



Western Outdoor Times

TM

Arizona Boating & Watersports



December 2012 - January 2013

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FREE

BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | HUNTING | RVING | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

'Tis The Season

Tackle & Target

Pages 7-9

Western Wildlife

Page 10

Land Cruising

Page 11-12

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Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy New Year!

Becoming An Outdoors Woman: A Great Gift Idea

From Linda Dightmon
Arizona BOW coordinator

The Becoming an Outdoors Woman Deluxe (13) retreat will make an ideal gift for the discriminating woman in your life. Lots of outdoor fun without the inconveniences of camping!

The Arizona Wildlife Federation will be sponsoring a winter Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop. The dates are Jan. 25-27. It will be in the Goldfield Mountain Range. This retreat will showcase the beauty and wonder of our desert.

The place is Saguaro Lake Ranch, which is a historical resort-style retreat located in the Tonto National Forest in the heart of the Arizona Sonoran desert. The banks of the Salt River are a fly-rod cast away and Stew-

See **WOMAN** on page 14



CAN YOU FIND HER? — As part of the Becoming An Outdoors Woman's 2011 Predator-Calling class, Elaine Davis is "shown" here in the bushes' cover. Where? Hard to tell (she hopes).

IT'S TIME FOR NUMBER 53!

AYC Readies For Birthday, Leukemia Cup Regattas

The 53rd Arizona Yacht Club Birthday Regatta and their 14th Annual Leukemia

Cup Regatta is just one month away: Jan. 18-19-20, 2013! Help fight blood cancers! Race one, two, or three days. Cruise! Party!

AYC has some great improvements in store for you and your "shore party."

1) Lower Costs: Two-day race registration last year was \$80. It's reduced to \$50 this year!

See **REGATTAS** on page 14

AZGFC Awards Banquet To Be Held Jan. 12

Make your reservation now to honor your fellow wildlife conservationists.

Make plans to honor your fellow wildlife conservationists by reserving your spot at the 21st annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet. The banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at the Carefree Resort & Conference Center, 37220 Mule Train Road, Carefree, AZ 85377.

The event honors recipients of the 2012 Commission Awards selected during the

See **BANQUET** on page 14



Carefree Resort & Conference Center

A FEW STILL TO SAIL

Happy Holidays! Waters Of The West Light Up For Christmas

Wherever you may have been in the Western outdoors, there probably has been a holiday lighted-boat parade on a waterway near you.

Although the Arizona Christmas parades are over for 2012, there are still a few in store for the season's spirit, reflected on the waters of the West. If there are other similar events in the western states that you would like included in *Western Outdoor Times* next year, please e-mail editor@azbw.com.

CALIFORNIA

Wednesday, Dec. 19 through Sunday, Dec. 23 in Newport Beach —The Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce proudly hosts the 104th Year of this spectacular holiday tradition. Join over a million viewers as you



Newport Beach Lighted Boat Parade

watch beautifully decorated yachts, boats, kayaks and canoes sail along the harbor in the 104th Annual Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade.

As Newport Beach's Christmas card to the world, the boat parade will set the harbor ablaze for five consecutive nights from 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m., starting and finishing off Bay Island.

Beautiful multi-million dollar yachts, kayaks, canoes and other small boats will light up the harbor as a dazzling array of holiday lights and music fill the air at the Christmas Boat Parade. Many of the boats will be richly decorated with animated Christmas scenes accompanied by music and costumed carolers.

The Christmas floats will wind their way some 14 miles around the harbor to give viewers in restaurants, yacht clubs, on public beaches, and in private homes an incred-

See **LIGHTS** on page 14

ON THE COVER

Holiday Cheers At Old Fort Verde

Fort Verde State Historic Park will be decorated for the Christmas holiday through Jan. 4, 2013.

Visitors can glance into the past and see how those who once resided at Fort Verde celebrated Christmas on the Frontier. Christmas trees and fireplace mantels will be adorned with unique Victorian decorations, while wreaths and garlands help spread the holiday cheer.

Fort Verde State Historic Park is the best-preserved example of an Indian Wars period fort in Arizona.

See **PARK** on page 18

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Watersports (Frozen)

You Too Can Curl!

The Coyotes Curling Club is pleased to announce that registration for the twelve-week Winter league is now open!

See story Page 5.



Tackle & Target

BSA Troops Up With ISE

Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) Grand Canyon Council Troops Up with the International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE) at University of Phoenix Stadium Feb. 21-24. See story Page 5.



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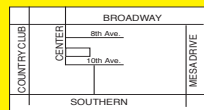
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MEDIA PARTNERS AND CONTACTS

Darril Fosty : Stryker-Indigo/Boxscore World Sportswire, New York City

George Fosty: Stryker-Indigo/Boxscore World Sportswire, New York City

Meshack Keicha: Stryker-Indigo Bureau Chief, East Africa Sports, Mombasa, Kenya

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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

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Statewide Boating Safety Education Classes

December 2012

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	December 15 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076

Fire Extinguishers

- ◆ All vessels are required to have at least one Type-B-I fire extinguisher(s) on board if one or more of the following conditions exist:
 - Inboard engine
 - Closed compartments where portable fuel tanks may be stored
 - Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not filled completely with flotation material
 - Closed living spaces
 - Closed storage compartments in which flammable or combustible materials may be stored
 - Permanently installed fuel tanks (any tank where the removal of the tank is hampered by the installation of tie-down straps or clamps)
- ◆ Approved types of fire extinguishers are

identified by the following marking on the label — :Marine Type USCG-Approved — followed by the type and size symbols and the approval number.

- ◆ Extinguishers should be placed in an accessible area — not near the engine or in

a compartment, but where they can be reached immediately. Be sure you know how to operate them, and inspect extinguishers regularly to ensure they are in working condition and fully charged.

Fire Extinguisher Requirements

Classification type & size	Foam minimum gallons	Carbon Dioxide minimum pounds	Dry Chemical minimum pounds
B-I	1-1/4	4	2
B-II	2-1/2	15	10

Length of Vessel	Without Fixed System	With Fixed System
Less than 26 ft.	one B-I	one B-I
26 ft. to less than 40 ft.	two B-I or one B-II	one B-I
40 ft. to less than 65 ft.	three B-I or one B-II and one B-I	two B-I or one B-II

*refers to permanently installed fire extinguisher system



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Trailer your Vessel

- ◆ **Before leaving home:**
 - Secure all gear in the vessel and arrange it so that the weight is evenly distributed in the vessel
 - Properly secure the vessel with several tie-down straps and/or safety lines to prevent it from shifting.
 - Tilt and secure the engine to increase clearance.
 - Crisscross the safety chains when attaching them to the towing vehicle
 - Make sure the trailer brakes and lights are working.
- ◆ **On the road:**
 - Think farther ahead on the road than usual: anticipate changes in traffic flow in advance; make wide turns at corners and curves; allow extra time and distance for stopping and for passing other vehicles; and remember the length added by your trailer.
 - Be aware that there may be lower speed limits for vehicles with trailers
 - After 5 to 10 miles of travel at highway speed, stop for a walk-around inspection of the vehicle

and trailer. Check tires, lights, coupler, etc.; and feel the trailer hubs. Excessively hot hubs may indicate a problem. On extended trips, make periodic stops to do a walk-around inspection.

- ◆ **Launching your vessel from a trailer:**
 - Prepare your vessel well away from the boat ramp.
 - Back the vessel into the water until the lower unit of the engine can be submerged while on the trailer.
 - Once the engine is warmed up, back the trailer further until the vessel floats. Then back slowly off the trailer.
- ◆ **Retrieving your vessel:**
 - Back the trailer into the water so that approximately two-thirds of the rollers or bunks are submerged.
 - Move the vessel onto the trailer far enough to attach the winch line to the bow eye of the vessel. Finish pulling it onto the trailer by cranking the winch.
 - Tow the vessel off the ramp out of the way of others.
 - While at the ramp area, remove all weeds from the vessel, remove the drain plug, and drain live wells.

ATTENTION BOATERS... Don't Pick Up Hitchhikers!

What can you do? Inspect your boat

Inspecting — Thoroughly inspect your boat's hull, outdrive, trim plates, trolling plates, prop guards, transducers, and trailer. If you see any "hitchhikers," remove them. Remove aquatic plants and plant fragments clinging to the trailer frame, axles, wheel, hitch, motor's lower unit, and interior boat spaces. Spray down your boat and trailer before leaving any lake or stream or at home before setting out for a new boating

Draining — Drain all bilge water, live wells, and bait buckets before leaving any waterway. Leftover bait should not be released or transported.

Stop the spread of aquatic pests!

Giant salvinia, quagga mussels, crayfish, and mud snails most often spread between waterways by hitchhiking a ride on vessels and trailers. When transplanted into new waters, these organisms proliferate, displacing native species and damaging the water resource and your vessel



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Arizona Boating & Watersports



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**Recipients of 2008 AGFC
Media of the Year and 2009
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We sincerely thank all who help those in need during the holiday season and throughout the year. In addition to many others throughout the Southwest, we give special appreciation this issue to Jim and Barb Hillyard of Tempe, Ariz., for their years of devotion to I-Help and Paz de Cristo.

