nutcracker* as Tchaikovsky’s cherished score is masterfully performed by The Phoenix Symphony. Follow Clara’s wintry adventures as she battles mischievous mice and charms the Sugar Plum Fairy. Whether this is your first Nutcracker or your 101st, this heartwarming tradition never fails to enchant and draw smiles from all!

Queen Creek

Holiday Festival and Parade
Sat, Dec 3, 2 – 7 p.m.,
21802 S Ellsworth Rd, Queen Creek, Ariz.
40th Annual Queen Creek Holiday Festival and Parade Saturday, December 3rd 2PM – 7PM Town Center Join us for the 40th annual Queen Creek Holiday Festival and Parade! Benefitting the Kiwanis Club...Read more on Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce

Scottsdale

5th Annual 12 Bars of Christmas Crawl® - Scottsdale
Sat, Dec 10, 12:00, Riot House • Scottsdale, Ariz.
Starts at \$14.00

Christmas at the Farm 2022!
Sun, Dec 25, 12:00, Hunkapi Farms • Scottsdale, Ariz.

Holiday Light Display
Murphy Park and surrounding areas, through January 7, 2023, 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. each evening

Tempe

Through January 15, 2023: upcoming Events in Tempe: More information on each event may be found at tempe-tourism.com

ZooLights
November 23, 2022 through January 15, 2023 | Phoenix Zoo

Las Noches de las Luminarias
December 1-31, 2022 | Desert Botanical Garden ■



THE CREW

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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. You can also submit your event individually at westernoutdoortimes.com/classifieds.

Our waterways are ready, but are you?

To learn more about boating safely in Arizona visit www.azgfd.gov/boating or call: 623-236-7258

**Wear a life jacket.
Every trip.
Every time.**

Under state law, life jackets are required to be worn by children 12 years old and younger, but it's strongly urged that everyone wear one while on the water. Life jackets save lives.

Before heading out on the water, it's important that boaters check to ensure that their life jackets are in good condition and that they are the right size and fit for passengers. Look for:

- Any rips or tears
- Missing straps
- Broken fasteners
- Ensure that the flotation hasn't shifted.

Life jackets should be inspected each boating season due to the environment's impact on their materials and replaced if necessary.

Register Your Watercraft

Make sure your vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water! Skip the line and renew your watercraft registration online at www.azgfd.gov/boating



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Raindrops On Roses And Boat Bags And Pillows

BoatUS Foundation holiday fundraiser offers a few nautical favorite things and gives back to boating.

A few of boaters’ favorite stocking stuffers and nautical gifts, such as flags, boat mats, towels and pillows – all customizable to include a boat name – are available in an annual fundraising drive for the nonprofit BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water.

In addition, customizable holiday cards



Boaters’ most commonly used item is a boat bag, and the BoatUS Foundation fundraiser has them.



SALT HARBOR STUDIOS

Holiday greeting cards from the nonprofit BoatUS Foundation also give back to boating. Also, see cover photo.



with nautical designs crafted on high-quality FSC-certified paper are available in modern and traditional Christmas designs. All are made in the U.S. using natural inks with 0% VOC.

The annual holiday gift and card fundraiser goes to support BoatUS Foundation programs including the nation’s only free online boating safety course, on-water training, kids life jacket loaner program, EPIRB/PLB rentals and more. Check it out at BoatUS.org/HolidayCards.

“Purchase a gift for yourself or boater friends and family, and you’re supporting safe and clean boating,” said Ted Sensenbrenner, BoatUS Foundation assistant director of boating safety. ■



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THREE OF OUR FAVORITES

Dazzling Boat Parades Add Sparkle To The Season

Lake Havasu Holiday Boats Parade Through Bridgewater Channel

Holiday lights will adorn boats as they glitter and glisten through the famed Bridgewater Channel under the London Bridge as a new organizer continues to bring the community a 37-year-old tradition on Saturday night only: December 3 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Want to enter your boat in the parade? Anyone is welcome to register by Dec. 1. There is no registration fee to enter. Prizes will be given to: Best of Show, Judges' Choice, Wildcard Entry, Best Family or Individual Entry, Best Business Entry, and Best First Time Entry.

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

To register, please contact this year's event organizer JJ Gibbs at 928.486.7063 or jj_gibbs@hotmail.com.

The photos are from previous boat parades organized by the London Bridge Yacht Club.

Event dates, times and/or details are subject to change.



Tempe Parade Of Lights

Tempe Celebrates Christmas On The Water

Join us for the Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade — the Valley's most unique holiday event and celebrated tradition on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Enjoy holiday shopping, festive eats and treats, a dazzling boat parade featuring boats of all shapes and sizes, and a spectacular fireworks show. This event is free and family-friendly. We hope you will join us. Here's the full fantasy-filled schedule:

- 4:00 p.m. - Event Start
- Entertainment: 4:14 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Kevin Bode / Emmanuel Lutheran
- 6:00 p.m. - Parade Start
- 8:00 p.m. - Fireworks
- Entertainment: 8:15 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Sophie & Alex Dorsen
- 9:00 p.m. - Event End

Get Involved

Parade Units: Enter your boat into the parade and let's make 2022 the best year yet!. Applications close on December 2, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Volunteer: Volunteers make the holidays cheery and bright! More information: <https://www.downtowntempe.com/events/boat-parade>.

Christmas Lights Return To San Diego Bay

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights



Lake Havasu Parade Of Lights

today announced the theme for the 2022 holiday boat parade is "FantaSEA." This year marks the 51st annual Parade of Lights, one of San Diego's most beloved holiday traditions held on San Diego Bay.

"This year we chose a theme that we felt encapsulated the essence of Christmas time here by the sea," said Parade Chairman Larry Baumann. "What better way to celebrate the fantasy and excitement around Christmas time than by the bay in beautiful San Diego."

The dates for this year's parade are December 11th and 18th, 2022.

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights brings more than 100,000 San Diego residents and visitors together on the San Diego Bay waterfront each year. The procession of about 80 lavishly decorated boats has become one of our region's most iconic holiday events and has brought the community together for over half a decade now.

The parade route starts at Shelter Island and travels west past Harbor Island, then south along the Embarcadero, Seaport Village, and Cesar Chavez Park before turning parallel with the Coronado Bridge to the west side of the bay. The parade then proceeds past the Coronado Ferry Landing to the finish line. It takes about two hours to complete the procession and there are many comfortable waterfront viewpoints along the route.



Jim & Carol Allen and VFW 3513 Auxiliary would like to thank

A & A Materials
for all of their help with our Post.

A variety of prizes and awards are presented to the best decorated boats and those that best capture the parade's magical theme.

Viewing areas span across multiple areas of the San Diego Bay. Prepare for traffic and parking ahead of time. Please report any suspicious activity to the Harbor Police. The possession of open alcoholic beverages is prohibited along the parade viewing area. Drones and other unmanned aircraft systems are also prohibited. Spectators and participants are asked to comply with San Diego County health guidelines when attending the event

Those interested in sponsoring the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights, can contact Larry Baumann at 619-222-1181 or larry@balihairestaurant.com. More information: jaim@cookandschmid.com, 619.814.2370

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is a time-honored tradition brought to the San Diego Bay by the boating community. Each year, more than 80 lavishly decorated boats proceed around the San Diego Bay on two consecutive Sundays in December. For more information, please visit www.sdparadeoflights.org. ■



San Diego Parade Of Lights

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What Did We Name Our Boats In 2022?

Buh bye to ‘Social Distancing’.

Now that recreational boating is coming to a close in much of the country, BoatUS takes a look back at the Top 10 boat names ordered this season through its online boat graphics service and provides some commentary.

1. **Andiamo:** Meaning “let’s go / we go / come on” in Italian, *Andiamo* remains in the No. 1 spot from last year’s list. It’s also a happy refrain heard from the person behind the helm as they put the throttle down and head to open waters.

2. **Osprey:** This year marked the premiere of *Osprey*, having never before made the top 10. In a unique twist, *Osprey* bumped last year’s No. 2 boat name, *Social Distancing*, completely off the list. ‘Nuff said, right?

3. **Serenity:** This No. 3 name is so popular it has made the top 10 seven times since 2010, tying the record with *Second Wind*. Yep, you guessed it – both are popular with sailboat owners.

4. **Encore:** Also a newcomer to the top 10 this year, *Encore* may be the boat name of choice for an entertainer. Or, it could indicate the “next” boat – either satisfying the 3-foot-itis or scaling down, or maybe even coming back to boat owning after a



According to BoatUS, anglers have a fondness for naming their fishing boats **Osprey**, a bird of prey that dives into the water with gusto to catch its dinner.

hiatus.

