



# Western Outdoor Times

**FREE**

## Arizona Boating & Watersports



February - March 2011

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

So Much To See At ISE!

## Everything Outdoors From A To Z



**Tight Lines**  
Pages 7-9

**Game Bag**  
Page 10

**Land Cruising**  
Page 11

INTERNATIONAL  
**SPORTSMEN'S**  
EXPOSITION

**Phoenix**  
Feb 24 - 27  
University of Phoenix Stadium

**ISE Show  
Program  
Inside!**

# ETHANOL 101

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT E10 / ETHANOL FUEL

### 4 MAIN PROBLEMS WITH E10 / ETHANOL FUEL

#### PROBLEM 1: DEBRIS IN FUEL

Gums rapidly form in the fuel tank and fuel delivery systems as ethanol fuels age. However, ethanol is also a powerful solvent that will strip away and disperse this build up back into the fuel as large, performance-robbing particles. This leads to clogged filters, injectors and carburetors.

**STAR TRON® SOLUTION:** Star Tron®'s enzymes break down debris into sub-micron sized particles that can be easily burned during the combustion process, restoring full performance.

#### PROBLEM 2: EXCESSIVE WATER IN THE FUEL AND PHASE SEPARATION

Ethanol attracts moisture from the atmosphere, forming an ethanol/water solution mixed in the gasoline. E-10 fuel will naturally hold .5% water in suspension, but when water levels exceed this threshold, or when the fuel cools significantly, the water/ethanol mix drops out of suspension. This is phase separation. Excessive water in the fuel tank causes engines to run rough, stall, and can lead to internal damage to engine components. Ethanol provides a significant amount of the fuel's octane, so when the ethanol/water solution separates and drops to the bottom of the tank, the remaining fuel is left without enough octane to properly operate the engine. Additionally, the ethanol/water solution can become partially combustible, which can lead to engine damage.

**STAR TRON® SOLUTION:** Star Tron®'s enzyme formula reduces interfacial surface tension between fuel and water. The molecular cluster size is greatly reduced, allowing more water to be dispersed throughout the fuel. These sub-micron sized droplets are safely eliminated as the engine operates. Star Tron® treated fuel helps prevent phase separation by allowing more water to be burned off than with untreated fuel, drying out the tank and preventing water buildup.

#### PROBLEM 3: ETHANOL FUELS BREAK DOWN QUICKLY

Over a short period of time ethanol fuel begins to break down. As ethanol and other components evaporate, the fuel loses octane and becomes "stale." This causes hard starts, pinging and engine knock, which robs your engine of power and can cause damage.

**STAR TRON® SOLUTION:** Star Tron® is a powerful fuel stabilizer which helps prevent fuel breakdown for up to two years. This results in easier starts and prevents pinging and knocking. Star Tron® improves octane levels of sub-standard, non-spec or old fuel and in many cases can rejuvenate stale fuel, restoring it to serviceable condition.

#### PROBLEM 4: ETHANOL CAUSES LOST POWER, PERFORMANCE AND DECREASED FUEL ECONOMY

Ethanol fuel does not produce as much energy as traditional fuel. This results in inefficient combustion, decreased performance, reduced throttle response and poor fuel economy.

**STAR TRON® SOLUTION:** Star Tron®'s enzyme formula helps to break apart large clusters of fuel molecules, creating more surface area. This allows additional oxygen to react during combustion, which results in a more complete burn of the fuel, improved fuel economy, engine power, throttle response and reduced toxic emissions. Star Tron® removes carbon deposits, keeping your engine clean and operating at peak performance.

Star Tron® is a unique, multifunctional fuel additive that addresses all ethanol issues. Star Tron® has been solving fuel problems for boaters across the US since 2003. It will improve the performance of: boats, cars, trucks, motorcycles, snowmobiles, ATVs, PWCs, generators, lawn & garden equipment and all other gas-powered engines. Star Tron® is safe for use in all 2 and 4-cycle engines under all conditions, even in ethanol fuels. Star Tron® is an ideal all-season, all-purpose additive, and does all this at one of the lowest costs of any fuel additive.

Be careful of what additive you use – many contain alcohol. Adding more alcohol to ethanol fuels can lead to engine problems. Read the MSDS of any fuel additive before using it with ethanol fuel. Star Tron® does not contain any alcohol and is 100% safe for use in all ethanol blends. Star Tron® is easy to use, effective and cannot be overdosed.



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# Western Outdoor Times

## Arizona Boating & Watersports™



February - March 2011

Vol. 7, No. 1

## Expos, Regattas Kindle Outdoor Enthusiasm

### International Sportsmen's Exposition Highlights Arizona's Feb. Calendar



The 11th annual International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE) — the Southwest's largest outdoor adventure travel, fishing, hunting and learn-from-the-experts show — sets up camp in Arizona Feb. 24-27 at the University of Phoenix Stadium, in Glendale.