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Jim Allen

Editor
Carol L. Allen

Production Manager
Angela Ogden

Marketing/Sales
Glenn Cate

Outdoors Editor
Mike Wallace

Birding Editor
The Late Margie Allen

Galley Proof Editor
Sonja Smith

Distribution
Leslie Manes
Cathy Taulton

Web Support
Delbert Adair

Contributors
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Arizona Boating & Watersports is published monthly.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Jim Allen, 1030 East Baseline Road, PMB 105-901, Tempe, AZ 85283.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$25 for 12 issues; single copies are \$2.50 prepaid. Subscriptions are transferable, non refundable.

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WHAT TO DO WITH 'DOWN TIME'?

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Gives Great Suggestions

Are you patiently waiting for the ice to thaw or the weather to warm up so you can get your boat back on the water again? Then why not use the down time productively and take a boating-safety class conducted by your local Coast Guard Auxiliary flotilla or AZGFD, the local U.S. Power Squadron, or the Lake Pleasant Sailing Club?

The Coast Guard Auxiliary (as do the others above) offers numerous boating courses for the public, but you may want to go with the basic "About Boating Safely" course or the more in-depth "Boating Skills & Seamanship" course as a refresher prior to the start of your 2013 boating season.

"About Boating Safely" is an eight-hour beginner boating class designed to give you the knowledge needed to obtain a boat license or safety certification in many states. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete "About Boating Safely".



"Boating Skills & Seamanship" is a more comprehensive, multiple session program designed for both the experienced and the novice boater. The course consists of eight core-required two-hour lessons plus five elective lessons, providing up-to-date knowledge for safely handling boats in all conditions.

Downtime Also A Good Time To Check Safety Gear

Don't arrive at a launch ramp this spring and find your on-board safety equipment missing or in need of repair. Use "downtime" to check your boat's safety equipment and make sure it's in top operating condition. The following safety items are essential (and required by law):

Life jackets — one wearable Coast

Guard approved life jacket for each person on board in good, serviceable condition, of appropriate size and type for the intended user and readily accessible.

Throwable flotation — Boats 16 feet and longer (except kayaks and canoes) must carry one throwable device (cushions, ring buoys, etc.)

Visual distress signals — Vessels over 16 feet must be equipped with day and night visual distress signals; vessels less than 16 feet are not required to carry day signals but must carry night signals from sunset to sunrise. Signaling devices include pyrotechnic devices (flares and smoke), orange distress flags and electric distress lights. Check if you are unsure of what devices are required for your vessel.

Fire extinguishers — Coast Guard-approved, marine-type fire extinguishers are required on boats propelled by machinery mounted where they can be easily reached away from locations where a fire is likely start.

Sound producing devices — include

bells, horns, and whistles.

Navigation lights — Vessels are required to display navigation lights between sunset and sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility (fog, rain, haze, etc). Check the U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Rules, International-inland for details.

BOATING SEASON'S OVER?

No Way. Not At Bartlett Lake!

For Christmas and New Years parties, we suggest the fully equipped aqua lodges and the luxurious party boat.

Just because the summer's over, that doesn't mean boating season is over! What better way to enjoy this weather, Arizona's finest time of year, by spending the day on the water?

Well, the best place to do that is at Bartlett Lake! Located right in the heart of the Tonto National Forest, Bartlett Lake is the second largest lake in the Phoenix Metro Valley area, with boatable surface area of 2,815 acres — bigger than Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake, combined!

Bartlett Lake Marina offers everything you need to enjoy a day boating, skiing, camping or just relaxing under the warm Arizona sun. With a full fleet of boats and jet skis, you are guaranteed a great day at Bartlett Lake!

Remember too the fully equipped aqua lodges that are available for a cozy getaway for just you or your family over the holidays. And, are you in the market for a Christmas or New Year's party? Check on the party boat and perhaps take the office staff for a cruise.

Enjoy the best the Valley has to offer! See you at Bartlett Lake! For more information, call (602) 316-3378.



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BSA, ISE Team Up For 2013 Sportsmen's Expo

The Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) Grand Canyon Council has partnered with the acclaimed International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE), co-locating its Scout-O-Rama with the state's largest annual outdoorsmen event for the entire family.

The Sportsmen's Expo will make its 13th appearance in Arizona during the week of February 21-24 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale. BSA's outdoor Scout-O-Rama, on UoP grounds, will attract 15,000-20,000 youth and family members on Saturday, Feb. 23.

Some of the activities planned for Scout-O-Rama include Dutch-oven cooking, knots and lashing, push carts, monkey bridges, water rockets, archery and more. Families who participate in Scout-O-Rama will also receive ISE \$2 discount coupons.

Scouts Challenge

Inside the Expo, the new Scouts Challenge will offer prizes to troops competing in several activities, including BB-gun and archery ranges, rock-climbing wall, catch-and-release fishing, and a radio-controlled offroad race track, hosted by Arizona Off Highway Vehicle Coalition.

Families and outdoors enthusiasts are invited to participate in Scout-O-Rama for just \$5. Families that include a uniformed Scout enter for free. According to Ty Page, Grand Canyon Council program director, "The lifelong values and basic survival skills these young boys learn are bound to shape who they are for years to come. We foster the values of leadership and personal responsibility, but also, we encour-

age Scouts to help others along the way. It's going to be a great day!"

Expo Features

Inside the UoP Stadium's 160,000-square-foot space, the ISE's 300+ exhibitor companies will sell the hottest new fishing, hunting, off-roading and RVing, boating and camping products and services, also spotlighting travel destinations nearby and around the world.

The Expo features an Adventure Theater, giant fishing-demonstration tank, huge casting pond, two trophy displays, a computer-controlled three-dimensional pop-up target archery range, and a Youth Fair with hands-on activities — all gear and guides included at no charge.

Youth under 16 enter ISE for free, and parking is also no charge.

Grand Canyon Council

The Grand Canyon Council of the Boy Scouts is one of the largest organizations serving youth in the state of Arizona, even including some areas in New Mexico. In total, this council includes some 22,000 registered adult leaders and more than 48,000 kids, engaging in educational activities and learning to become the future leaders.

For further information, send an e-mail to info@SportsExpos.com, visit ISE on Facebook www.facebook.com/sportsexpos, Twitter www.twitter.com/sportsexpophx or tour www.SportsExpos.com. For information regarding the Grand Canyon Council of Boy Scouts of Amer-



INSIDE THE RED ZONE — of the University of Phoenix Stadium, the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) Grand Canyon Council will "troop up" with the International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE) Feb. 21-24.

ica, visit: <http://www.grandcanyonbsa.org>

About Boy Scouts Of America

Chartered by Congress in 1916, Boy Scouts of America provides boys and young adults an effective educational program designed to build desirable qualities of character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship and to develop in them personal fitness. The Grand Canyon Council currently serves nearly 50,000 youth throughout Arizona.

Its vision is to prepare young people for productive adulthood through collaboration with other community organizations. To learn more about the 2013 Boy Scout Scout-O-Rama event, visit

www.grandcanyonbsa.org/sor

About International Sportsmen's Exposition

Since 1975, the International Sportsmen's Expositions (ISE) has garnered acclaim for producing America's premier sportsmen shows. The 2013 Western Tour includes stops in California, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada and Utah.

Each of the five ISE shows includes representatives from resorts and lodges, outdoor-product manufacturers, boat and off-road-vehicle dealers, regional and specialty retailers, hunting and fishing guides and outfitters, national and local conservation organizations, enthusiast magazines, television shows and Web sites, state and federal government agencies, and non-profit groups representing the huge span of outdoor activities.

To learn more, visit:

<http://www.sportsexpos.com/>

YOU ARE INVITED

Just Ahead: The 24th Annual SCYA Women's Sailing Convention

The Southern California Yachting Association, will hold its 24th Annual Women's Sailing Convention on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013 at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club, Corona del Mar. Primary sponsor is BoatU.S. This event is open to all women interested in sailing from novice/beginner to expert.

The event maintains its multi-workshop format: Attendees select a combination workshops in areas that best fit their interest and ability, such as Welcome Aboard (for beginners), Diesels, Going Up the Mast, Introduction to Racing, Tactics, Docking, Overboard Procedures, Suddenly Singlehanded Interactive, Weather, Sail Trim, Basic Navigation, Maintenance Mania, DIY Canvas Projects, How to Heave a Line, Nighttime Sailing & Navigation, Hassel-Free Heads, Spinnaker Riggging, Offshore Cruising, and Introduction to Sailing.

Memorial Race

The Melanie Patterson Memorial Race (BCYC) will be held in conjunction with the WSC Race workshop, in Harbor 20's. All 30 of the workshops are presented by top women sailors from all over Southern California, many of whom are USCG Licensed Captains.