5. **Zephyr:** Last appearing on the top 10 in 2010, sailors will welcome this ref-

erence to a gentle breeze back to the list.

6. **Second Wind:** Is this boat named for a new chapter in life or achievement? A

comeback? A new strength? We’ll never know for sure, but gosh is it perennially popular.

7. **Adventure:** A boat with this name is usually out of the slip every weekend putting miles of water under the keel.

8. **Knot on Call:** This boat name serves as a notice that on-the-water time can’t be tampered with. Of unique importance, the owner of this boat can silence their cell-phone ring in just under two seconds.

9. **Shenanigans:** Quit fooling around. *Shenanigans* are a part of every boating culture.

10. **Grace:** In its fourth appearance on the top 10 boat names list since 2010, *Grace* likely holds deep meaning for vessels with beautiful lines or for those that navigate with finesse. This is the one boat in the marina that also makes docking look easy.

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

Tiny Smartphone Controller Fits Paddles To Steering Wheels

While on the water, most people store mobile devices in safe but relatively inaccessible spots. This makes music playback and receiving calls difficult—unless they have a JBL Click Bluetooth® wireless controller from ProSpec Electronics. Easily attached to a steering wheel, stanchion, bimini rail, wakeboard tower or paddle, it provides instant control of an Android or iOS smartphone. And with an exceptionally low price, it makes the perfect holiday gift.

Fully waterproof to IPX5 standards, the JBL Click is built for extreme conditions. The integrated silicone strap adjusts to a wide range of shapes and diameters to allow it to be mounted closest to the action, and quickly moved anytime needed. Pairing is simple, confirmed with an LED indicator. With Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) reduced power con-

sumption, the easily replaceable CR2032 battery will last 10 months.

The JBL Click has a single rotating, clickable button to control the smartphone’s play/pause, previous/next track and volume up/down functionality. If a call is received, it’s simple to decline it, or answer it then hang up when finished to get back to the music.

At a mere 1.3 oz. and about the size of a quarter, this tiny mobile accessory is unobtrusive and portable. Available from ProSpec Electronics, the JBL Click costs \$49.95.

Contact local dealers or ProSpec Electronics, 3325 S Morgans Point Rd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466. www.prospecelectronics.com; www.facebook.com/prospecaudio; www.instagram.com/prospecelectronics; YouTube: www.bit.ly/2wQmJWz. ■



New LED Light Bar Has Dual Funtuality

On the water, there’s almost no such thing as too much light, especially when throttled up. The new high-performance Sea Hawk-470 Light Bar combines LED pencil beam long-distance visibility and the distinctive ambient glowing signature of Hella marine’s Edge Light technology.

It comes with a five-year warranty and has a suggested retail price of \$350.

Contact local dealers or Hella marine Inc., www.hellamarine.com.

CONTEST

Continued from page 1

- **Courtney Warner**, Phoenix: Elk
- **Sue Welter**, Peoria: Chuckwalla

Given the strength and diversity of this year’s nearly 1,900 entries, the judges singled out 20 images from talented photographers for honorable mention. Those photos also are featured in the calendar issue.

Thanks To All

The department expresses its thanks

to everyone who submitted photographs, and also thanks *Arizona Highways* for its partnership in hosting the photo contest.

Remember: A subscription to *Arizona Wildlife Views*, already one of the best deals around, is now even better if you order through Dec. 31, 2022:

\$12 for one year, includes one free bonus issue (seven issues total);

\$18 for two years, includes two free bonus issues (14 issues total);

\$25 for three years, includes three free bonus issues (21 issues total).

Subscribe today to bring Arizona’s wildlife and wild places into your home! ■

TRADITION

Continued from page 1

experience that may become a new tradition,” said Timber Specialist Michelle Williams of the Tonto National Forest. “For most families, the shared experience of cutting down their own Christmas tree is very memorable. It’s a tradition that has been bringing families together for years during the holiday season.”

In person Tonto National Forest sales locations: Cave Creek Ranger District, 40202 N. Cave Creek Rd., Scottsdale, Ar-

izona 85262; Mesa Ranger District, 5140 E. Ingram St., Mesa, Arizona 85205; and Payson Ranger District, 1009 East Highway 260, Payson, Arizona 85541.

Please visit the Tonto National Forest website for more information about the Christmas tree permit program and to download instructions and maps. Be safe, have a plan, know before you go and most importantly, have fun!

To get the most up-to-date information about the Tonto, follow us on Twitter @TontoForest or on Facebook @TontoNationalForest. ■

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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Carol Allen

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Ideas Range From Sock Stuffers To Splurges

BY JOHN ANDERSON

If you have a shooter on your list (even if it's YOU!), I've got some great ideas for gifts – from stocking stuffers to splurges. Some require that you know the exact gun, but others don't, so I'll separate those out for you. I can pretty much guarantee that anything on this list will please a person who enjoys shooting.

If You Know The Gun (Or At Least The Caliber)

Alien Gear Holster

You can't go wrong with Alien Gear – they have a variety of holsters for pocket, IWB, OWB, and every kind of carry you



Alien Gear Holsters has a variety of deals available right now.

can think of. I love these things. They're running a holiday deal right now, too -- \$40 off if you buy a Nightstick Light and any holster purchase of \$79.88 or more. Even if you're not in the market for a gun light, you should check out their holsters. One of my absolute favorites is their Grip Tuck Universal Holster – it's under \$45 and it's one of the most comfortable IWB holsters I've got, especially in the summer when the hard holsters tend to produce massive amounts of sweat. Check out all their gear at www.aliengearholsters.com.



ETS Speedloader is under \$30.

ETS Speedloader

Put a mag in the speedloader til it gives a little click, pick up the rounds from the ammo tray (the tray inside the box the ammo comes in), turn the loader so the rounds are facing up, then just push them into the mag. My arthritic thumbs are very appreciative of these loaders, plus they are SO much faster. And at under \$30, they're a steal. Use the code DAN and you'll get 15% off! Check them out at www.etsgroup.us. *All you need to know is the caliber.*

Don't Know The Gun Or Caliber? Gotcha Covered

WildEar'sSafEarz™

These amazing ready-fit earplugs are available with three distinct filter options: Shooter, Everyday, and Toggle. The Shooter filter reduces high-intensity sounds such as gunfire, while still allowing you to have face-to-face conversations and hear sounds around you. The Everyday filter turns down the volume (noise) without sacrific-



ing listening quality (the sounds you want to hear – music, warning signals, speech, etc.).

The Everyday filter is ideal for lawn work, indoor or outdoor music concerts, and other activities with moderate noise. The suggested retail price is \$44.50-\$49.50. More information on SafEarz ready-fit hearing protection and the entire line of WildEar products is available at [https://www.wildear.com/](http://www.wildear.com/).

Garmin Bounce™ Smartwatch for Kids

I remember losing my way once or twice while hunting, and it's not a great feeling for an adult, much less a kid. If you take your kids out hunting, shooting, hiking, etc., consider giving them a Bounce™ smartwatch for the holidays. You pair it to your phone so you can see where they are (uses LTE, not satellite), plus it has text and voice messaging. The watch is just under \$150 and it does require a subscription plan which is \$10/month or \$100/year. Read more about it at www.garmin.com.



Grey Man Tactical UTV Dual Horizontal Gun Rack

A LOT of hunters use UTV's (or side-by-sides or whatever you want to call them) for hunting. They'll go over almost any road and you don't have to worry about scratching them up, so they're great hunting vehicles. However, it's tough to find a place to put your rifle or shotgun. Margie and I bought a double shotgun storage bag for our side by side, which is awesome, especially on dusty roads where you'd like to keep thirty pounds of



Grey Man Tactical Gun Rack

can install them to open on either side, and the lock has audio and LED warnings when the battery is getting low. There's also a barrel key backup. They come in 22-inch or 44-inches tall and have removable shelves so you can arrange them to fit your needs. You can get the 22" model for \$228.99 at www.snapsafe.com.



Go Sun Solar-Powered Rechargeable Cooler — The Chillest

GoSun Solar

Margie and I just bought a GoSun cooler and seriously, it's the best thing we've bought ourselves in a long time. You can charge it up at home or with solar panels (we have one that folds out and becomes a table, also from GoSun), plus it plugs into the socket in your vehicle. We have an outlet in the back of the Jeep. It has two compartments and the smaller one can be used as a freezer. You can set the temps to suit yourself. No ice, no mess, no getting water in the butter or having meat leak into the melt water. Yuck. This thing is the nuts.