More than 20,000 fishing, hunting, offroading and adventure-travel enthusiasts are expected to attend. Nearly 300 exhibiting companies will include local outdoor retailers and product manufacturers, guides

See **EXPO** on page 18



### Get Ready For AZGFD Outdoor Expo In March

Once you've whet your appetite for the outdoors at the ISE show, make sure you plan to attend the Arizona Game and Fish Department's FREE Outdoor Expo on March 26-27 at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix.

Arizona's largest, hands-on outdoor expo offers dozens of ways to learn about wildlife and outdoor recreation activities such as fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, shooting sports, camping, boating and off-highway vehicle recreation. It's great for people of all ages!

#### Visitors to the Expo can —

- View live wildlife demonstrations — venomous reptiles, birds of prey, and more.
- Have your kids catch fish at the

See **OUTDOOR** on page 20

### AYC REGATTA WRAPUP

#### It's Definitely On My Calendar For 2012

**Peter Howson**  
Yachting Photographer  
Peter@saillog.net

Three years ago I was participating in the Leukemia Lymphoma Society Fantasy Sail in San Diego and I met some sailors from Arizona. Having done a large part of my sailing on a river, I was struck by the idea of sailing in the desert.

This year, upon realizing that

See **REGATTA** on page 19



Peter Howson

**PHOTOGRAPHER IMPRESSED** — San Diego yachting photographer Peter Howson (<http://saillog.zenfolio.com/2011azycb-dayregatta>) was struck by the idea of sailing in the desert. So, he made the six-hour drive to Phoenix's Lake Pleasant to shoot photos of the 2011 Arizona Yacht Club's Birthday and Leukemia Cup Regatta last month.

### 8th Annual Arizona Dragon Boat Festival, March 26 and 27



**DRAGONS ON TEMPE TOWN LAKE** — Come see the dragons on March 26 and 27 as the Arizona Dragon Boat Association (AZDBA) races along Tempe Town Lake. This year, the fierce paddlers will participate in the eighth annual event, which benefits Special Olympics Arizona.

*The Festival will benefit Special Olympics Arizona.*

The Arizona Dragon Boat Association (AZDBA) is announcing its eighth annual Arizona Dragon Boat Festival will take place on March 26 and 27 at the Tempe Town Lake-North Shore, from 8 a.m. until approximately 5 p.m. each day. Participants and spectators are treated to two days of colorful



See **DRAGON** on page 20



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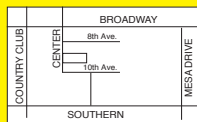
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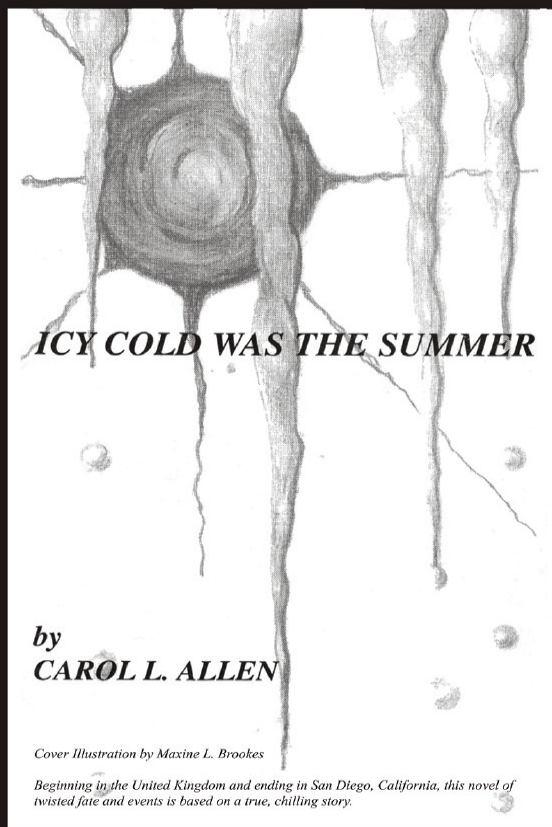
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Cover Illustration by Maxine L. Brookes

Beginning in the United Kingdom and ending in San Diego, California, this novel of twisted fate and events is based on a true, chilling story.

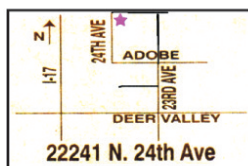


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# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## Update your boating safety knowledge

### Weather Emergencies

Weather can change very rapidly and create unexpected situations for boat operators. Weather-related accidents in Arizona are on the rise, and even meteorologists have trouble predicting rapid weather changes. You should always monitor weather developments. One way is to tune to a VHF radio to the frequencies listed below. Then seek a protected area before the weather becomes a threat.