To top off the event in the evening, veteran of two America's Cups and two Volvo Ocean Races, world-class sailor Katie Pettibone will be the featured speaker after dinner. In addition to her past achievements, she spent 14 days in June on the Arabian peninsula, where the Omani government was promoting the Sail Arabia race to begin training local crews (including women) to participate in world sailing events.

Pettibone was among an international crew on Farr 30's sailing through the Straits of Hormuz. She will be a very exciting speaker!

According to producer/director Gail Hine, "This event gives women an opportunity to meet many other women sailors, find out about existing women's sailing organizations in their area, instructional programs available, and many other areas of interest for those who would like to do more — racing, cruising and day sailing.

Something For Everyone

We have something meaningful for everyone. For those who are already involved but desire more, we will offer some new areas of inspiration and instruction along with excellent networking opportunities."

Attendees have reported that this convention was one of their most rewarding boating experiences and the very best-organized event they have ever attended. It's a sell-out every year. Rain will not cancel or diminish this event.

To obtain a reservation form (prepaid registrations are required as space is limited to approximately 250), write Gail Hine, SCYA Women's Sailing Convention, 23414 Mt. Ashland Ct., Murrieta CA 92562; 951-677-8121; e-mail: Gail@scya.org or on the Web at <http://wsseyaweb.org/>. The convention fee of \$185.00 includes workshops, breakfast, lunch, dinner, souvenirs and

handouts. There is early bird registration discount of \$10 (12/10-12/31/12) for online registrations at <http://wsseyaweb.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Womens-Sailing-Convention/188874971193589?sk=wall>



Coyotes Curling Club
TWO WAYS — The Coyotes Curling Club invites you to enjoy and/or promote the "frozen watersport" of curling in the Southwest by participating in the winter "Learn To Curl" classes and leagues or joining in the sponsorship opportunity of Team Horsman. Details are available at theskip@coyotescurling.com. With over 30 years of curling experience, Carl Nelson (shown here), originally from Meaford, Ontario, Canada, is one of the mentors with Team Horsman.

Get Fit for the Outdoors

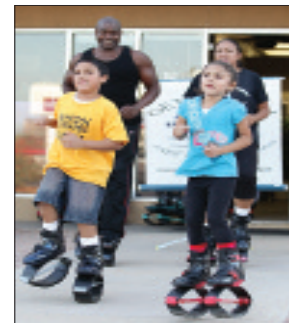
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A UNIQUE OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG GOLFERS

San Tan Youth Participate In Chuckwalla Junior Golf Academy

AZBW/WOT congratulates young golfers such as Kelsee Haws on being invited to be part of this elite opportunity.

The Golf Club at Johnson Ranch, San Tan Valley/Queen Creek, has honored a Poston Butte High School student, and we congratulate Kelsee Haws on being invited to join the Chuckwalla Junior Golf Academy.

The Chuckwalla Junior Golf Academy is an elite junior golf program tailored to provide advanced, comprehensive training for the junior golfers in our community. The supportive, team-based environment gives competitive junior golfers a fun and effective path to better their game.

In addition to individual focus, the capstone event of the Academy is participation in the Ping Junior Interclub Tournament Series. This tournament series provides junior golfers with a unique team competitive format.

Each team is assigned to a District of five other junior teams from competing golf clubs. The two teams that win the most points in the regular season tournaments will qualify for the Regional Tournament with an opportunity to compete in the State Tournament.

This is a unique opportunity to train within a team environment while also obtaining the customized attention and focus to improve your golf skills. The Chuckwalla Junior Golf Academy program includes the following, provided by golf experts:

- Coach-directed practices,
- Personalized game-improvement plan,
- Video-swing analysis,

- Launch-monitoring analysis,
- Mental side of golf training
- Course-management training,
- Short-game evaluation and training,
- Competitive-tournament preparation,
- Rules clinics,
- Custom-designed team hats and shirts,
- Access to the driving range at the Golf Course at Johnson Ranch at no charge, and
- Access to practice rounds at the Golf Course at Johnson Ranch at no charge.

Cost Waived Through Sponsorships

An elite golf-training program like this typically costs in the ballpark of \$500-750 per month. Due to the sponsorship from The Golf Club at Johnson Ranch, The San Tan Valley Knicker Brigade, and others in the Queen Creek/San Tan Valley community, young golfers like Haws are receiving a personal invitation to participate at no charge.

Time Commitment

Although there is no monetary charge to participate in the program, there is an expectation that the young golfers will actively participate. The Chuckwalla Junior Golf Academy will start mandatory practices in January 2013. Mandatory practices will run from January through mid-May when the Ping Junior Interclub State Final Tournament is complete.

Following the end of the Interclub sea-



GOT GOLF? — A few young golfers in the Queen Creek/San Tan Valley community certainly do! Kelsee Haws (shown here) joins those selected to participate in the elite Chuckwalla Junior Golf Academy, sponsored by Ping, The Golf Club at Johnson Ranch, The San Tan Valley Knicker Brigade, among others.

son, the participants will continue to receive playing and practice-round privileges at The Golf Club at Johnson Ranch.

The young golfers have had the option to start practicing with the team on "Open Range" evenings since Nov. 27. "Open Range" practices are occurring every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. through the remainder of December.

The "Open Range" practices have the same, structured coach-driven practices that will occur with the mandatory time

period. However, the "Open Range" practices are optional.

Further Information

If you are interested in assisting with sponsorships or would like further information, please direct questions/comments to Tom Finnegan at 480.250.2735 or finny1@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: We are especially excited about this program and proud of Kelsee Haws — she is our granddaughter!

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Tackle & Target



Tips From AZGFD For Avoiding Problems With Forest Service Travel-Management Rules

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has been receiving inquiries from outdoor enthusiasts who are uncertain about new Forest Service Travel Management Rules and whether the rules apply to them and their favorite recreational areas. Many hunters, anglers, campers and wildlife watchers are especially concerned about how the new travel management rules are being enforced, especially in national forests located in Arizona.

In response to these questions and concerns, Arizona Game and Fish has issued law enforcement guidance to its wildlife officers.

Applies To AZGFD Officers

However, this guidance applies only to Arizona Game and Fish officers.

When heading out on a hunt or other outdoor activities, it's a good idea to consult directly with the land-management agency that has jurisdiction over the area you will be visiting.

Over a period of several years, each national forest located in Arizona has been working on establishing its own rules restricting motor vehicle use, pursuant to the federal Travel Management Rule (Federal Register, Vol. 70, No. 216). Some forests have already implemented Travel Management Rules for their areas, while other forests have not yet put any new rules into effect.

When Rules Apply

The Forest Service Travel Management Rules usually apply when people are driving to a camping location, often referred to as dispersed camping, driving off-road to retrieve big game, and to road

closures/route designations. The rules require motor vehicles to stay on designated roads and trails. These areas are identified on a free Motor Vehicle Use Map, available at any U.S. Forest Service office. The rules vary from forest to forest, often resulting in unintentional violations.

Because various Travel Management Rules are inconsistent, Game and Fish's recently-issued guidelines encourage its wildlife officers to exercise discretion and promote education when appropriate. Whether a Game and Fish wildlife officer takes enforcement action will depend on the circumstances, and could include providing education, giving a written or verbal warning, or issuing a citation. Some of the situations where travel management rules and restrictions might cause confusion include the following:

Motorized Retrieval Of Big Game:

The restrictions on motorized retrieval of legally taken big game vary by forest and species. For example, in the Coconino National Forest, motorized retrieval is allowed only for elk, and only in certain Game Management Units. Confusingly, it is not allowed for other game species, such as deer.

Dispersed Camping: Restrictions on dispersed camping are also inconsistent and confusing, ranging from prohibited in some forests to permissible within 300 feet of a designated travel route in other forests.

Road Closures, Signage, Barriers:

Road closures and route designations also vary by forest. Some roads remain open unless signed closed, some are closed unless signed open, some are designated "Administrative Use Only," and some are

closed in one forest yet open in an adjacent forest.

"Federal land management agencies are valuable partners in conservation law enforcement, and we'll continue to enforce laws applicable to our authority that are critical to our mission and important to our customers," said Elms. "However, we won't expend law enforcement resources on low priority or counterproductive efforts that, due to their inconsistency, generate fear and uncertainty to outdoor recreationists and become a barrier to the public's ability to enjoy responsible recreation on their public lands."

To Learn More

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has been negotiating with and providing input to the Forest Service on Travel Management Plans since 2005. Despite the best efforts of Arizona Game and Fish, the various forests in the state have failed to adopt a consistent approach to travel management.

To learn more about Travel Management Rules in effect in various national forests in Arizona, visit the Web sites of the different forests (in Arizona, the national forests are the Apache-Sitgreaves, Coconino, Coronado, Kaibab, Prescott, and Tonto) or contact their offices.

Be sure to also stop by the offices of the national forests you visit, and ask for a free Motor Vehicle Use Map for the specific area in which you will be hunting, camping, and enjoying the great outdoors. You can also visit the official U.S. Forest Service website at www.fs.fed.us and use the site's search feature to find rules for specific forests.