GoSun has a bunch of great solar-powered items – even a sink! The bundles are priced right, and you could end up with a camp/hunt trailer that's totally off-grid.

Absolutely perfect for multi-day hunting trips. Check them out at www.gosun.co.

Gift Cards

A gift card isn't a cop-out. I don't know a single hunter or shooter who wouldn't appreciate a gift card to Cabelas, Bass Pro, Sportsman's Warehouse, etc. If you feel lame just giving a gift card, get creative. Get the Gatorz Ammo Can Case and put a gift card inside. Or use a small tackle box, or tuck it into the pocket of a flannel shirt. I personally loved it when Margie gave me a gift card inside a Stanley coffee mug. You get the idea!

Gift Membership

A membership to a shooting range is a gift that keeps on giving all year round. There are some great ranges in Arizona – Shooters World and C2 Tactical come to mind right away. A Shooters World membership is \$429 a year for a single, \$649 for a family. If it's for a POST certified, credentialed peace officer, federal law enforcement, or active duty military it's \$299/year. See them at www.azshooter-world.com.

At C2 Tactical the plans and prices vary by location, so check them out at www.c2tactical.com. The great thing about a membership is always having a place to practice just about any time you want, plus you usually get discounts on merchandise and classes. They are a tad pricey, but worth it if your shooter goes to the range a lot.

Have A Wonderful Holiday!

I hope this helps you figure out what to give the shooter in your life – have a wonderful holiday season and I'll see you outdoors! ■

dirt out of your gun. We got it on Amazon (just search for UTV Gun Storage Bag).

Grey Man Tactical has a system that allows for rapid deployment and it's a grid system so you can put other things on it too. It's powder-coated aluminum and comes with two Rifle Rack Rubber Clamps. It's definitely a splurge at just under \$600, but it's a very cool system. Go to www.greymantactical.com to see it.

SnapSafe® In-Wall Safe

An in-wall safe is actually super easy to install and easy to hide – just like in the movies, you simply hang a picture over it. Or use a piano hinge on the frame of the picture so you can just swing it open. The SnapSafe® wall safes fit between your wall studs and even if they are discovered, the 16-gauge steel body and 8-gauge steel door will fend off a lot of would-be thieves. You



Gary Dobyns Talks Winter Tournament Fishing

FROM DOBYNS TO
MARGIE ANDERSON

I know Gary Dobyns is originally a California boy, but he's in Texas now and no matter where he lives, he is arguably one of the best western bass anglers EVER. So this month, I'm letting Gary tell you how he approaches winter tournaments. Even if you don't fish tournaments, this will help your winter bass fishing. So here's Gary:

One of the questions I get most is: What's the best way to start fishing in the winter? I don't know yet what the best way is, but I can tell you how I start out, regardless of the weather, the water temperature, or the location. I start out shallow. That's because I firmly believe that there are always shallow bass no matter how cold it is or what the conditions are.

Locating Deep Is
Time Consuming

I know that a lot of guys immediately go deep in winter, and I also know that there are plenty of fish caught deep this time of year. But locating and fishing deep fish is time consuming. When you target shallow fish you're targeting feeding fish, and they're just flat easier to catch.

I remember one tournament in particular that drove this lesson home. It was very tough, a brutal bite, and at 10:30 I still didn't have a fish. I was fishing about twenty-five feet deep, and hating every minute of it. A friend stopped by and asked me how I was doing, and I told him the truth – I was doing worse than lousy.

His first question was "how deep are you fishing?". When I told him I was twenty-five feet deep, he said, "Well, dumb-ass, there's your problem. You oughta be fishing five feet or less!" He was right, even though there was a brutal north wind and the water temperature was 46 degrees. I went to the bank and by the time my 3:00 weigh-in came around I was leading the tournament that first day. I ended up second, and I caught every one of my fish five feet or shallower. I also learned a lesson I've benefitted from ever since.

Find A Shallow Pattern First

No matter what the conditions are, I try to find a shallow pattern first. If I'm pre-fishing I'll fish shallow all day long, and even if my pre-fishing hasn't located a reliable shallow pattern, I'll still go to the bank the first hour of any tournament. I know that a lot of guys say to go shallow later in the day in winter, after the water has warmed up, but I find that the first



Gary Dobyns is arguably one of the best western bass anglers ever.

hour is usually my most productive time. The places that produce the most fish, even in the dead of winter, can be surprising. I'll go clear to the back of a creek, especially if there is water coming in. The fish get in there and put their heads in the current, just waiting for the current to bring them something to eat. It's amazing how shallow they will be, even in the coldest water.

There's Something
About Red Mud Banks

I also love mud banks, especially red mud banks. I don't care if it's flat, sloping, or whatever. Something about a red mud bank just seems to attract fish. Points are also a good place for feeding fish, no matter what time of year it is. I like the ones that go way out and have a good big flat area. Fish come up there to feed, and feeding fish are active fish that will take a reaction bait.

Docks are good places, and I also fish a shallow bait around bridge pilings. I'll start out in pre-fish trying everything, and watch where the bites are coming from, trying to put a pattern together. Some-

times it might be a suspended fish pattern: I might find them by getting on a steep wall and ripping a shallow jerk bait.

Try A Variety Of Baits

I'll try a variety of baits, including rip baits and spinnerbaits, and I'll also try fishing a jig or a worm shallow. I flat move that jig or worm, too, fishing fast and moving down the bank so I can throw at a 45 degree angle to the bank. I fish it back about five or ten feet, then throw it again. I hop and shake a Texas-rigged worm or hop and shake a 1/4- to 3/8-ounce jig. No matter what I'm throwing, I fish it fast. A shaky-head worm works pretty good sometimes, too. Just

stick with baitfish colors and work at getting it in front of them.

If I can't get a shallow bite going after a full day of trying, I'm going to get in a creek and start watching my meter. They're going to be in there somewhere. Maybe they'll be at twenty feet, maybe at forty, but you're going to find them if you watch your meter, and if you're in a good creek with some water flowing.

When it rains and the fish stick their heads in the current, they are really bait oriented. I fish spinnerbaits and jigs in current, and I use a lot of Robo Worms if I'm fishing deeper in the cuts. If there isn't any current and I can't find fish in the creeks, I move out to other stuff.

Next Stop: Flats,
Long Flat Points

Next stop will be flats and long flat points, and I search with my meter, looking for good structure as well as fish in 25 to 60 feet of water. Even if I don't actually see any fish, I'll often fish an area just because I really believe that fish will be there. I use a lot of 3/4- to 1-ounce football head jigs and Hula Grubs, and also dart heads and shaky heads with those 6-inch Robos.

On flats, one of the best ways I've found to fish a jig is to simply drag it around with the boat, getting on and off the trolling motor to keep it going. I don't hop it, I just drag it around. Most of the time on the flats I'm throwing jigs, and in cuts I'm using worms.

Weather Plays A Part

Weather seems to be a big factor. In a low pressure I'll fish shallow, but a high pressure is more likely to force me to go deep. The exception is the Delta, because there I'll be fishing shallow no matter what.

If you don't at least try to get on a shallow pattern, you're probably going to end up spending way too much time finding fish. No matter what the conditions are like, at least give a shallow pattern a good try. You may be in for a pleasant surprise.

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LETTER TO OUR READERS

Day At The Docks Is Back!

SAN DIEGO SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

Exciting news to share! The Port of San Diego's Day At The Docks is a GO for 2023! After a long, three-year hiatus, we are pleased to bring back this well-known and anticipated sportfishing tradition.

As the San Diego fishing season has started earlier the last several years, Day at the Docks™ will be earlier too. It is now scheduled for: Sunday, March 19, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 5p.m.

We want to thank those who have been Sponsoring Exhibitors in the past and invite you to be a sponsor in 2023. Sponsoring Exhibitors get immediate promotion on our website with hyperlink, logo identification in printed promotional materials, special recognition

in the event program and promotional announcements from the stage during the event. Other sponsor opportunities are also available. If you are interested, ask for a copy of the sponsor deck.

Invites will be sent out in the next week. Please be on the lookout in your e-mail inbox. Early registration provides discounted rates. In the next few weeks, promotional materials for the event will be available for download from our website. We hope you'll use it to help us publicize the 2023 Day at the Docks™.

Join us in March to celebrate the start of San Diego's spring saltwater fishing season. We look forward to welcoming you aboard!

Catherine Miller, Peggy Couvrette and Vic Gamboa

For the San Diego Sportfishing Council

Over 700 Permit-Tags Remain For Spring Javelina Hunts



Javelina

DULCEY LIMA

Leftovers are available for general, youth-only, HAM, archery-only.