### What To Do If Caught in Severe Weather

- ◆ **Prepare the boat to handle severe weather**
  - Slow down, but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering.
  - Close all hatches, windows, and doors to reduce the chance of swamping.
  - Stow any unnecessary gear.
  - Turn on your boat's navigation lights. If there is fog, sound your fog horn.
  - Keep bilges free of water. Be prepared to remove water by bailing.
  - If there is lightning, disconnect all electrical equipment. Stay as clear of metal objects as possible.
- ◆ **Prepare your passengers for severe weather**
  - Have everyone put on USCG-approved life jacket (PFD). If passengers are already wearing their PFDs, make sure they are secured properly.
  - Have your passengers sit on the vessel floor close to the centerline for their safety and to make the boat more stable.
- ◆ **Decide whether to go to shore or ride out the storm.**
  - If possible, head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach. If already caught in a storm, it may be best to ride it out in open water rather than try to approach the shore in heavy wind and waves.
  - Head the bow into the waves at a 45-degree angle. PWCs should head directly into the waves.
  - If the engine stops, drop a "sea anchor" on a line off the bow to keep the bow headed into the wind and reduce drifting while you ride out the storm. In an emergency, a bucket will work as a sea anchor.
  - If the sea anchor is not sufficient, anchor using your conventional anchor to prevent your boat from drifting into dangerous area.

### VHF Frequencies Broadcasting NOAA Weather Reports

**162.400 MHz      162.500 MHz**  
**162.425 MHz      162.525 MHz**  
**162.450 MHz      162.550 MHz**  
**162.475 MHz**

These are the most commonly used VHF channels on United States waters.

**Channel 6** Intership safety communications.

**Channel 9** Communications between vessels (commercial and recreational), and ship to coast (calling channel in designated USCG Districts).

**Channel 13** Navigational use by commercial, military, and recreational vessels at bridges, locks, and harbors.

**Channel 16** Distress and safety calls to U.S. Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels; often called the "hailing" channel.) When hailing, contact the other vessel, quickly agree to another channel, and then switch to that channel to continue conversation.

**Channel 22** Communications between the U.S. Coast Guard and the maritime public, both recreational and commercial. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation, and other safety warnings are broadcast on this channel.

**Channel 24-28** Public telephone calls (to marine operator).

**Channel 68, 69, and 71** Recreational vessel radio channels and ship to coast.

**Channel 70** Digital selective calling "alert channel."

## Statewide Boating Education Classes

### February 2011

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	Feb. 13 & 17 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. (Must attend both)	Arizona Game & Fish Department 5000 Carefree Highway Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7235
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	Feb. 19 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shops 1133 N. Dobson Road (at Loop 202) Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076

### March 2011

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	Mar. 5 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Roosevelt Lake Patrol Sheriff's Substation 28499 N. Hwy 188 (at mile post 243) Roosevelt	\$5 per family	(928) 467-2515
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	Mar. 19 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shops 1133 N. Dobson Road (at Loop 202) Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076
Arizona Game and Fish Department	Mar. 26 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max NE corner of McClintock and Broadway Tempe	\$8 per family	(623) 236-7235

### Life Jackets

When preparing to go out on a boat, the operator should check that the safety equipment is on board.

- ◆ All boats, except sailboards and certain racing shells or rowing skulls, must have at least one wearable Type I, II, III, or V life jacket (PFD) that is U.S. Coast Guard-approved and of the proper size for each person on board. Sizing for life jackets (PFDs) is based on body weight and chest size.
- ◆ All life jackets (PFDs) must be in good and serviceable condition and must be readily accessible.
- ◆ In addition to the above requirements, vessels 16 feet in length or longer, except a canoe or kayak, must have one Type IV U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket (PFD) on board and readily accessible.
- ◆ All children 12 years of age and younger **must wear** a U.S. Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, or III life jacket (PFD) while underway on any vessel. The life jacket (PFD) must be fastened according to the manufacturer's recommended use and must fit the child properly.
- ◆ Each person on a PWC **must wear** a U.S. Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, or III life jacket; and all closures must be fastened according to the manufacturer's design or recommended use and must be adjusted for a snug fit.
- ◆ Each person being towed behind a boat on water skis or a similar device must wear a USCG-approved life jacket (PFD) or buoyant belt. Note, however, that buoyant belts are not approved by the U.S. Coast Guard.

### Arizona Game & Fish Department OUTDOOR EXPO 2011



**Ben Avery Shooting Facility**  
Carefree Highway, 1/2 mile west of I-17,  
Phoenix

**Saturday • March 26**

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Sunday • March 27**

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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[www.azgfd.gov/expo](http://www.azgfd.gov/expo)

### EXPERIENCE THE GREAT OUTDOORS

This event attracts outdoor recreationists of all ages for hands-on activities and workshops on:

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Shooting sports
- Archery
- Off-highway vehicle recreation
- Watercraft recreation
- Wildlife conservation
- Other outdoor activities

#### TYPE I: Offshore Life Jackets

These vests are geared for rough or remote waters where rescue may take awhile. They provide the most buoyancy, are excellent for flotation, and will turn most unconscious persons face up in the water.