News From Arizona Anglers Includes Hints, Gift Ideas

From AZGFD

Get Out For Trout

This is the time of year when the Arizona Game and Fish Department really kicks in its winter trout stockings in the lower-elevation lakes. You can't beat the recent weather, so now is a great time to get out and fish for trout.

Fishing Updates

Anglers sent in the following reports this week:

Brand reported that he caught some rainbow trout at Desert Breeze Lake (an Urban Fishing Program water in Chandler) using spring green Power Bait, small panther martins, mealworms, and night-crawlers under a bobber.

Mike A. reports he fished the lower Salt River at Phon D. Sutton last weekend and got a few strikes but didn't catch anything. Mike said, "I had high hopes because two weeks ago I managed to catch two trout in a short amount of time. I was using night crawlers and Power Bait both times. There was plenty of wildlife and other animals to see though, including bald eagles, horses and even a bull (all on the opposite side of the river)."

Brett M. reports that the grass or algae growth on the bottom of Kiwanis Lake is significant. "Every cast results in clumps of this nasty coarse grass on the hook and weight. Even bobbers are getting stuck on it unless you keep your line less than 2 feet from the bobber."

Fishing is unproductive, although I've seen a few lucky catches. I've made 3 good attempts for trout in the last week with no success, where I usually would catch my limit (or at least one). I would have to rate Kiwanis poor-to-bad at the present; [I'm] going to have to try some of the other urban lakes."

Brian M. reports that Oak Creek is fishing good for rainbow and brown trout. Most catches were on a small white midge (18) with a Hare's Ear flashback dropper. Trout in the Upper West Fork area aren't very active, but lower in the canyon temperatures are around 70 and the fishing is great. Key times are 8-11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to dusk.

Lyman Lake State Park and access to Lyman Lake in eastern Arizona closed for the season on Dec. 1.

Fishing Licenses For Gifts

In the midst of the holiday rush, don't forget to buy your 2013 fishing license. **Class A** licenses (general fishing license for state waters) cost \$23.50 for residents and \$70.25 for non-residents. **Trout stamps** (which are required in addition to a Class A license for the taking of trout) are \$15.75 for residents and \$57.75 for non-residents.

Class U (Urban) fishing licenses cost \$18.50 for residents and nonresidents. The Class U license is valid only at the 21 designated Urban Fishing Program waters and is good for all fish species (including trout).

See NEWS on page 15

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It's All About Trout In Urban Fishing Waters

From AZGFD

Rainbow trout stockings are well underway and will continue all winter long at two-week intervals. Trout range in size from 11-12 inches in length, with some fish up to 16



inches. Fishing is good to excellent for anglers using scented dough baits (such as Power Bait), worms or corn on the bottom. Tip:

Anglers using 2-4 pound test line are getting 2-3 times more bites than anglers using 8-12 pound line. Small spinners such as Roostertails and Panther Martins, or spoons such as Kastmasters and Super Dupers work well for trout.

The morning bite is the best, but trout



will bite sporadically throughout the day. When the bite is on, anglers are catching limits in an hour or two. Action for catfish, bluegill and bass has slowed due to colder water temperatures. Trout fishing is good to excellent at Green Valley lakes in Payson with Power Bait, worms and small spoons or jigs working best.

Last Stockings

All Urban Fishing Program waters in Phoenix and Tucson areas were stocked with trout during the week of Dec. 10-15

Green Valley Lakes (Payson) were stocked with trout during the week of Dec. 10-15

2012 End-Of-Year Reminders

Stay on the lookout for golden alga, a microscopic organism that releases substances that are toxic to fish. Game and Fish is working with city park staff and lake consultants to regularly monitor for and control the unwanted algae. Please do your part to prevent the spread of golden alga by not moving water or wet objects or fishing equipment from lake to lake. Clean, drain and dry all equipment.

The 2012 Class U Urban Fishing license is now 50 percent off through Dec. 31. Stop by a Game and Fish office or any of our sporting goods or retail license dealers and ask for your 2012 discount urban license for \$9.25.

Submit your big fish catches for the 2012 Fish-of-the-Year contest. With only weeks to go, there are plenty of chances to report your big fish catches in either of two categories: kept or released. Application forms and instructions for the contest are in the current Urban Fishing Program guidebook or AZ Fishing Regulation booklet. Updates on the current leaders

See TROUT on page 15



Bill Roecker

445-Pound Yellowfin Tuna!

445-POUND YELLOWFIN TUNA!

John Petruescu Sets San Diego Record +

By Bill Roecker

For FishingVideos.com & San Diego Sportfishing Council

There was a small crowd waiting when Justin Fleck backed *Excel* into the slip in front of Fisherman's Landing Dec. 9 sometime around 4 a.m., and it rapidly grew until there looked to be several hundred folks clustered around the biggest yellowfin tuna ever caught. By 6 a.m., to say the place was a zoo might be understatement. The trip was a Braid charter to the Hurricane Bank with 22 anglers.

The star of the event, electrician John Petruescu, was pinned to the dock rail by reporters, picture-takers, and manufacturer's reps, while his huge tuna resided in a cart that was about one size too small for its length. Meanwhile, the ship's crew and dock handlers struggled to haul 42 tuna over 200 pounds, along with many smaller tuna, through the churning mass of bystanders.

Biggest Yellowfin Ever Caught

When the sky went light the giant tuna was hoisted up on a rented skyhook, and the crowd pressed in while the certified scales were read. They told an incredible weight of 445 pounds! Picture-taking began in earnest, and camera flashes went off all around the scene. Rookie long ranger Petruescu was asked to look this way and that, as professional and amateur photographers stepped on one another, trying to get a clean shot in the poor light of a cloudy dawn.

Everyone wanted to come forward and pose with the giant fish, the biggest yellowfin ever caught, as though to claim a piece of the action. I got my photos with

See RECORD on page 15

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Tackle & Target

Grants Available For Public Shooting Ranges In Arizona

The deadline to apply is Jan. 15, 2013.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department wants to continue to improve and expand public shooting ranges across the state by providing grant funding to qualified applicants involved in the development, improvement or maintenance of public shooting and archery ranges.

The department is accepting grant applications now through Jan. 15, 2013. Shooting clubs, sportsmen's groups and government agencies operating public shooting ranges are encouraged to apply. Privately owned for-profit ranges are not eligible for this program.

"This program has been instrumental in the vitality of shooting ranges across the state," said Anthony Chavez, Game and Fish shooting ranges administrator. "It has afforded ranges the opportunity to expand safety barriers, add capabilities such as clay target shooting and archery shooting, improve ADA accessibility, and update and modernize these facilities."

Examples Of Projects

Examples of projects that could be eligible for funds include shooting range development and redevelopment, construction of noise abatement structures and safety berms, installation of shooting pads and stations, and construction or improvement of access roads and parking lots.

Grants are available through a competitive application process each year. The Arizona Game and Fish Commission determines how much money is available, but generally the total is about \$100,000. The maximum grant award is \$50,000 per project.

Application packets are available online



at www.azgfd.gov/shootingsports (select "range development grants" link on the left side of the page), or contact Anthony Chavez, statewide shooting ranges administrator, at (623) 236-7395 or aechavez@azgfd.gov.

Chavez added, "Public shooting ranges are critical to the preservation of recreational and competitive shooting. They also support hunter education and youth programs, as well as facilitate law enforcement training."

'User Pay-User Benefit'

The Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive general funds from the State of Arizona. Most department funding comes from "user-pay, user-benefit" sources of funding, including sales of hunting and fishing licenses, stamps and tags. The benefit for allocating revenue for this grant is that it supports the department's hunter education, hunter recruitment and shooting sports programs, and it promotes and provides Arizona residents with safe shooting areas – all important elements of the department's mission.

Shooting sports and hunting are rated among the safest forms of recreation. Some 40 million people of all ages safely participate in these activities. However, research shows there are nearly 48 million men and women who are interested in shooting sports and are simply waiting for an invitation. Grants of this kind will assist the department's already successful shooting and hunter education programs.

New Book Introduces Hunters To Pursuit Of State's Small Game

Over-the-counter sales start Dec. 17.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is proud to announce that its latest book, *An Introduction to Hunting Arizona's Small Game*, is now available.

The 198-page book is a fantastic resource that provides expert tips for hunting Arizona's small game birds and mammals, from quail and doves to squirrels and rabbits. Extensively illustrated with color photos, it includes detailed descriptions of small game animals and specialized information about their behavior and habits.

It will help new and experienced hunters alike select the right firearm, gear up for the hunt, succeed in the field, and care for the

harvest. David Brown, author and retired chief of the department's Game Branch, calls the book "an ideal field companion."

Author Randall D. Babb is a biologist, naturalist and hunter who has contributed to many scholarly and popular publications. His extensive knowledge of wildlife keeps him in demand as a writer, photographer, illustrator, speaker and tour leader.