Arizona hunters who were unsuccessful in the recent 2023 spring draw still have an opportunity to receive a hunt permit-tag for javelina. The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has posted a list of leftover hunt permit-tags on its website at www.azgfd.com/Hunting/Draw/. A total of 758 leftover hunt permit-tags are available for the following hunts:

- 394 handgun, archery or muzzleload-

- er (HAM) javelina
- 217 archery-only javelina
- 83 general javelina
- 51 youth-only general javelina
- 13 raptor capture

A total of 17 hunt permit-tags for javelina remain for properly licensed military and Fort Huachuca personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca (Unit 35B). Hunters can apply on a first come, first served basis one of two ways: Beginning at 8 a.m. Monday, Nov. 21, fill out a paper application and bring it to any department office statewide, at which

time a hunt permit-tag will be issued. Fill out a paper application and mail it to: Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn.: Draw/First Come, 5000 W. Care-free Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086. Allow 10 to 15 business days to receive a hunt permit-tag by mail. For more information, including license and hunt permit-tag requirements, refer to the “2023 Spring Turkey, Javelina, Bison, Bear and Raptor Capture Hunt Draw Information” booklet, or call 602-942-3000. **Note:** Join our Conservation Membership program and ensure a wildlife legacy for the future. ■

AZGFD Asks Hunters To Help Keep CWD At Bay

Arizona remains CWD-free due to surveillance efforts.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is asking hunters to continue doing their part to help keep Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) at bay. CWD is a fatal wildlife disease that affects the nervous system of deer and elk. All successful deer and elk hunters are encouraged to bring the head of their harvested animal — especially bucks and bulls — to any department office statewide between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The department is requesting that hunters call in advance before delivering a head for sampling. The preferred method for storage is to place the head in a heavy-duty plastic trash bag, and keep it cold or frozen until it can be sampled. The department also re-



quests hunters to provide accurate hunter information (name, telephone number), as well as hunt information (hunt number, game management unit in which the animal was harvested, state and hunting license number). This information is crucial should CWD be detected in a sample. Department officials have not detected any cases of CWD in the 500-plus deer (mule and white-tailed) and elk that have been harvested by hunters and voluntarily submitted for testing this fall. Game and

Fish has been testing for the presence of the disease in Arizona since 1998. While CWD has been found in the neighboring states of Utah, New Mexico and Colorado, the disease has not been detected in Arizona. CWD has not been documented to cause disease in people. CWD is transmitted and spread by animal movement and direct contact, which means the illegal importation of a cervid carcass or parts with brain or spinal column tissue of an infected animal could introduce the disease into Arizona. To that point, an individual is only allowed to possess, transport or import the following portions of cervids lawfully taken in another state or country: Boneless portions of meat, or meat that has been cut and packaged. Clean hides and capes with no skull or soft tissue attached. Antlers, clean skull plates or skulls with antlers attached with no meat or soft

tissue remaining. Finished taxidermy mounts or products (hunters may ship their harvested animal to a taxidermist) Upper canine teeth with no meat or tissue attached. Do not bring the brain, intact skull or spinal column of a deer or elk harvested in another state back into Arizona. It may take longer than a year before an infected deer or elk develops symptoms of CWD, which can include drastic weight loss (wasting), stumbling, listlessness and other neurological symptoms. CWD can infect deer and elk animals of all ages, although it's most frequently noticed in older animals. CWD is fatal, and there are no treatments or vaccines. All hunters are advised not to shoot, handle or consume any animal that is acting abnormally or appears to be sick.

HUNTERS, continued on page 12

Business Cards & Logos Will Get Your Point Across

This page will be center open on the right hand side of our print issue. This page will also be displayed on one of our web sites and referenced on our other two web sites. Limited space available. Contact jim@azbw.com for information and to place your order.

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Arizona's 'Second' Dove Season Runs Through Jan. 1

When it comes to experiencing some of the finest wing-shooting that Arizona has to offer, the “second” dove season — which opened mid-November — is not to be missed.

While the bigger white-winged doves, prized during the traditional 15-day season in September, have long since migrated to Mexico, the more acrobatic mourning doves remain abundant and widespread. The second season is a long one, lasting a whopping 45 days and running through Jan. 1, 2023.

There still is a 15-bird daily bag limit, all of which must be mourning doves. The possession limit remains 45 mourning doves after opening day, of which no more than 15 may be taken in any one day. Note: The Arizona Game and Fish Department encourages all hunters to harvest as many Eurasian collared-doves as possible. There is an unlimited daily bag and possession limit year-round for this

invasive species.

A few things to remember to make the most of the upcoming season:

- A combination hunt and fish license for youth hunters ages 10 to 17 is only \$5. Children 9 and under do not need a license when accompanied by a licensed adult (two children per adult). Licenses can be purchased online at www.azgfd.com/License/, or from any license dealer.
- Hunters 18 and older must possess an Arizona hunting license, or a combination hunt and fish license, and an Arizona migratory bird stamp (\$5), all of which can be purchased online or from any license dealer.
- Shooting hours are 30 minutes before legal sunrise until legal sunset.
- One fully feathered wing must remain attached to each harvested dove until it reaches its final destination.
- Keep in mind that dove hunters are responsible for cleaning up after them-



selves. Shell casings (shotgun hulls) and associated debris constitute litter and must be picked up and packed out. Littering while hunting or fishing are revocable violations, and a conviction can result in the loss of hunting privileges for up to five years.

- For everything “dove,” read the “2022-2023 Arizona Dove and Band-tailed Pigeon Regulations.” Also visit [www.azgfd.com/hunting/species/small-](http://www.azgfd.com/hunting/species/small-game/mourningdove)

game/mourningdove.

Dove hunters play an important role in conservation. Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) funds consist of excise taxes collected on the sale of hunting and fishing equipment (including 11 percent on ammunition), the benefit of which comes right back to Arizona for habitat improvements, shooting ranges, boating access and more.

In addition to the late dove season that opens Friday, several other small game hunting seasons are underway, including quail (Gambel’s, scaled), Oct. 14, 2022-Feb. 12, 2023; cottontail rabbit, July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023; chukar, Sept. 1, 2022-Feb. 12, 2023; and tree squirrel (Albert’s, Kaibab and red, excluding Mount Graham red squirrel), Sept. 30, 2022-Jan. 31, 2023. The season for Mearns’ quail opens Dec. 2, 2022 and closes Feb. 12, 2023. ■

Archery Deer Hunters: AZGFD Details Changes

These affect purchasing over-the-counter nonpermit-tags.

The recent changes to Arizona statutes and the rules that govern the sale of over-the-counter (OTC) nonpermit-tags for the state’s archery deer hunting opportunity will affect both nonresident and resident hunters.

Nonresident Hunters

These changes include limiting the sale of archery deer nonpermit-tags to nonresident hunters beginning with the 2023 calendar year.



endar year. The number of archery deer nonpermit-tags available to nonresidents will be set annually at 10% of the average total sales of archery deer nonpermit-tags for the most recent five years, rounding down to the nearest increment of 5.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) will make available 2,890 archery deer nonpermit-tags for purchase by nonresidents for the 2023 calendar year. After the allotment of 2,890 archery deer nonpermit-tags for nonresidents has been sold, no additional archery deer

nonpermit-tags will be made available for nonresidents for the 2023 calendar year.

First Come. First Served

The archery deer nonpermit-tags for nonresidents will only be sold online — on a first come, first served basis — by visiting OtcArcheryDeer.azgfd.gov beginning at 12 a.m. Dec. 1, 2022. The archery deer nonpermit-tags for nonresidents will no longer be sold at third-party license dealers.

This nonresident restriction does not apply to nonresidents possessing an Arizona Pioneer, Lifetime Hunt, Lifetime Combination, or Lifetime Benefactor license. Nonresidents with one of these licenses will be required to pay the nonresident archery deer nonpermit-tag fee, but they will not count toward the 10% cap. Nonresidents with a Pioneer, Lifetime, or Benefactor license must purchase their archery deer nonpermit-tag from any department office statewide or by mail (mail order form). They will not be available at licensed dealers or online (the online sales option is only available to those nonresident hunters affected by the 10% cap).

tag is required to hunt all open seasons during the 2023 calendar year. These seasons include Jan. 1-31, 2023; Aug. 18-Sept. 7, 2023; and Dec. 8-31, 2023. Check online at www.azgfd.gov/Archery-DeerReport for open areas; open areas will close when harvest limits are met. Some units have already reached their harvest limit and are closed for the January 2023 season.