#### TYPE II: Near-Shore Vests

These vests are good for calm waters when quick rescue is likely. A Type II may not turn some unconscious wearers face up in the water.

#### TYPE III: Flotation Aids

These vests or full-sleeved jackets are good for calm waters when quick rescue is likely. They are not for rough waters since they will not turn most unconscious persons face up.

#### TYPE IV: Throwable Devices

These cushions and ring buoys are designed to be thrown to someone in trouble. Since a Type IV is not designed to be worn, it is neither for rough waters nor for persons who are unable to hold onto it.

#### TYPE V: Special-Use Devices

These vests, deck suits, hybrid PFDs, and others are designed for specific activities such as windsurfing, kayaking, or water-skiing. To be acceptable, Type V PFDs must be used in accordance with their label.

**Inflatable Life Jackets** must have a full cylinder, green status indicators, and an accessible and intact lanyard or lever. Non-hybrid inflatable lifejackets (no foam) are only for persons at least 16 years old.

This information brought to you by:  
 Arizona Game & Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086  
 623-236-7235 [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)





# Arizona

Boating & Watersports



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Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times sincerely thanks Bryan and Eric Church of Bartlett Lake Marina, Ed Hale of Hale's Marine, and Scott Samuelson of Swim Platforms, Inc. for their recent invaluable contributions to the Rock The Boat project.

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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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## BOATING BASICS: BEFORE GOING OUT

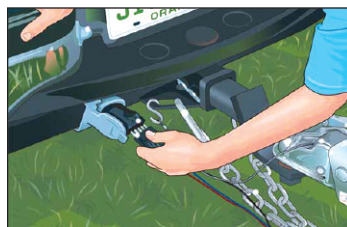
# Trailer Your Vessel Safely

From AZGFD's Boater's Guide

### 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.

See **BASICS** on page 20

## Keep an Eye On Your Boat Trailer And It Will Treat You Well

With the boating season just ahead, the miles from last season may have added up for the thousands of boaters and anglers trailering their boats and fishing rigs to their favorite waterway.

The BoatUS Trailering Club, which offers "Trailer Assist" roadside assistance for both disabled boat trailers and their tow vehicles, says if you want your trailer travels to remain trouble-free, now is the time to keep a close eye on your trailer for wear and damage.

**#1 Flat tires:** Tires should be inspected before, during and after each trip, and inflated to proper PSI (usu-

See **TRAILER** on page 20



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## Tips For Keeping Your Trailer In Tip-Top Shape

A perfect boat is no good if it's on a bad trailer. These four tips for off-season care, courtesy of Boat U.S., will help make your trailer last and get your boat back in the water as soon as the new boating season begins.

**TREES** — Trees are trouble, so avoid them. Snow, ice, and limbs can cause damage, and leaves and pine needles can cause staining and clog up drain holes.

**TILT** — Tilt the bow up and let gravity work for you. Place a small block under the trailer jack and tie the drain plug to your ignition key. Also, make sure the boat's cover is tight and keeping out the water.

**TLC** — Take care of the trailer. Stay on top of little things to prevent major problems later. Spray a good lubricant on metal trailer roller assemblies, winch gears, and electrical connections to prevent rust. Sand, prime, and paint any rust spots now on the (galvanized) metal trailer frame.

**TIRES** — Take them off—trailers don't need tires in the off-season. Remove the tires to deter theft, and store them in the garage or shed to avoid sun damage. With the tires off, check and repack the bearings as needed. Block the frame and tie sturdy plastic bags over the hubs and brakes to keep them dry.

If you will not be removing the tires, be sure to face the trailer away from the street and use a heavy-duty lock. Why tempt thieves with easy access to an expensive boat? Cover the tires with bags and make sure they are resting on a piece of plywood or plank to prevent dry rot. To avoid flat spots on the tires, move the trailer periodically a few inches throughout the winter.

Following these tips will help you be one of the first boaters underway when the weather warms up, and you'll be starting an extended boating season while other boaters are still stuck in their driveways waiting for expensive trailer repairs.

# Keeping Necessary Equipment Aboard Prepares Boaters For Emergencies

Investing in boating-safety gear can get costly, but the price is small in comparison to injuries, lost lives or property damage. When outfitting a vessel, it's important to first obtain essential marine safety equipment and then bring along other non-crucial, but nice to have items.

Critical gear includes all the items owners are required to carry by the US Coast Guard (USCG) by craft

size. Not all boats are required to carry certain items, but here is a list of items that craft of all sizes are required to carry.