Babb started his career with the U.S. Forest Service in 1983 and moved to the Arizona Game and Fish Department in 1986. He currently manages the information and education program for Game and Fish's regional office in Mesa.

The book costs \$16.95 and is available for sale over the counter starting Dec. 17.

For more information or to see an excerpt from the book, visit www.azgfd.gov/publications.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 21, 2012

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

— Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.



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Western Wildlife



Volunteers Can Help Conduct Annual Bird-Population Surveys

Enjoy a wildlife-viewing experience and help wildlife conservation at the same time by volunteering to help out in one or more annual Arizona Christmas Bird Counts this month.

The count program is a bird population survey that has been coordinated annually by the National Audubon Society since 1900. For each count, volunteers (including those from the Arizona Game and Fish Department) will take to the field for one calendar day between Dec. 14, 2012, and Jan. 5, 2013, to record every bird species and every individual bird sighted within a designated 15-mile diameter area.

The data collected will be added to an extensive database that enables monitoring of winter bird populations across North America and helps in assessing the overall health of the environment.

Volunteer help is needed on most of these counts. This year there is no participation fee (in past years, a \$5 fee had been

See **SURVEYS** on page 17

Here's A Gift Idea: A Calendar For Wildlife Lovers

If you like wildlife, or wildlife photography, or both, we have the calendar for you. The November–December issue of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine has a full-size 2013 wall calendar featuring winning photos from this year's wildlife photo contest. Bonus feature: 38 honorable-mention images are also included. This issue is still available to new subscribers. Sign up now to get our sale price: seven issues for just \$7. The regular price is six issues for \$8.50. You can't buy *Arizona Wildlife Views* on newsstands, so take advantage of the holiday sale and join our family of subscribers. Order at www.azgfd.gov/magazine or by calling (800) 777-0015. Single copies are also sold at Arizona Game and Fish offices for \$3.



Outdoor Recreationists Asked To Help Bald Eagles

Each year as part of its highly successful program to manage and conserve bald eagles in the state, the Arizona Game and Fish Department asks outdoor recreationists to help protect important eagle breeding areas by honoring the closure of 21 areas across the state.

Various land and wildlife management agencies close the breeding areas for part of the year, beginning in December, to protect the state's 55 breeding pairs of bald eagles. Some of the closure areas are located near popular recreation sites.

Bald eagles continue to do well in Arizona, but they are sensitive to human activity during the breeding season and it can take as little as 30 minutes of leaving the eggs uncovered for a breeding attempt to fail," says Kenneth Jacobson, head of the Arizona Game and Fish Department Bald Eagle Management Program. "Cooperation from outdoor recreationists during the breeding season has been a major reason that the population continues to grow."

The bald eagle was federally listed as



an endangered species in 1978. Nationally, the birds recovered enough to be removed from the list in 2007.

In December, Arizona bald eagles begin rebuilding nests in preparation for laying eggs. During this time, land and wildlife management agencies enact the seasonal breeding area closures. Bald eagles nest, forage and roost at the rivers and lakes that have become some of Arizona's most popular recreation spots, and this time of year can be challenging for the birds.

Game and Fish's bald eagle management efforts are supported by the Heritage Fund, an initiative passed 20 years ago to provide for wildlife education and conservation through Arizona lottery ticket sales.

Airspace Advisory

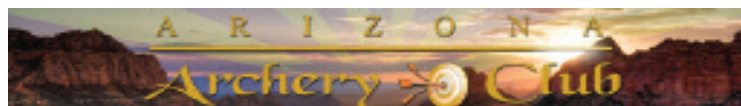
Statewide – The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has established a 2000-foot above ground level (AGL) advisory along the Salt and Verde river drainages. When traveling in these drainages or near riparian habitat statewide, aircraft should maintain a minimum of 2000-foot AGL to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

Seasonal Closures

Alamo Lake: A portion of upper Alamo Lake may be closed to boats from Jan. 1 to June 30. Contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Region IV, Yuma, (928) 342-0091.

Lake Pleasant: No vehicle, watercraft, or foot entry is allowed into the Lower Agua Fria Arm from Dec. 15 to June 15. Contact Maricopa County Parks and

See **EAGLES** on page 17



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Catalina State Park Offers Hikes, Activities Throughout December

Catalina State Park has been offering hikes, walks and activities the entire months of November and December (see remaining activities schedule below).

Every Saturday — Wildlife Exhibit

The Reptile/Wildlife Exhibit runs every Saturday from 9am - Noon, weather permitting. Volunteer Jim "the Snake Man" Cloer and his crew of volunteer assistants enchant visitors at the park trail head with a menagerie of reptiles, arachnids and animals who inhabit the Sonoran Desert. Meet at Main Trailhead parking area at Catalina State Park. Contact the Park for more information at (520) 628-5798.

Sunday Hikes

Register with Volunteer Gaston Meloe at (520) 638-5404 by 4pm at least one day prior to the hike. This pace is moderate. Round-trip mileage, duration and elevation changes are approximate. Hike listings are subject to change.

For safety reasons, four hikers are required for a hike to take place. Always bring ample water and wear appropriate headgear and hiking footwear. The time



listed is the departure time. Please arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the departure time.

If rain threatens/happens or number less than four, a hike will be canceled and in such case the leader will phone registered hikers ASAP or about ½ hour before hike time, in case of bad weather.

If you have a medical condition and/or are allergic to aspirin or must take prescribed medication, please inform the guide confidentially.

At press time, the remaining hikes are as follows:

December 23: Catalina's Medium Loop - (8 miles/500 foot elevation) Leave from the Equestrian Center at 7:30am.

December 30: Park's best known short trails - 7 miles/200 foot elevation) Meet and park at main trailhead at 7:30am.

Friday And Sunday Bird Walk At 8:30am

A walk along mostly flat terrain with frequent stops to view birds we encounter along the trail. Duration: 2.5 hours. This hike is open to beginner and advanced birders of any age. Meet your guide at the Picnic Area parking lot ramada. What to bring: Hiking boots or sturdy shoes, sunscreen, hat, and other clothing as appropriate for the season and weather, binoculars and drinking water. Please, no dogs. Bird walks are subject to change or cancellation depending on weather conditions.

Sunday Geology Walk — December 30

Start time is 9am. Meet at the Ramada in the picnic area. Hike will walk about 2.5 miles round-trip and take about 1.5 - 2 hours, depending on questions and discussion. Please bring water, walking shoes and your curiosity. We will look at maps, rocks and the mountains. Hike led by volunteer Karen Gray. Call the park for more information at (520) 628-5798.

More Information

Make online reservations for campsites

at AZStateParks.com or by calling the Reservation Center at (520) 586-2283. You can call 7 days a week, from 8 am to 5 pm MST. There is a \$5 non-refundable reservation fee per site. Please note: the electric camping sites in campground A will only provide 20 and 30 AMP service. 50 AMP service will no longer be available in Campground A. Consequently, Campground B that has 20, 30 and 50 AMP service will be open all year long.

The Park Entrance Fee is \$7 per vehicle (up to four adults). Primitive to full hookup camping sites are available at a fee of \$15 to \$25 depending on the type of camping site needed. Catalina State Park is located on State Highway 77 (Oracle Road) at mile marker 81, just nine miles north of Tucson and six miles north of Ina Road.

For information about all 27 Arizona State Parks, the Trails and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs and State Historic Preservation Office call (602) 542-4174 (outside of the Phoenix metro area call toll-free (800) 285-3703), visit the website and online camping reservations at AZStateParks.com or Twitter/Facebook AZStateParks.

Growing Smarter Fund Distributes \$25 Million For Conservation

Earlier this fall, the Arizona State Parks Board awarded \$24,646,380 in Growing Smarter State Trust Land Acquisition Fund grants from the Land Conservation Fund.

"The State Parks Board feels these six open space projects will ensure protection of Arizona's scenic deserts around urban areas that are experiencing high growth," said State Parks Director Bryan Martyn.

The following six grants were awarded:

1. **City of Scottsdale** — McDowell Sonoran Preserve/Cholla Mountain-Rawhide Wash towards the purchase of 2,045 acres for up to \$4,824,330

2. **City of Scottsdale** — McDowell Sonoran Preserve/Granite Mountain towards the purchase of 3,200 acres for up to \$6,783,082

3. **City of Scottsdale** — McDowell Sonoran Preserve/Upper Sonoran Desert towards the purchase of 1,153 acres for up to \$4,389,051

4. **Pima County** — Tortolita Mountain towards the purchase of 1,415 acres for up to \$1,890,000.

5. **City of Flagstaff** — Picture Canyon towards the purchase of 477.80 acres for up to \$2,389,000.

6. **City of Phoenix** — Sonoran Preserve Priority 3-D towards the purchase of 1,543.78 acres for up to \$4,379,917

A total of \$40,734,760 was available from the Land Conservation Fund for the FY 2012 Growing Smarter Grant Cycle. However, A.R.S. §41-511.23.H.2 states that no more than 50 percent of the Land Conservation Fund from any one fiscal year may be awarded to projects in a single county.