Apply To All Archery Deer Hunts

Harvest limits now apply to all archery deer hunts in Arizona. Harvest limits apply to hunts between August and January; they will reset each year in August. When the number of deer equaling the archery deer harvest limit for a unit and species has been reported, the unit will close to further archery deer hunting at sundown on the immediate Wednesday.

The unit will remain closed until August of the next calendar year. All over-the-counter archery deer hunters are required to report their harvest either online (www.azgfd.gov/ArcheryDeerReport) or by telephone (623-236-7961) within 48 hours of taking their deer.

Season Dates Vary

- Season dates for over-the-counter, nonpermit-tag archery deer seasons vary by unit and may be: Aug. 19-Sept. 8, 2022; Dec. 9-31, 2022; and/or Jan. 1-31, 2023. Not all units are open for all time frames; hunters should check the status of harvest limits online (www.azgfd.gov/ArcheryDeerReport). The harvest limits have been reached in some units and these units are closed until the August 2023 season.

ARCHERY, continued on page 18



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HUNTERS

Continued from page 11

Wear latex or rubber gloves when field dressing deer or elk. All hunters are asked to contact the department at 1-800-352-0700 if they see or harvest an animal that appears to be sick.

For information about importation of harvested animals in other states, contact that state’s wildlife management agency. For more information about CWD, visit the Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance website at <http://cwg-info.org/>. ■

Resident Hunters

A resident hunter may purchase an archery deer nonpermit-tag at any third-party license dealer (available mid-November) or any department office statewide, where they are available now. There are no restrictions on the total number of archery deer nonpermit-tags available to Arizona residents.


All Hunters

A valid 2023 archery deer nonpermit-



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BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Wondering what to get that hiker, climber, nomad, off-roader, camper, or just plain day dreamer for the holidays? I've got you covered! I've been saving great ideas all year long so I could share them with you this month. I'll give you ideas from stocking stuffers to splurges, so you're sure to find something fun and fitting in this list.

Aspen Water Bottle

Hey, even if you're not an outdoorsman, carrying a refillable water bottle is a great way to save a lot of money – bottled water prices are ridiculous, and those plastic bottles are a major ecological disaster! Aspen has beautiful metal, unbreakable, insulated bottles with a non-slip rubber base. And this year, there's a hidden handle in the top of the lid!

An Aspen bottle will keep your beverage cold for up to 100 hours, and hot for up to 20 hours. It's got a nice wide opening for ice cubes and my favorite 2022 Aspen comes in 16 oz (\$28.99), 25 oz (\$34.99), and the BOSS Triple Insulated Stainless Steel 64 oz Growler Bottle with infuser (\$59.99).



The smaller bottles come in seven different gorgeous colors, and you can see them all at www.ecovessel.com. Right now you can get 25% off with code WINTER25, and free shipping over \$49! They have coffee mugs too!

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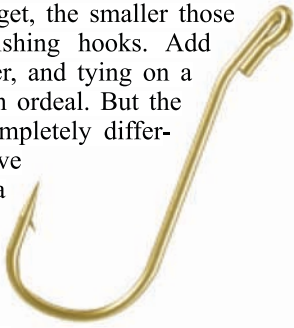
Yes, you need a license to legally operate a HAM radio, but <http://www.arrl.org/getting-licensed> will tell you what you need to know. This radio is a handheld unit perfect for when you're out of cell service (which is constantly, for us!). You can use it as an FM radio as well, and it is legal for amateur frequencies. You can even use it hands-free! It's reasonably priced at just under \$140 at www.survivalfrog.com.



BAOFENG TECH BF-F8HP Ham Radio

Valley Tieless Fishing Tackle EZ Hook

The older I get, the smaller those eyes are on fishing hooks. Add the cold weather, and tying on a hook is quite an ordeal. But the EZ Hook is completely different. All you have to do is tie a simple knot at the end of your line, loop the line around the hook once, and you're ready to fish. No kidding! The hooks are just \$3.29 for five hooks, so they're a great stocking stuffer! Get them online at <https://thetielesshook.com/>. They've got clasps to make changing hard baits easy too!



Valley Tieless Fishing Tackle EZ Hook



Ibex merino base wear - perfect for any outdoor sports in winter.

Ibex Merino Apparel

Merino is lightweight, thermoregulating, moisture-wicking, odor-resistant, and naturally breathable for optimal layering. In short, Ibex makes the perfect winter wear! Got a skier, a runner, a traveler, hiker, biker, or a hunter on your list? Help them stay warm this winter with a gift from Ibex. They're not cheap – a women's Woolies 2 Crew is \$135, but they are a fantastic investment and will last for years. If a crew is too steep for you, go to www.ibex.com and check out their glove liners and neck warmers!



BioLite BaseCharge 600

BioLite Basecharge 600 And Basecharge 1500

BioLite makes some of my favorite camping gear – I've got their stove, lights, solar panels – all kinds of good stuff. I especially love the way they give back – go to their website at www.bioliteenergy.com and click on Mission to find out about what they are doing to improve the world. Their little stove is my favorite – it runs on twigs and small stuff but puts out a ton of heat and you can cook on it no problem with their grill and pans. Not only that, it can charge your phone while you're cooking!

The new BaseCharge units will power just about anything you need outdoors (or indoors) and you can charge it with a solar panel or plug it in at home. It'll power up laptops, phones, lights, routers, and more! Check out all their stuff. I bet you'll love it as much as I do! Also, you can now get the BaseCharge units on Amazon!

Maglite Customized Flashlights

No matter what you do outdoors, sooner or later you're going to need a flashlight. Get your camping, hunting, or hiking buddy a personalized flashlight from Maglite. They start at \$40, and you can click a box and get 20% off! I bet Dad would love a big Maglite with his name engraved on it – that way the kids can't steal it! Go to www.maglite.com and check out all their stuff. It's amazing. And their flashlights are seriously sturdy!



Gatorz Ammo Box Case For Sunglasses

Gatorz Eyewear Ammo Can Case

This is the coolest thing ever for the hunter, shooter, or fisherman in your life (or skier, hiker, climber – anyone who wears sunglasses!). This sturdy sunglasses case looks like an ammo can and has a sponge liner to cradle your specs and keep them safe and scratch-free. Plus it just looks super cool and even has a water-tight gasket.

While you're at www.gatorz.com checking out the ammo can case, give their sunglasses a look. Some fantastic stuff there! The Ammo Can Case is usually \$48, but when I went on the website it was \$31.20. (The handle works, too!)



The JBL Click controls your phone via Bluetooth.

JBL Click Tiny Smartphone Controller For Steering Wheels

I don't know about you, but when I'm on a boat or in a side by side, I keep my phone in a safe place. But that usually means it's fairly inaccessible, which makes playing podcasts or music, or answering calls a bit difficult. That's why I think the JBL Click is the absolute perfect stocking stuffer – it's less than \$50 and it's about the size of a quarter. It straps on your steering wheel and links to your phone via Bluetooth. So now you can use your phone and still keep it safe! Just go to www.prospecelectronics.com and enter JBL in the search bar. So cool!

Fisher Space Pen

Who doesn't want a pen like the astronauts use? I know I want one! The Fisher Space Pen is beyond cool – sleek, works in arctic conditions or Arizona heat, and even works under water! It even comes in a gift box with an astronaut sleeve! The original Space Pen is \$79. They now have Cerakote Bullet Space pens in several colors and you can even get them personalized. In fact, you'll be amazed at the variety, and prices for the pens start at \$12. You really need to




GIFTS, continued on page 15

TripleWall Productions

TripleWall Productions specialize in outdoor video production as well as all your video-production needs.

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Contact Mike Wallace at (480) 228-7733 or triplewallproductions@gmail.com

Cultural Demonstrator Series Transitions To Grand Canyon Visitor Center For Winter Season

Starting on December 2, 2022, through February 26, 2023, the Cultural Demonstrator Series will transition to the Grand Canyon Visitor Center (GCVC) on the South Rim. Every Friday through Sunday, artists from traditionally associated tribes of Grand Canyon will be in the lobby from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Moving demonstrations from the Desert View Watchtower to the GCVC will increase interactions with artists and the public during months of slower visitation. After February 26, 2023, the Cultural Demonstrator Series will transition back to the Desert View Watchtower.

The Cultural Demonstrator Series provides park visitors and residents the opportunity to interact with members of traditionally associated tribes and for the artisans to share their history and crafts. Weavers, carvers, potters, painters, sculptors, jewelers are just some of the disci-

plines presented by cultural demonstrators. This series is made possible with grants from Grand Canyon Conservancy.

The 11 traditionally associated tribes of Grand Canyon include the following: Diné (Navajo Nation), Havasupai Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, Moapa Band of Paiutes, Paiute Indian Tribes of Utah, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation, and Pueblo of Zuni.