## Life Jackets

One Type III USCG-approved jacket for each person on board must be within reach while underway at

See **EQUIPMENT** on page XX



**DESERT BELLE** — AZBW/WOT Editor Carol Allen is shown with Capt. Jay Williams, Pat Wilson, and Mike Goulet; the latter two are crew of Saguaro Lake's beautiful *O*. Passengers relaxed on board during the 90-minute, narrated cruise — watching wildlife, towering canyon walls, and dramatic desert vistas. Belle cruises throughout the comfortable-weather season daily; the lower level is climate controlled, has a snack bar that serves beverages. All prices are reasonable, and group rates are available. Belle is handicap accessible with bathrooms on board. This is the perfect place for a wedding, anniversary, birthday parties, company picnics, office parties or any unforgettable group gathering. All this, just minutes away from almost anywhere in the Valley of the Sun! And, a special presentation on Wyatt Earp by his great grand nephew will delight passengers on March 26 and April 16, from 6-8 p.m. For more information, call (480) 984-2425 or (877) 749-2848 or visit [www.desertbelle.com](http://www.desertbelle.com).

## American Canoe Association, USCG Auxiliary Promote Paddlesports Safety

The American Canoe Association (ACA) and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary announced signing of a Memorandum of Agreement to promote safety among those who use kayaks, canoes and other paddlecraft. The new agreement establishes cooperative efforts broadening outreach and education to the paddle sports community.

Paddlesports boating is one of the fastest growing recreation activities in the United States. In 2008 the Outdoor Industry Association reported that approximately 17.8 million people participated in paddlesports getting out on the water nearly 50,000 times daily. The explosive growth has triggered a disturbing increase in paddlesports injuries

See **SAFETY** on page XX

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## AQUA LODGES AT BARTLETT LAKE

### Schedule Your Getaway On The Water

One of the most relaxing getaways from the Valley of the Sun is Bartlett Lake. And, once there, a perfect retreat from the metro area are the floating Aqua Lodges.

Although you will feel as if you've left "civilization" behind for awhile, you will still have all the amenities to make your stay comfortable and convenient.

Each of the two 40-foot lodges at Bartlett feature the following:

- Private bedroom with queen bed,
- Two sleeper sofas,

- A loft sleeping area,
- Bathroom with shower,
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- Dinette area with table and chairs,
- Bar area with stools,
- Electric range,
- Microwave,
- Other appliances such as toaster, blender, coffee maker,
- Refrigerator,

See **GETAWAY** on page 20

## BARTLETT LAKE MONSTER?

### 'Bartleby' Is Lurking. Or Not.

BARTLETT LAKE, Ariz. — A crappie fisherman spotted something while on the lake early last Thursday morning, something that made him wonder what was in his morning orange juice. Being a teetotaler, he just rubbed his eyes and stared in disbelief.

Back in the far reaches of the lake toward Horseshoe he saw what he first thought was one of the rumored giant catfish that are said to reside in the lake. He had heard that they were usually by the dam.

See **BARTLEBY** on page 20



David Lombard

#### A NOTE FROM MIKE FERRING

— Know someone who'd like to learn to sail? The Arizona Sailing Foundation "Start Sailing Right" course is back and ready to sail! More information and registration here: [http://arizonayachtclub.org/?page\\_id=806](http://arizonayachtclub.org/?page_id=806). The course was canceled last fall because of, well, a shortage of water in Tempe Town Lake. But the lake is back and so is this popular four-Saturday intro to sailing course, taught by USSailing instructors. After an introduction classroom session, you'll actually sail on the very first day of this course. See you (or your friends) there!

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## Tonto 'Community Alliance' Volunteer Program Aimed At Businesses, Groups

Mesa Ranger District officials announced the "Tonto National Forest Community Alliance Program," a new volunteer outreach program that will establish partnerships with several types of community groups to help maintain the forest.

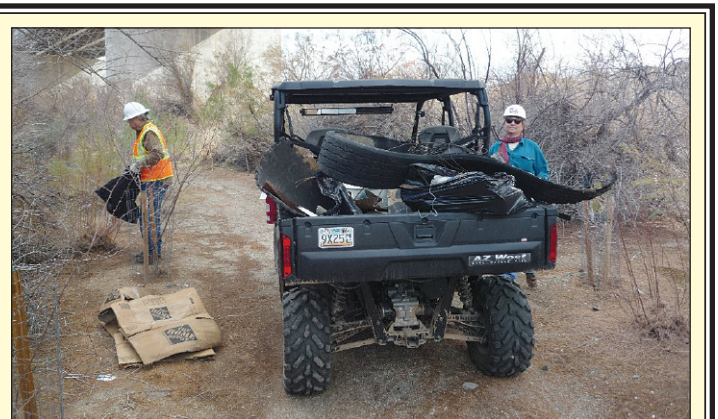
The program will join with businesses, hiking clubs, service clubs, shooting clubs, off-highway vehicle clubs and others to adopt areas for upkeep, conduct group cleanups and maintenance projects. Work events will typically last three to four hours.