This resulted in a total of \$20,367,380 available for the four projects in Maricopa County. Approval of the awards is contingent upon the applicants being the successful bidders at public auction. The final grant amounts will be based on the Arizona State Land Department final appraisal value of the parcels.

The purpose of the Land Conservation Fund is to conserve open spaces in or near urban areas and other areas experiencing high growth pressures. This is accomplished by awarding grants for the purchase or lease of State Trust land that has been classified as suitable for conservation purposed by the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD).

The passage of Proposition 303 on November 3, 1998 established an annual \$20 million appropriation by the Arizona State

Legislature from the General Fund to the Land Conservation Fund. This annual appropriation began in FY 2001 and ended in FY 2011.

With the passage of Senate Bill 1071 in 2003, State Parks annually transferred \$2 million to the Livestock and Crop Conservation Fund administered by the Department of Agriculture. As a result, an \$18 million annual appropriation was available for the Growing Smarter grant program through FY 2011.

Beginning FY 2012 only remaining unexpended funds are available for grant awards. It is anticipated that approximately \$16,083,380 will remain available

for the next grant cycle.

For more grant information regarding the grant programs or grant workshop dates and locations contact Doris Pulsifer at Arizona State Parks at (602) 542-7127 or (outside of the Phoenix metro area call toll-free (800) 285-3703) or visit the website at www.azstateparks.com

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Alamo Lake State Park, Wenden (928) 669-2088

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Patagonia Lake State Park, Patagonia (520) 287-6965

Tour a Cave! Order Cave Tickets Online!
Kartchner Caverns State Park, Benson (520) 586-2283



RV/Land Cruising

Grand Canyon 2013 South And North Rim Artists-In-Residence Announced

Grand Canyon National Park's Artist-in-Residence program is pleased to announce its South Rim (SR AiR) selected artists through September 2013 and the North Rim (NR AiR) selections for the May-October 2013 season.

The Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program welcomes not only artists who work in the long-honored traditions of representational landscape photography and painting, but also encourages the involvement of artists working in new or experimental mediums.

While in-residence, the SR AiRs have the opportunity to live in the historic upstairs apartment of Verkamp's Visitor Center and Museum Store,

perched on the rim. The NR AiR space is in a historic and rustic two-room cabin in the cool shade of the Ponderosa pines.

A panel of professional artists and administrators along with National Park Service (NPS) representatives selected artists from a pool of 112 applicants on the South Rim, and 110 on the North. The selected artists reflect a broad range of genres and traditions that speak the various issues facing the park.

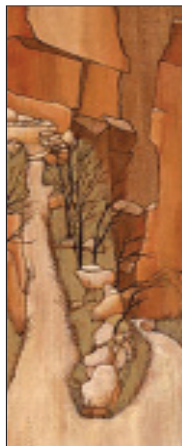
The SR AiR program is honored to be hosting the following artists through the September 2013 season:

Jan. 6 – 31, 2013: Mixed media sculptor Loren Schwerd, New Orleans, La.

Feb. 1 – 28, 2013: Writer Naseem Rakha, Silverton, Ore.

March 1 – 24, 2013: Conceptual/visual artist Camelia Caton-Garcia, Portland, Ore.

March 25 – April 16, 2013: Painter Elizabeth Black and Photographer Chris



North Kaibab Switchbacks
Anne Legge
North Rim AiR 2005

Brown, Boulder, Colo.

May 5 – 31, 2013: Poet/Conceptual visual artist Rebecca Lowry, Los Angeles, Calif.

June 10 – 30, 2013: Sound and Visual Media artists Andrea Polli and Chuck Varga, Albuquerque, N.M.

July 1 – 21, 2013: Painter Elisabeth Condon, Tampa, Fla.

July 22 – Aug. 19, 2013: Interdisciplinary visual/conceptual artist Kevin Curry, Tallahassee, Fla.

Aug. 11 – 31, 2013: Hand-made book artists Johanna Tinnegan-Topitzer and Jeremy Heflin, Merrimac, Mass.

North Rim Artists

The NR AiR program is honored to be hosting the following artists for the May – October 2013 season (exact dates for North Rim artists have not yet been determined but will be posted on the Grand Canyon Web site when set.):

Watercolor artist Gloria Allen, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Ceramic sculptor and photo journalist Maria Simon, Portland, Ore.

Writer Rick Kempa, Rock Springs, Wyo.

Oil, charcoal, gouache/watercolor artist Kathie Hodge, Riverside, R.I.

Dyes and pastels on silk artist, Carole Bonicelli, Brewster, N.Y.

Each artist will present a minimum of three public outreach programs, presentations or performances of their own design while in residence. Except for select programs presented to local school students on the South Rim, these programs are free, family friendly and open to the public.

For information on these programs please check-in at a Visitor Center desk or contact the AiR coordinators:

Rene Westbrook@nps.gov (SR AiR)
Robin Tellis@nps.gov (NR AiR)

For information on the current south rim Artist-in-Residence public programs, please call our Art Hotline at 928-638-7616.

Both programs will be accepting new artist proposals Feb. 1 to April 1, 2013. For complete application process details, as well as selected artist information including bios, works samples, links to their Web sites, and program information, please visit — <http://www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm>

If you would like to be added to our email list in order to receive all application and program information, please write to Rene_Westbrook@nps.gov.



Mata Ortiz Pottery Demonstrations At Kartchner Caverns

The last of Mata Ortiz Pottery demonstrations will be held at Kartchner Caverns State Park on Jan. 28. Demonstrations will take place at 11am and 1p.m. in the park theater on the event days. Learn more about Mata Ortiz pottery and see examples during the demonstrations.

In a remote river valley on the plains of Northern Mexico, a remarkable ceramic arts revival is taking place. In the village of Mata Ortiz, master potter Juan Quezada, inspired by ancient potshers, is leading a renaissance of the region's native art tradition. The contemporary work parallels the art of indigenous ceramists to the north — Hopi, Zuni, Acoma Indians and others — and has come to be known as Mata Ortiz Pottery.

The Park Entrance Fee is \$6 per vehicle (up to four adults). The Park Entrance Fee is waived with a reservation to one or both of the cave tours. Make your cave tour reservation online at AZStateParks.com or by calling (520) 586-2283 seven days a week from 8am to 5pm MST.

Rotunda/Throne Room Tours are available for \$22.95 for ages 14 and up and \$12.95 for those aged 7 to 13 (children 6 and younger are free). The Big Room Tours are available for \$22.95 for ages 14 and up and \$12.95 for those aged 7 to 13 (children younger than 7 are not permitted into the Big Room). Walk-up tickets may not be available. It is recommended to make a tour reservation.

To make same-day cave tour reservations (based on availability) please call (520) 586-2283. Visitors should arrive at least one hour prior to the scheduled tour time. Late arrival may result in the forfeiture of the reserved tour time.

The Park offers a large, modern campground adjacent to the Whetstone Mountains with views of the entire San Pedro Valley. Electric camping sites with water are available at a fee of \$25. Kartchner Caverns State Park is located on Highway 90, nine miles South of I-10 near Benson, Arizona.

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BANQUET

Continued from page 1

commission's Sept. 7-8, 2012 meeting (see list of recipients, below). The awards recognize Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage, and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by dinner and the awards ceremony. The cost is \$55 per person. The RSVP registration form is available for download online at www.azgfd.gov/commissionawards.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission held its first annual awards banquet in

1991. Since then, more than 300 awards have been presented by the commission. The banquet has become an annual tradition during which individuals and organizations are recognized for their contributions to Arizona's wildlife resources.

All costs associated with the awards banquet, including the complimentary tickets for award recipients and their spouses or immediate family members, are paid for by ticket sales and sponsorship donations. Award table sponsorships for organizations are available for \$550 and include a table in the organization's name, logo advertisement in the event program, recognition in the introductory PowerPoint

presentation and event press release, and four banquet tickets for the organization.

The Sponsorship Package Information and Form is available online at www.azgfd.gov/commissionawards.

2012 Award Recipients

Award of Excellence: Freeport-McMoran Division of Environmental Technology

Award of Excellence: Jeffrey Smythe
Youth Environmentalist of the Year: Daniella LaPlante

Outdoor Writer of the Year: David Brown

Media of the Year: Don McDowell, *Shake, Rattle & Troll*

Conservation Organization of the Year: Arizona Elk Society

Conservationist of the Year: Glen Dickens

Natural Resource Professional of the Year: Chris Parish

Volunteer of the Year: Tom Slaughter

Educator of the Year: Aaron Anderson

Mentor of the Year: Don Martin

Advocate of the Year: Representative Amanda Reeve

License Dealer of the Year: ALCO, Chino Valley Store

Buck Appleby Hunter Education Instructor of the Year: Hank Schucking

Wildlife Habitat Steward of the Year: Dan Bell

WOMAN

Continued from page 1

art Mountain Dam, which backs up Saguaro Lake, is a short walk. This unique venue provides both trout fishing and bass fishing opportunities for BOW participants. An opportunity to get out on the water is offered with the still-water paddling class.