GCVC is located approximately five miles north of the South Entrance to Grand Canyon National Park. To plan your visit to the South Rim, visit: Places To Go - Grand Canyon National Park (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)

For more information on the Cultural Demonstrator Series, please contact Park Ranger Daniel Pawlak at 928-638-7893. ■



Chasingwind Cultural Consulting demonstrates the traditional Navajo way of carding wool at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center, 2013. (NPS Photo/M. Quinn)

Make The Season Merry With Favorite Valley Traditions

ZooLights at the Phoenix Zoo, the Valley’s most cherished holiday tradition, is back with millions of twinkling lights, all new animal lanterns and light displays, an enhanced Santa experience and a brand new music and light show! PLUS, guest entry to ZooLights includes admission to Dinosaurs in the Desert, the not-to-be-missed dino-mite experience!

With expanded trails and new sights and sounds, ZooLights is bigger, brighter and better than ever! View the event website for the full schedule.

ZooLights Walk Thru:
Through January 15, 2023
5:30 – 10:30 p.m.

Purchase Online:
\$30 General Admission
\$25 Member

Purchase at Gate:
\$35 General Admission
\$30 Member
To purchase tickets, visit the Zoo Lights Event Website.



Zoo Lights

The all-new Lake Light Show is a stunning, immersive experience featuring a 50 foot LED tree with music and synchronized imagery!

Journey back in time with Dinosaurs in the Desert, where colossal dinosaurs and other ancient beasts dominate the landscape in this prehistoric experience.

Enjoy the Holiday Safari Animal Presentation nightly at 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. and community performances Wednesdays & Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Meet Santa in Polar Park, where you will enjoy interactive glowing swings,

TRADITIONS, continued on page 19

There Is Holiday Enchantment In The Village

Tlaquepaque Arts & Shopping Village rolls in December with holiday events celebrating both Christmas and Hanukkah. It’s a place where the spirit of Christmas comes to life, and Hanukkah is honored with a traditional event on December 18th with the Lighting of a Menorah. The 49th Annual Festival of Lights complements both holidays with a magnificent display of light symbolizing a rededication to love, peace, and the Divine.

Tree Lighting Event
Friday, December 2, 2022
5:00 P.M. - 7:00 p.m. @ Tlaquepaque North

The Christmas season opens with Sedona’s Tree Lighting Event in Tlaquepaque North, sponsored by Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village, the City of Sedona, and the Chamber of Commerce.

The evening begins with music from the children’s orchestra at Sedona’s Montessori Charter School from 5:00 - 5:30 pm. There are few experiences as heartwarming as watching children perform. Witnessing these young musicians from first to third grades play their string instruments in chorus is an inspiring experi-

ence not to be missed this holiday season.

Sedona Mayor Scott Jablow will greet everyone and countdown the tree lighting. There will be plenty of photo opportunities for families with children. The Grinch will be there causing fun and mischief as Santa makes his first appearance of the season. They have also invited Spiderman and The Black Panther to interact with their fans. Tlaquepaque will provide complimentary glitter tattoos and face painting for children waiting in line. Santa will visit with children sharing their Christmas wishes and giving each one a special gift bag. Complimentary hot chocolate and cookies will be served by the Sedona Pumpthouse Station.

49th Annual Festival Of Lights
Saturday, December 10, 2022
3:00 P.M. - 8:00 p.m.

Tlaquepaque ushers in its 49th Annual Festival of Lights with another unforgettable event. Special thanks to Sedona Area Veteran and Community Outreach group who will fill 6000 bags with sand and a candle. Then place them in and around Tlaquepaque for the event.

Free hot cider, Santa and his elves, traditional Christmas music, and a fabulous line-up of entertainment throughout the day — are only part of the magical elements of this beloved Sedona event. Visitors in attendance become participants as they give each a candle to light the luminaries and make a wish when Tlaquepaque’s bell tower strikes at 5:00 pm! With the beautifully lit sycamores, Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village transforms into a village of light — washed in 6000 golden luminarias from every courtyard, balcony, walkway, and parapet.

Transportation
There is free trolley service from Sedona’s uptown municipal parking lot at 260 Schnebly; it is available to transport visitors to and from Tlaquepaque.

Santa At Tlaquepaque
Saturday, December 17, 2022
3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

A little closer to Christmas — Santa makes another appearance in Tlaquepaque. The event is co-sponsored

VILLAGE, continued on page 19

GIFTS

Continued from page 14

see them — go to www.spacepen.com and pick one out for a gift (and one for yourself!).

Stanley Stay Hot French Press

This unbreakable, incredibly strong and beautiful French press is ideal for camping trips. I love how I can make enough coffee to fill our cups and thermos bottles so quickly, and it cleans up very easily, too. Know what else it’s great for? Gravy! Soup! Anything you need to keep hot while transporting. I learned this when I needed to take gravy to a Thanksgiving dinner at my son’s house. They don’t have a microwave, but the Stanley kept the gravy piping hot all through dinner — and it holds plenty!

It comes in a bunch of great colors, and while you’re at www.stanley1913.com, be sure to check out all their other fantastic camping gear, like cups, coolers, cookware, food storage, and of course vacuum bottles! The Classic Stay Hot French Press is \$70, and they have plenty of other options for gifts for a lot less. But all of their stuff is epic. Trust me, any outdoors person will love anything you get them from Stanley.

I hope I’ve helped you with your holiday shopping this year! Browse the websites I’ve mentioned and you’ll find a whole lot more great stuff — happy shopping! ■



Stanley Stay Hot French Press

It’s Birthday Month For The Oldest And The Youngest

Two branches of the U.S. military were established in December, 383 years apart.

National Guard: December 13, 1636

We recognize December 13 as the birthday of the National Guard. On this date in 1636, the first militia regiments in North America organized in Massachusetts.



The National Guard is a state-based military force that becomes part of the reserve components of the United States Army and the United States Air Force when activated for federal missions. It is a military reserve force composed of National Guard military members or units of each state and the territories of Guam, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, for a total of 54 separate organizations.

It is officially created under Congress’s Article 1 Section 8 ability to «raise and support armies».All members of the National Guard are also members of the organized militia of the United States as defined by 10 U.S.C. § 246. National Guard units are under the dual control of the state governments and the federal government.

Majority Hold A Civilian Job Full-Time

The majority of National Guard soldiers and airmen hold a civilian job full-time while serving part-time as a National Guard member. These part-time guards-

men are augmented by a full-time cadre of Active Guard & Reserve (AGR) personnel in both the Army National Guard and Air National Guard, plus Army Reserve Technicians in the Army National Guard and Air Reserve Technicians (ART) in the Air National Guard.

The National Guard is a joint activity of the United States Department of Defense (DoD) composed of reserve components of the United States Army and the United States Air Force: the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard, respectively.

Local Militias Formed From Earliest English Colonization

Local militias were formed from the earliest English colonization of the Americas in 1607. The first colony-wide militia was formed by Massachusetts in 1636 by merging small older local units, and several National Guard units can be traced back to this militia.

The various colonial militias became state militias when the United States became independent. The title “National Guard” was used in 1824 by some New York State militia units, named after the French National Guard in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette. “National Guard” became a standard nationwide militia title in 1903, and has specifically indicated reserve forces under mixed state and federal control since 1933.

United States Space Force: December 20, 2019

The United States Space Force (USSF) is the space service branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, one of the eight U.S. uniformed services, and the world’s only independent space force. Along with its



sister branch, the U.S. Air Force, the Space Force is part of the Department of the Air Force, one of the three civilian-led military departments within the Department of Defense.

The Space Force, through the Department of the Air Force, is overseen by the secretary of the Air Force, a civilian political appointee who reports to the secretary of defense, and is appointed by the president with Senate confirmation.

Military Head Of Space Force

The military head of the Space Force is the chief of space operations who is typically the most senior Space Force officer. The chief of space operations exercises supervision over the Space Force’s units and serves as one of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Space Force is the smallest U.S. armed service, consisting of 8,400 military personnel. The Space Force operates 77 spacecraft in total across various programs such as GPS, Space Fence, military satellite communications constellations, X-37B spaceplanes, U.S. missile warning system, U.S. space surveillance network, and the Satellite Control Network.

Roots In Start Of Cold War

Under the Goldwater–Nichols Act, the Space Force is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping space forces, which are then presented to the unified combatant commands, predominantly to United States Space Command, for operational employment.