Organizations can choose from a list of district projects or may propose a project of their own.

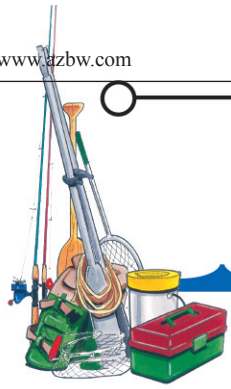
"The forest is a resource that belongs to all of us, and we are seeking groups that will join with us in helping care for it," said Art Wirtz, ranger for the Mesa Ranger District. Wirtz said budget resources are limited and the program is one way community organizations can be a part of helping maintain the forest.

"If just a few groups would volunteer to do cleanups or work activities each year, it would be a major benefit to the forest," he said. "With a group we can get a lot done in a short time, and it's something everyone can do, even with a busy schedule."

Interested groups can find more information on the program on the MRD volunteer Web site at [www.mrdvolunteers.org](http://www.mrdvolunteers.org) or can call Mesa Ranger District at (480) 610-3300.



**CLEANUP** — Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) employee Curt Russell (left) and BLM Lake Havasu Field Office Environmental Protection Specialist Cathy White (right) load the back of a Rhino vehicle with trash. BLM managers and staff joined PG&E employees to clean up trash in the general vicinity of the Topock CERCLA project area in early January. The equivalent of eight pickup truck loads of trash were removed from under the I-40 bridge where it crosses the Colorado River on the California side, from the entrance to the Topock Compressor Station, and along U.S. 66. BLM and PG&E plan to work in partnership in the future and do additional cleanups.



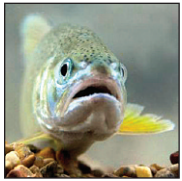
# LIGHT LINES

FISHING IN ARIZONA AND BEYOND



## Historic, First-Ever Gila Trout Season Proposed

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission was asked in early February to create the first-ever season on native Gila trout at Frye Mesa Reservoir on the Pinaleno Mountains in southern Arizona.



"Arizona has never had an open season on Gila trout. They were thought to have been extirpated from the state before we had regulated fishing seasons," said Fisheries Chief Kirk Young.

The Gila trout proposal is possible because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mora National Fish Hatchery in New Mexico has surplus Gila trout available. The department is asking the commission to establish an open season for Gila trout with a one-fish bag and possession limit for

See **GILA** on page 22

## Incentive Trout Stockings Generate Excitement

From AZGFD

"Look at that one! Whoa, can you believe how big that one is? That one has my name on it!"

These were just a few of the many excited comments heard by urban fishing biologists as the extra-large incentive trout were delivered to all 21 of the Urban Fishing Program lakes in mid-January.

The special loads of bigger fish and more fish captured the attention of anglers and other park visitors and sent them scrambling for their cameras, cell phones and fishing poles. Reports have been coming into Game and Fish offices of some remarkable trout caught.

Leon Jones caught a 6-pound rainbow trout from Alvord Lake in Phoenix and has applied for Big Fish-of-the-Year honors already. Jones' 23.5-inch whopper was caught on Power Bait four days after the stockings.

Joe Anksel caught a 4.4 pounder



at Red Mountain Lake in Mesa, also on Power Bait. Talk around Red Mountain is that someone caught a 7 pounder.

Future trout stockings through the winter season will include some 2-5 pounders, but will mostly have 11-12 inchers — still a nice fish anywhere in Arizona.

## 2010 Urban Fishing Big Fish Record Winners

Topping the list of 2010 Urban Program Big Fish-of-the-Year winners was an 8.7-pound channel catfish caught by Garrett Laubinger from Kiwanis Lake in Tempe. Laubinger also garnered top honors for a 12-inch crappie and 9.5-inch yellow

See **TROUT** on page 23




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# New 'Weigh-To-Win' Program Offers Peace Of Mind, Cash Tournament Bonuses

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complement your sense of ease.

The Weigh-to-Win program will pay the highest-placing, registered angler in most B.A.S.S., FLW and PAA events, as well as the BoatUS Collegiate Bass Fishing Championship.

For as little as \$38, the cost of a BoatUS Angler membership and Unlimited On-the-Road Towing service, an angler who performs well in a single B.A.S.S. Weekend Series tournament could win a \$150 cash bonus.

Anybody who has ever towed a boat has thought about "what if." What if I have a flat trailer tire in the darkness at 5 a.m. on a busy interstate 80 miles from home? What if somebody fails to stop behind me and crashes into my boat and motor, rendering it un-towable? And, what if once I'm launched, I have a battery failure or spin a prop hub five miles from the ramp?