Arizona Audubon will be there pointing out the huge variety of birds, winter visitors and native. We will have a session on hunting javelina and a predator calling class. For those who feel the need to explore the desert, photography, and trick track trail Sonoran style will be offered. A 2 ½ -hour trail ride is also available.

Don Wells and Jean Groen, authors of *Foods of the Superstitions* will be there with a session on edible and medicinal plants of the Southwest desert. There will also be a desert survival class and the Dutch oven class will be preparing the evening meals on Friday and Saturday. We have tried to find something to interest everyone.

The cost is \$380, which includes instruction, program materials, and use of equipment, deluxe lodging and meals Friday through Sunday lunch. The trail ride has an additional cost.

Details of class descriptions can be found at www.azwildlife.org or call 480-644-0077.

REGATTAS

Continued from page 1

2) Moving indoors: The dusty tent is gone and the Saturday night event will move indoors to the Lake Pleasant Waterfront Grille. Enjoy inside and outside waterfront seating for cocktails, dinner, and dancing with music from our talented AYC musicians.

3) Shuttles will be running from the Spinnaker Point RV/Camping and boat prep areas to the Waterfront Grille throughout the day and evening.

4) Marina Slip Rentals are available for \$28/night. Stay the night next to the Waterfront Bar & Grille. Plus all registra-

tions made before December first will be entered into a lottery for one of five free slip rentals.

5) RV/Camping sites have been reserved to make sure you have a spot for your tent or camper. Make a reservation before January first to claim one of the reserved spots.

For more information, call Emory Heisler at (602) 679-0462. For more details on the Leukemia Cup fund raising, contact Liz Kaplan at Leukemia Lymphoma Society (LLS): (602) 567-7605.

Do it now! Help AYC in the fight to cure blood cancers and join them for another great Martin Luther King Jr. weekend of desert winter sailing!

LIGHTS

Continued from page 1

ible sight that has delighted millions of people for a century. The Christmas Boat Parade, which has been hailed as "one of the top ten holiday happenings in the nation" by the *New York Times*, is truly a magical holiday tradition for all ages.

IDAHO

Through Tuesday, Jan. 1 on Coeur d'Alene lake — A million lights. A price-less memory. A family tradition. More than 1.5 million lights sparkle across lake Coeur d'Alene as the Holiday Light

Show, the largest on-the-water resort holiday light show in America, comes to life each evening during the holiday season.

More information: The Holiday Light Show Center, (208) 664-7268 or (800) 688-5253.

WASHINGTON STATE

Through Sunday, Dec. 23 in Seattle — The Argosy Christmas Ship™ festival is a holiday celebration that has been a Northwest tradition since 1949. Its main purpose is to bring communities together to celebrate the holiday season.



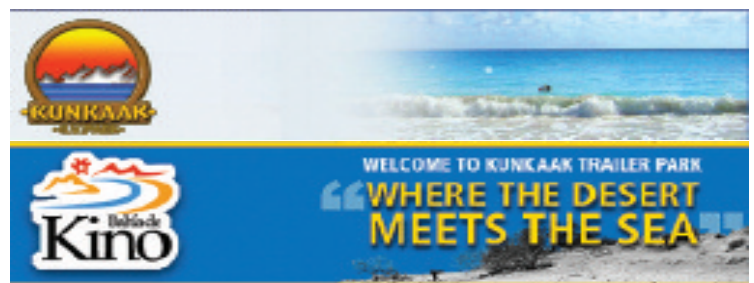
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DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid-Dec.



1912-2012

BEYOND ARIZONA

SCYA WOMEN'S SAILING CONVENTION: Feb. 2, 2013 — Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club, Corona del Mar, Calif.

BOATING

ARIZONA YACHT CLUB BIRTHDAY REGATTA/LEUKEMIA CUP: Jan. 18-20 — Lake Pleasant; (602) 679-0462. Information on the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society is available by calling (602) 567-7605.

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN: Jan. 25-27 — See story on page 1.

CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

COMMUNITY

POTTERY DEMONSTRATIONS AT KARTCHNER CAVERNS STATE PARK: Jan. 28 — See story on page 12.

FORT VERDE STATE HISTORIC PARK: through Jan. 4 — Christmas/Holiday celebrations. See story on page 1.

SCOTTSDALE: 42ND ANNUAL BARRETT-JACKSON CLASSIC CAR AUCTION: Jan. 13-20 — WestWorld, largest, most prestigious antique/classic car auction in the world, 700+ American & European classic, sports & racing cars, buyers from around the world, 9 am - 10 pm, 480-421-6694 or <http://www.barrett-jackson.com>

YOU ARE INVITED

To The 'Open House' Of *Western Outdoor Times.com*

Outdoor enthusiasts have been familiar with *Arizona Boating & Watersports* news magazine. However, as the publication expanded its coverage to include camping, fishing, hunting, RVing, safety and wildlife, it was felt the name needed to reflect growth into new and varied content. Therefore, *Western Outdoor Times* now appears above the parent name *Arizona Boating & Watersports*, the original branding of the paper.

Along with the expansion of areas covered, we are also expanding our geographic reach. Although *Arizona Boating & Watersports* (www.azbw.com) will remain virtually the same, our new site *Western Outdoor Times* (www.westernoutdoortimes.com) will cover the same topics but will also include all of the states in the Western United States.

There are many things that affect all of us in the outdoors world. It is the goal of *Western Outdoor Times* and *Arizona Boating & Watersports* to bring these happenings to the public in an effort to let them not only enjoy the resources and events, but also to have some say in how their outdoor activities are managed.

PHOENIX: 42ND ANNUAL FORT McDOWELL FIESTA BOWL PARADE: Dec. 29 — Central Phoenix, floats, bands, specialty and equestrian units; Arizona's largest one-day spectator event and one of the nation's finest and largest parades, reserved seats \$25, 11 am, 480-350-0911 or <http://www.fiestabowl.org>

PRESCOTT: 2013 BOOT DROP: Dec. 31 — The Palace Restaurant & Saloon, (120 S. Montezuma St., 86303), a 6-foot illuminated cowboy boot will be lowered down a 40-foot flagpole to ring in the New Year, once at 10 pm for early birds and once at midnight for traditionalists, a DJ will spin tunes, food vendors, 8 pm - 1 am, 928-776-0234

SHOW LOW: DEUCE OF CLUBS DROP: Dec. 31 — Festival Marketplace, (1034 E. Deuce of Clubs), entertainment, music and food and countdown to midnight, drop of a giant electrified Deuce of Clubs from a crane, giant fireworks show follows, 928-532-4140

TEMPE: 29TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE FIESTA BOWL BLOCK PARTY: Dec/31 — Mill Avenue District, 30+ musical groups on 5 different stages, street vendors, interactive games & fireworks, \$20, 5 pm - 12:30 am, <http://www.fiestabowl.org>

PHOENIX: 34TH ANNUAL LAS NOCHES DE LAS LUMINARIAS: Through Dec. 30 — Desert Botanical Gardens, thousands of hand-lit luminarias line the garden pathways, musical entertainment each night, additional buffet dinner is available, \$12.50-25, 5:30 pm, pre-register, 480-481-8188 or 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

LAKE HAVASU CITY: 18TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS: Through Jan. 15 — English Village and London Bridge, more than 650,000 lights on display, free, 6-10 pm, 928-855-0888 or 800-2HAVASU or www.golakehavasucity.com

PHOENIX: 20TH ANNUAL ZOO LIGHTS: Through Jan. 6 — Phoenix Zoo, more than 3.5 million lights in 600 lighted sculptures unique to the Phoenix Zoo, live animals are not on exhibit, \$7-12, 6-10 pm, 602-273-1341 or <http://www.phoenixzoo.org>

FISHING

LITCHFIELD PARK: WINTER TROUT FISHING DERBY: Jan. 12 — Tierra Verde Lake Park, fish with more than 500 lbs of trout stocked in the lake, food, prizes and giveaways, license not required for this event, must provide your own fishing equipment and bait, \$4 per pole 15 and under; \$6 per pole 16 and over, 7 am - 3 pm, <http://www.litchfield-park.org>

HUNTING

AZGFD'S NEW BOOK ABOUT SMALL-GAME HUNTING: Beginning Jan. 17 — See story on page 9.