The U.S. Space Force traces its roots to the beginning of the Cold War, with

the first Army Air Forces space programs starting in 1945. In 1954, the Western Development Division, under General Bernard Schriever, was established as the first dedicated space organization within the U.S. Armed Forces and continues to exist as the Space Force’s Space and Missile Systems Center. Military space forces were organized under several different Air Force major commands until they were unified when Air Force Space Command was established on 1 September 1982.

The First ‘Space War’

U.S. space forces first began conducting combat support operations in the Vietnam War and continued to provide satellite communications, weather, and navigation support during the 1982 Falklands War, 1983 United States invasion of Grenada, 1986 United States bombing of Libya, and 1989 United States invasion of Panama. The first major employment of space forces culminated in the Gulf War, where they proved so critical to the U.S.-led coalition that it is sometimes referred to as the first “space war”.

The first discussions of creating a military space service occurred in 1958, and the idea was also being considered in 1982 by President Ronald Reagan. The 2001 Space Commission argued for the creation of a Space Corps between 2007 and 2011, and a bipartisan proposal in the U.S. Congress would have created a U.S. Space Corps in 2017.


First New Service Since 1947

On 20 December 2019, the United States Space Force Act was signed into law as part of the National Defense Authorization Act, reorganizing Air Force

MILITARY, continued on page 18

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Veteran Benefits: Go Get ‘Em!

‘So yer a vet, eh? Me too, buy you a drink? Where’d ya serve?’

BY TOM COLE, RETIRED MARINE
SPECIAL FEATURES WRITER

And that’s how it starts. Just two gents or women meeting at one of the service organizations like the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars or the Disabled American Veterans clubs or other service organizations. So we come in we sit down, everyone is welcoming. But, wait: there’s more. We all can help *you* get the benefits *you* deserve as a Veteran of the United States of America. Let’s go there.

The benefits from the VA are there for *you* -- medical and more. *But* what about disability? Here are some notes from my experience.

How To Obtain VA Benefits

1. Get a pad of paper and a pen and list *all* injuries or pains you currently have.
 - Hearing loss & tinnitus (tinnitus is the key for hearing loss claims)
 - PTSD (list it even if you don’t think you have it – you may!)
 - Pain in toes, ankles, knees, back, hips
 - Pain in shoulders, elbows, neck, hands
 - Pain from headaches (especially migraines), sinuses, etc.
 - Tramatic Brain Injury (TBI)
 - Diabetes, heart disease (Agent Orange may be involved)
2. Collect all medical records from your current doctor(s)
 - Obtain a certified copy of your DD214
 - Google your unit’s military history and find anything and everything that relates to your service (fire fights, rocket/mortar attacks, operations and exercises, locations, etc.)
3. Have all papers prepped and copied

- before going to the VA office.
4. Call Kevin, our service officer: 1-856-361-8606
- If That Doesn’t Work —**
1. Go to the VA Admin office and start your VA paperwork.
 - If in Phoenix:
3333 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012,
Phone: 800-827-1000
 - Park in the parking lot on your right. *Take all weapons and metal out of your pockets before entering as you’ll go through a metal detector.*
 - The start date is important as *any benefits* will be backdated to this start date.
 - You will have *one year* to complete the remainder of this paperwork and turn it in.
 - *Do it now!*
 2. When done with the VA office go down the hall to the Legion/DAV/VFW office (your choice)and sign the limited power of attorney for them to advocate for you.
 - This allows the VFW to work on your paperwork
 3. Go home and fill out all of the paperwork provided to you by the VA.
 - Ensure your direct deposit info is filled out on the forms.
 4. When all of the paperwork is completed, take everything *to include any records you have obtained* and turn it into the Legion/DAV/VFW advocate you choose downtown.
 - *Make copies of everything you give to the VA/Legion/DAR/VFW office: Stuff gets lost!!*
 5. Sit back and wait!
 - This process can take anywhere from 2 to 12 months – be patient!
 - They may send you to some doctors for evaluation while you wait.
 - If and when they decide you will get benefits, they will send you a letter detail-
- BENEFITS, continued on page 18**

ABERT’S SQUIRREL

These ‘Tassel-Eared Squirrels Prefer Pine Forests

FROM LARISA HARDING, AZGFD
SMALL GAME PROGRAM MANAGER

Sciurus aberti: A suggested origin of the name comes from the Greek skia, meaning shadow, and oura, or tail, for the one that sits in the shadow of its own tail. The latter part, aberti, honors Col. John Abert, who led the U.S. Army Corps of Topographical Engineers for three decades in exploring and mapping lands west of the Mississippi River.

Description

Also called “tassel-eared squirrels” because they develop long, showy hairs, or tassels, on their ears from fall to spring. Typical Abert’s squirrels are large gray squirrels with a rusty stripe down the back, a white belly and an eye-catching gray tail trimmed in long white fur. However, some have black bellies and white tails, and even melanistic forms historically roamed Arizona forests.

Distribution

Six subspecies are found from southern Wyoming into northern Mexico. In Arizona, their range follows ponderosa pine forests across the White Mountains, Mogollon Rim and Kaibab Plateau, with isolated populations in the Chuska Mountains and introduced populations in many other ranges (e.g., Bradshaw, Hualapai, Pinaleno, Santa Catalina).

Habitat

Abert’s squirrels usually occur in ponderosa pine, but they have been seen in other conifer forests and even above



Abert’s Squirrel

treeline on Humphreys Peak. Ideal squirrel habitat contains open, unevenly aged ponderosa pine stands interspersed with small clusters of dense, young trees. Large trees provide cones, nesting areas and a network of interlocking canopies for travel.

Biology

Abert’s squirrels are diurnal and active year-round. They live three to four years and are fairly solitary but not territorial. They do not cache food resources but may

SQUIRREL, continued on page 18

Sandhill Cranes Winging Their Way To Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area

Live-streaming camera offers unique viewing experience.

Sandhill cranes by the thousands are once again returning to their wintering grounds at the Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area near Willcox in southeastern Arizona.

For the next few months, viewers can observe almost 20,000 of these fascinating birds on a live-streaming camera installed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD). The live stream can be viewed at www.azgfd.gov/sandhillcranes.

“The sandhill cranes have once again sprung Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area back to life,” said Jeff Meyers, wildlife viewing program manager. “It’s truly a pleasure to offer this unfiltered view of our state’s wildlife directly to the public, giving them a chance to see the migration of this incredible species in action.”

The best time to view the cranes is 30 minutes before and after sunrise, just before they leave to feed for the morning. The leggy birds generally return to the wildlife area before noon, where they will remain for the rest of the day. With the camera being outfitted with infrared technology, viewers also can observe the cranes at night.

AZGFD will do its best to keep the camera focused on the cranes and other interesting wildlife subjects, but there will be times when that isn’t possible because of the unpredictability of wildlife. View-



FRANK SCHULENBURG

Sandhill Crane

ers who don’t immediately see activity are encouraged to routinely check back.

Across the globe, there are 15 species of cranes. Two species of cranes are found in North America — sandhill, the most abundant species, and the endangered whooping crane.

Sandhills are wary birds that shy away from areas of dense vegetation that may conceal predators. Cranes prefer to feed and roost in open areas where potential danger can be seen from a distance.

The cranes will begin to leave the wildlife area between late February and the middle of March. By April, all of the birds will be on their way to their northern nesting grounds, some as far away as Siberia.

The live stream is supported by the Wildlife Conservation Fund, which comes from tribal gaming and the Wildlife Viewing Program. The cameras are supported in part by public donations.

To view the department’s live-streaming cameras, or to find information on wildlife viewing, visit www.azgfd.gov/wildlife and click on “Wildlife Viewing.”



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KNIGHTS

Continued from page 1

An understanding of today’s combats is impossible without the tracing of their ancient roots. The origins of jousting are believed to be in classical Rome, but the “sport” rose to its greatest popularity in Europe by the 1400s. It all evolved from mock battles in which knights on horseback, assisted by foot soldiers, formed teams, and charged at each other in a wide meadow.

Honed Fighting Skills

The result was a “melee” (the word hasn’t changed in a millennium) of shattered lances, clanging swords, flailing arms, and legs – astride and a foot – that went on all day and into the night. At first, the battles served more to hone fighting skills than to provide popular diversion.

But in peaceful times, a knight needed a way to retain his skills. The Jousts were great moneymarkers for the victors; instead of claiming mere points, the winning team held the losers for ransom, often accepting their horses and armor as payment. The many deaths which resulted from such “sport” led Popes and Eng-

lish Kings to ban jousting tournaments, though English subjects often persisted and were repeatedly excommunicated.

Featured Attraction

The tournaments had become a featured attraction at any kind of market faire or other significant gathering. At the height of their popularity, jousts rivaled a state fair, Super Bowl, rock concert and Oktoberfest all rolled into one.