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BoatUS Angler is the nation's largest association of recreational boaters, and they offer boat-owning anglers roadside and on-the-water towing assistance as well as boat insurance. Benefits begin at only \$38 for a BoatUS Angler membership and Unlimited On-the-Road Towing, which provides services such as fuel delivery, jump-starts, flat tire assistance, lockout service, ramp winching and tow truck service for both your trailer and tow vehicle while trailering your boat.

Getting signed-up for Weigh-to-Win is simple. Go to BoatUSFishing.com or call them at (877) 584-2628 to purchase an affordable Unlimited On-the-Road or On-the-Water BoatUS Angler towing membership. Then plug your membership number into the Weigh-to-Win registration form, and you're ready to fish, win and have peace of mind.

For more details about tournament paybacks and getting signed-up for Weigh-to-Win, please visit [www.BoatUSFishing.com](http://www.BoatUSFishing.com) or call Kendell at (918) 742-6424.

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**ICAST 2011** — will be held July 13-15, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. For more information about ICAST Buyers' Guide, contact Lee Harmon, Ascend Integrated Media, at (913) 344-1469, or [lharmon@ascendintegrated-media.com](mailto:lharmon@ascendintegrated-media.com).

# Arizona Angling Affected By Mother Nature

*When warmer temperatures return, bass and crappie will get active.*

By Rory Aikens  
AZGFD

The recent cold and wind has resulted in decreased water temperatures in the lakes — this will most likely slow down both the crappie and largemouth bass bite — significantly. But it might create better conditions for increased trout activity, at least in the waters that are stocked during winter (certainly not the high country).

If I could wave a magic wand and get there, my top choices to fish now would be the Topock Gorge for smallmouth and trout (it's stunning), Casino Row for holdover trout, or Willow Beach for trout and kayaking.

Even though Tempe Town Lake

had a high pH last week, this windy cold weather could result in the good trout bite returning. It's worth a try. Spinners and spoons might be better than prepared trout baits, but experiment and see what is working.

There might also be some of those huge incentive trout left in the urban program lakes.

Prior to the weather front, some anglers had encountered shad boils

See NATURE on page 21



**COME TO LEE'S FERRY —**  
Winter lodging rates are now available through March 10: any room \$50 plus tax per night for one or two people and at the Guest House at \$150 plus tax per night. Rates are subject to change. For reservations, additional information or to purchase tackle directly from the shop, e-mail Lees Ferry Anglers at [info@leesferry.com](mailto:info@leesferry.com). "Lees Ferry Fishing Report" by Ted Welling is available at <http://www.leesferry.com/report>. AZBW/WOT is planning to run some Lee's Ferry Fishing reports in future issues of "Tight Lines."



## Dates Are Set For Spring 2011 Yellowtail Derby

From John Campbell

After the success of the 2010 tournament, the Derby committee met and has announced the dates for the 2011 contest. The Third Annual International Yellowtail will run in the spring from April 30 to May 22.

This will be targeting the good traditional spring yellowtail fishing. The committee announced discussions have begun to Charter Sportboats once each week specifically for the Yellowtail Derby.

The Yellowtail Derby will have a booth at the 2nd Annual San Diego Sunroad Boat Show, January 27 to 30, 2011 on Harbor Island.

Fishing in the 2010 International Yellowtail Derby was on private and open party vessels. It was held for 22 days, Sept. 4 to 25.

The Derby is sponsored and supported by the Port of San Diego, Sun-

road Resort Marina, Sunroad San Diego Boat Show, the Maritime Institute, Seatow Services, West Marine, Ballest Point Brewery, San Diego Marine Exchange, CFB Marine Group, AFTCO, SportClips, The Bali Hai, Everingham Brothers Bait Co., De-Fishing Soap, UniGoop, Arizona Boating and Watersports, BlueSky News.com, Fisherman's Landing Tackle, Boyce Image Pacific Coast Sportfishing Mag, *The Log Newspaper*, Angler's Choice Tackle, Fish Shirts, *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* and Angler's Arsenal.

The Derby Headquarters is located at the Outboard Boating Club at the Trailer Boat Ramp on Shelter Island Drive in San Diego. The Derby mailing address is 3960 W. Point Loma Blvd. Ste H347, San Diego 92110 [www.InternationalYellowtailDerby.com](http://www.InternationalYellowtailDerby.com)



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# Game Bag Write On Target

## Have A Javelina In Sight? It's An Excellent Time To Go For It!

From AZGFD

### Arizona Deer Hunters: 10 Reasons To Get Some More Field Time

Would you like to get in one more hunt before the long wait until fall deer season? Of course, you would, and February is the time to get after javelina. However, if you haven't been javelina hunting in a while, you might need a reminder of what a great hunt it is.