YUMA: MURPHY'S GUN SHOW: Jan. 5-6 — Yuma Country Fairgrounds, 928-726-4420

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

SHOWS AND EXPOS

ARIZONA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT EXPO: March 23-24, 2013 — A celebration of outdoor recreation and hands-on fun for the whole family; typically draws about 35,000 people and 150 exhibitors/vendors; for more information, call (623) 236-7222; Ben Avery Shooting Facility, 4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85086; www.azgfd.gov/expo

LAKE HAVASU: ANNUAL LAKE HAVASU BOAT SHOW: April 19-21, 2013 — Lake Havasu State Park, Windsor 4; www.lakehavasubootshow.com

INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMEN'S EXPO (ISE): Feb. 21-24 — University of Phoenix Stadium; <http://www.sportsexpos.com/>

WATERSPORTS

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SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS: Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake Open Water Certification Dives, San Carlos, Mexico; Lake Pleasant, and more; Saguaro can plan your diving vacation for small groups or just one person. How about Grand Cayman, Curacao, Cozumel, Belize, Roatan, Bonaire, Turks & Caicos Contact Saguaro Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or sales@saguaroports.com

Frozen Watersports:
WINTER CURLING CLASSES/LEAGUE: December and January — Contact the skip@coyotescurling.com for information.

Swimming:
LAKE HAVASU CITY: 40TH ANNUAL POLAR BEAR DAY: Jan. 5 — Nautical Inn Beach, brave the cold temperatures of Lake Havasu with the Lake Havasu Boat & Ski Club, \$5-8 swimmers, noon - 4 pm, 928-486-0106 or <http://www.golakehavasucity.com>

WILDLIFE-RELATED

CONDUCTING ANNUAL BIRD-POPULATION SURVEYS: Through Jan. 5 — See story on page 10.

ARIZONA GAME & FISH COMMISSION ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET: Jan. 12 — See story on page 1.

WILLCOX: 20TH ANNUAL WINGS OVER WILLCOX BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL: Jan. 16-20 — Willcox Community Center, a celebration of birds, nature and culture, includes guided tours and field trips for bird watching, photography, geology, ranching, agriculture, history and more, free seminars, a crafts and trade show, live animal educational booths, workshops, banquet, silent auction and keynote speaker, \$5-90, 800-200-2272 or <http://www.wingsover-willcox.com>

Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to editor@azbw.com. To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the 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.

Box Of Sox
Please send at least one pair to save a pair of feet. Or, a box of sox would go a long way to soothe bruised and battered feet. The socks for both men and women will be used by volunteers who staff the Migrant Resource Center in Douglas/Agua Prieta where first aid is offered to migrants re-patriated to the United States. Laura Stump's blog describes in some detail what the center offers: worldnextdoor.org. Please use this mailing address: Dan Abbott c/o UPC, 139 E. Alameda Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282-3502. Thank you!

TROUT

Continued from page 8

can be checked out on our web site at www.azgfd.gov.

2013 Urban Fishing Program Guidebooks Coming Soon

The 2013 Urban Fishing Program Guidebooks will be available at license dealers and Game and Fish offices by December 20. The free guidebooks are chock full of helpful tips and information on urban fishing. There are no changes in urban or statewide license costs or urban fishing regulations for 2013.

NEWS

Continued from page 7

'One Size Fits All'

If you want one fishing license that covers all waters in the state, then the **Class L, Super Conservation Fishing license** is the way to go. At \$53 for residents and only \$63 for non-residents, this super license includes the state fishing license, trout stamp and urban license — all in one package deal.

Fishing licenses are sold at over 320 license dealers statewide, at any Game and Fish office, or online at www.azgfd.gov/eservices/licenses.shtml. You can even buy them ahead of time as Christmas gifts for friends and family as long as you know the personal information that needs to go on the license.

All anglers age 14 and over must purchase a license to fish in Arizona.

RECORD

Continued from page 8

the help of *Excel* relief skipper Mike Ramirez, who found a couple of spots for me to grab some shots and shoot some video of the event.

It won't be an official IGFA record, because skipper Justin took the rod for a brief moment while Petruescu took a break. It will be a record for the San Diego long-range fleet, however, and this megacow record may stand for a bit longer than Mike Livingston's 405.2-pounder (and the current IGFA mark from 2010) did, before a couple of private boaters beat it.

Now the fleet has its mojo back, deservedly so, since nobody fishes for giant yellowfin longer or harder. Deckhands said Petruescu fought his fish for 99 per-

cent of the scrap.

"It took me about an hour and 50 minutes," Petruescu told me, "and it started early. I just got up, had a cup of coffee, and then went out and caught a skipjack. I fooled with it a bit and sent it out. I brought it back a couple of times, and the big fish ate it around 6:30.

"The bait was at a 45-degree angle and maybe 100 yards out when it started. After he bit, he ran straight out, fast, and the line lifted up out of the water. The boat had to move to help with another fish. I had him partly in, and then he took off again. I had to decrease the drag pressure twice.

"At 8:15 I got him to the boat on the starboard side, and they put four gaffs in him and brought him up through the gate. I was still in my belt, standing about 20 feet from the gate when they gaffed him.

This was an excellent crew, and so was the service."

John said he pinned his skipper to a 12/0 Mustad 7691 hook and a BHP wind-on leader of 130-pound Momoi. His backing was 130-pound Line One spectra on a Tiagra LRS 50 W reel and a on a Seeker Black Steel 6460 XH rod. He also had a cow that weighed 201 pounds.

John Petruescu is lead electrician on the San Vicente Dam project, scheduled for completion around April. He came from Romania, after his father and brother, and 11 more family members are now here.

Interviewed on the dock, John may still have been fishing.

"I'm 33," he remarked, "and single."

John's brother David was along on this trip, and he caught cows of 204, 206, 237 and 247 pounds.

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EAGLES

Continued from page 10

Recreation, (928) 501-1710.

Verde River: Below Sycamore Canyon Wilderness is closed to foot and vehicle entry from Dec. 1 to June 15. Floating through is allowed. Contact Coconino National Forest, Sedona Ranger District, (928) 282-4119.

Near Chasm Creek is closed to foot and vehicle entry from Dec. 1 to June 15. Floating through is allowed. Contact Prescott National Forest, Verde Ranger District, (928) 567-4121.

Upstream of the East Verde confluence is closed to vehicle and foot entry from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing is permitted. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Near Mule Shoe Bend, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping in the river or landing is allowed from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Below Horseshoe Dam may be closed to vehicle or foot entry on the southwest side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing on the southwest side of the river is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Below Bartlett Dam is closed to foot or vehicle entry from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing is permitted. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

At the Needle Rock Recreation area is closed to foot and vehicle entry on the east side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing on east side of

river is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.

Tonto Creek: Tonto Creek from Gisela to 76 Ranch is closed to vehicle, foot entry, and floating through from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

Tonto Creek inlet to Roosevelt Lake is closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land, and to watercraft within 300 feet on water from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

Salt River: Salt River from Horseshoe Bend to Redmond Flat allows watercraft to float through, but no stopping in the river or landing is allowed from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Globe Ranger District, (928) 402-6200.

Near Meddler Point is closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land, and to watercraft within 300 feet on water from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (928) 467-3200.

Below Stewart Mountain Dam is closed to vehicle or foot entry on the south side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed. Contact the Tonto National Forest, Mesa Ranger District, (480) 610-3300.

Crescent Lake: A portion of the entrance road may be restricted to a "no stopping zone" and a portion of land near the parking area may be closed to foot entry from April 1 through July 30. Contact the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville Ranger District, (928) 333-4372.

Luna Lake: Luna Lake is closed to vehicle and foot traffic on the north side from Jan. 1 to June 30. The area adjacent to the nesting closure on the upper end of the lake

end of the day where results are tabulated and stories shared. Check with the local coordinator.

There are more than 30 scheduled counting events in different parts of the state. See a schedule at www.azgfd.gov/w_c/bird_count.shtml or at www.azfo.org.

is closed from Feb. 15 to July 31. Contact Apache National Forest, Alpine Ranger District, (928) 339-4384.

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SURVEYS

Continued from page 10

charged at some events to defray a portion of the cost of tabulating and publishing the overall count results). Some of the counting events hold a compilation dinner at the

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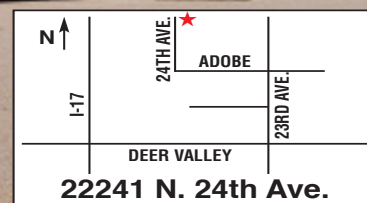
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PARK

Continued from page 1

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row, all furnished in the 1880s period and holiday grace. These Arizona treasures are currently listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places due to their unique architectural and historic significance.

In the former Administration building, the Park offers visitors interpretive exhibits with period artifacts on military life, Indian Scouts and Indian Wars history.

For more information call (928) 567-3275. Fort Verde State Historic Park is located at 125 E. Holloman Street in Camp Verde, Arizona. Park Entrance Fee is \$5 for adults (ages 14 and older), \$2 for youths 7 to 13 and children 6 and younger are free.

Arizona State Parks offers a free Annual Pass to disabled veterans living in Arizona for those qualified at 100 percent disability. Active military personnel will

enjoy a reduced park entrance fee of 50 percent off.

For information about all 27 Arizona State Parks, the Trails and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs and State Historic Preservation Office call (602) 542-4174 (outside of the Phoenix metro area call toll-free (800) 285-3703), visit the website and online camping reservations at AZStateParks.com, Twitter/Facebook AZStateParks.



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