By the middle 1200s, the joust emerged as the favored way to prove which of two (or more) knights was better. Most contests were a “Joust a Plaisir” (for pleasure) in which a winner was declared on the basis of points scored, though some were still conducted “a l’Outrance” (to the death). In the sporting version, the knight’s swords were dulled, and their lances tipped with “coronals” (little crowns) to prevent their penetrating a joint in the armor. Some authorities believe that the lances were deliberately weakened, a precaution still in effect today.

Training A Knight

The training of a knight included spearing a small ring, some on stanchions and some tossed in the air, and quintain jousting. In quintain jousting,

ing occurs April to June, with two to five kits born to coincide with emerging buds, fungi and tree seeds. Kits stay in the nest for seven to nine weeks before emerging in August. The female and young stay together through the fall and then the kits disperse.

Status

A popular small game animal in Arizona, this species is generally stable across its range. Large fluctuations in squirrel density among seasons or years are typical and come as a result of differences in the local abundance and quality of their food, the occurrence of deep, persistent snows during the preceding winter and droughts that may cause re-

the knight tilted with a mock opponent, which sat on a revolving pedestal. If he was inaccurate or too slow, the jouster might get struck by the sandbag on the other end of the contraption. The joust became very civilized and formalized, though injuries were quite common. According to the chronicler of an English tournament in 1256, many of the noble contestants “never afterward recovered their health”.

England’s King Edward III put a temporary public ban on jousting in 1370 but an intrepid troupe of stunt riders and actors brought it back in the 1980’s. Clad in authentic looking breastplates and helmets, wielding heavy lances, and blunted swords, victor and vanquished. Some fakeries, as in professional wrestling, is to be expected.

Huzzah!

Modern re-creations of Renaissance era jousting tournaments are depictions of historical events, coming from a time of high ideals, noble causes, and grand chivalry. At the Festival, visitors of all ages are welcome to *cheer* on their favorite knight in the 5,000- seat arena! Don’t miss this spectacle at the jousting arena three times a day! Huzzah! More Info: Sanja@RenFestInfo.com ■

production to fail.

Management Needs

Because they rely heavily on ponderosa pine and other conifers, wildfires, logging and forest thinning practices can significantly impact Abert’s squirrel populations. Unlogged areas generally show a greater density of squirrels, but strategic planning and implementation of forest thinning activities can reduce negative impacts on Abert’s squirrels.

Other

These squirrels are typically active in the morning and early evening. When searching for Abert’s squirrels, look for clipped needle clusters, peeled twigs and shelled cones on the ground. In really open ponderosa pine stands, watch for squirrels along the edges of more dense forest. ■

ARCHERY

Continued from page 12

son. Archery deer hunters are responsible for checking if their desired hunt unit is still open prior to hunting.

- The bag limit is one deer per calendar year. If a hunter harvests a deer during the over-the-counter archery season, that hunter may not take another deer (archery or general hunts) during that calendar year.

- A physical inspection is not required of a harvested animal taken during the over-the-counter archery deer season.

- AZGFD is strictly enforcing all changes, including failure to report a harvest and hunting in a closed unit. ■

MILITARY

Continued from page 16

Space Command and other Air Force space elements into the United States Space Force, and creating the first new independent military service since the Army Air Forces were reorganized as the U.S. Air Force in 1947. ■

BENEFITS

Continued from page 16

ing what you will receive and when you’ll receive it. This letter will also explain their decisions on all claims.

These benefits are yours and have been waiting for you. You are taking nothing from other vets; we are all vetted and entitled to what we deserve. Go get it! ■

JOUST FOR YOU!

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TRADITIONS

Continued from page 15

s'mores stations and more! The perfect meeting spot for your group!

It's snow joke! Experience a snowy surprise at the end of each Lake Lights show near Monkey Village.

Stroll through the Wildlife Lantern Cul-de-Sac on Africa Trail and enjoy over 50 Wildlife Lanterns, including butterflies, frogs, lions, leopards, panda bears and more!

Take home a memento from your special evening. Visit one of the various pop-up Zoo shops or the Desert Marketplace gift shop!*

Indulge in your favorite holiday treats, including kettle corn, hot cocoa and s'mores.*

*Separate

Las Noches de las Luminarias

Experience the simplicity and beauty of Las Noches de las Luminarias this holiday season with 8,000 flickering luminarias and twinkling lights throughout the Desert Botanical Garden. Enjoy an evening filled with sparkling luminarias, musical performances, entertainment and holiday delights line the Garden's iconic trails for a picture-perfect night. This is one event you don't want to miss!

Plus, new this year, Las Noches de las Luminarias also includes an extra layer



Las Luminarias

of beauty with the bold and lyrical large-scale sculptures of *Playing with Stars* by *Rotraut* interweaving gracefully with the sparkles of the luminaria bags throughout the trails and *Ottosen Gallery*.

December 18: La Posada

Returning for the first time since 2019,

La Posada on Dec. 18, celebrates the Mexican holiday tradition of La Posada. Cherish the time spent with family and friends, join in the festivities of two singing processions through the Garden, break piñatas and savor traditional food and drinks. La Posada activities are included with Luminaria ticket.

Member's only weekend: Dec. 1 – 4 Additional Dates: 9 -11, 15 – 18, 20 – 23, 26 -31

Visit the Desert Botanical Garden website to purchase tickets.

For more information on events in Tempe, visit <https://www.tempetourism.com/events> ■



MIKE ARNEY

VILLAGE

Continued from page 15

by Tlaquepaque Arts and Crafts Village and Toy Town. This is the last chance to chat with Santa! So if your little one still needs a conversation with Santa Claus, don't miss this opportunity.

There will be free face painting and holiday crafts for the kids, with complimentary hot chocolate and cookies. Se-

dona's premier A cappella group — Red Rock Appella will perform Christmas music. The rich melodic harmonies of these six women show how the human voice is the truest instrument and accompaniment.

Adding to the festivities will be a performance by DiVoM. This funky jazz instrumental trio mesmerizes audiences with moody introspective soundscapes and high energy upbeat originals. Blending everything from jazz, funk, rock, and

pop, to blues, gospel, and reggae music. They orient their hypnotic harmonies from around the world — to take listeners on a rousing adventure with unexpected instruments like a toy piano, glockenspiel, horns, bells and whistles creating spontaneous whimsical surprises.

Lighting Of The Menorah

Sunday, December 18, 2022
5:30 to 6:30 p.m. @ Patio del Norte

Tlaquepaque also celebrates the sacred holiday of Hanukkah in December with a special event. Hanukkah is an eight-day celebration that usually falls close to Christmas. This year its dates are December 18-26th. On Sunday, December 18th, Tlaquepaque honors this Jewish holiday with a Lighting of the Menorah. Hosted by Chabad of Sedona and Tlaquepaque Arts and Crafts Village — candles will be lit in celebration of the first day of Hanukkah.

Enjoy the miracle and beauty of the menorah. It represents a sacred candelabrum with nine branches used in the ancient temple in Jerusalem. Eight of the candles symbolize the number of days that the Temple lantern blazed. The ninth is a helper candle used to light the others. This is a beautiful, sacred, and historical ceremony. Children can meet Judah,

the Maccabee (a Jewish priest) — take a photo with him and receive a gift. They invite guests to indulge in scrumptious latkes, donuts, and hot chocolate as they listen to festive Klezmer music.



KATIE RAINBOW

Visitors to Sedona will find that Tlaquepaque's winter holiday events are rich in art, music, and celebration for all. On the patios and in the shops, galleries and restaurants, there is always a feeling of peace, magic, and surprise. For this village is a premier host to visitors and locals alike with a global reverence for all people.

About Tlaquepaque Arts & Shopping Village And Tlaquepaque North

Open daily at 10 a.m., they are at 336 State Route 179 in Sedona, Arizona, and are home to over 55 boutique shops, world-class galleries, and five restaurants. For more information, call (928) 282-4838, visit Tlaq.com or email visitorinfo@tlaq.com ■



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ARIZONA'S
BEST KEPT SECRET



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



2,815 ACRES OF FUN!

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

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

BOAT RENTALS

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



PONTOON BOAT



SKI BOAT



PERSONAL WATERCRAFT



PARTY YACHT



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www.BartlettLake.com

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OUTDOOR TIMES

'TIS THE SEASON

For Making Merry



IT'S 'FAIRE' TO SAY

A 'TREEDITION'

WILD WINNERS

The Renaissance Festival delights all ages.

Cut your own Christmas tree this year.

AZGFD announces photo contest winners.

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