Here are 10 reasons to trigger your memory; it's a guaranteed way to get you out the door, and back into the field:

- 1.) The weather is incredible this time of year.
- 2.) Pig country is amazing.



3.) Glassing for pigs is fun and challenging.

4.) Javelina hunts are perfect for bringing a youngster along.

5.) Spot and stalk hunting is heart-pounding excitement.

6.) Harvesting an animal fuels our hunter/gatherer instincts.

7.) Javelina are small and easy to pack out.

8.) Javelina meat is perfect for a variety of sausages.

See **JAVELINA** on page 23



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## Opportunity Offered To Enjoy The Outdoors

### Javelina Hunt and Outdoor Fair to be held near Prescott.

KINGMAN, Ariz. — The time has come to get up and get out.

In a time when electronic devices have become the primary sources of entertainment, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, in conjunction with the Arizona Bowhunters Association and the Outdoor Experience 4 All, are offering a unique opportunity: an old fashioned camp out.

The Javelina Hunt and Outdoor Fair will be held Feb. 18-20 in the Prescott area. The dates mark the opening weekend of the general javelina hunting season and the camp is open to the general public with an emphasis on those new to hunting and the outdoors.

Leftover javelina tags will be available on site while supplies last. Experts will also be on hand to help individuals get started on their hunt.

"If you have ever thought about hunting, but aren't sure how to get started, this is the perfect opportunity," said Darren Tucker, wildlife manager for Game and Fish. "And there's more than hunting. This is a general outdoor event with a focus on getting folks into the wilderness."

"Getting out from behind the computer or away from the television provides an opportunity for parents to spend some great time with their children."

Activities available will include shooting archery, air guns, and .22 rifles. There will also be exhibitor areas to explore local sportsmen's groups, manufacturers of outdoor equipment, and retailers of outdoor equipment. How-to demonstrations will cover hunting strategies, game care, Dutch-oven cooking, muzzle-loading rifles, wildlife viewing, and more.

A limited number of volunteers will be available for youth hunters under 18 years old. Those interested in a mentor must pre-register for the mentor hunting program. All youth must be accompanied by a legal guardian at all times.

Participants in the hunt must purchase a hunting license and javelina tag. All are responsible for their own transportation to the hunting area and this is not a guided hunt. Participants are also responsible for their own camping equipment, hunting equipment, and food. The location is approximately 4,900 feet in elevation, so dress appropriately.

Javelina are classified as a big-game animal in Arizona. People ages

See **HUNT** on page 21

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## Refueling Bib Protects Surfaces, Environment

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The Chadd Padd can be used multiple times for a variety of applications, such as fueling up an RV, boat or lawn mower or as a drip mat. It is even disposable in accordance with applicable regulations. With a perforated, partial hole design, it accommodates most filler ports for re-

See **BIB** on page 21

## OHV Decal Dollars Support Educational Program

*Junior Trail Riders Program takes OHV education to northeast Arizona schools.*

The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests conservation education program "Kids in the Woods," in cooperation with the Apache County Rough Riders, a local Eagar, Ariz., OHV club, was recently awarded a grant to create a pilot OHV education program called "Junior Trail Riders."

"Junior Trail Riders" is a hands-on program that will teach Eagar and Springerville high school students about safe, ethical and responsible OHV use.

"The best way to ensure good OHV users in the future is to grow



AZGFD

**DOLLARS FROM DECALS** — The statewide OHV decal program provides the funding for the OHV Sticker Fund Project grant program administered by Arizona State Parks. OHV Decal funds and grant opportunities help pay for trail maintenance, signage, maps, facility development, habitat damage mitigation, education and enforcement. A recently funded conservation-education program is "Kids in the Woods" in Eagar, Ariz.

them," said Hank Rogers, of the Apache County Rough Riders. "We hope this new program will help create a connection, an appreciation and a respect for the environment in these kids that will last them a lifetime."

### OHV Decal Program Began In '09

To better manage the skyrocketing number of OHVs in use in the state and to better protect wildlife and their habitat, the OHV Decal program was created in 2009.

"Protection of natural resources is a crucial component of OHV recreation and will help to ensure access to riding areas long into the future," said Jimmy Simmons, Game and

See **DECAL** on page 21

## Prevent Water Spots With Affordable, Quality Tools

After a rain or a good washing, RV owners may be left with water spots on their rig's sides and windows. Those spots can be frustrating after they've worked hard to maintain their asset. Water spots can't be entirely eliminated but there are some simple ways to minimize them.

Water spots occur when water left sitting evaporates, leaving behind any mineral deposits or pollutants. This creates a slight outline of the spot. Hard water also tends to leave more spots behind than soft water.

Using a filtered hose reduces pollutants and mineral deposits in the water. If only hard water is available, owners will have an easier time getting rid of water spots if they use an inline water softener, too.

A high-quality soap can help prevent water spots, as they often contain an additive that softens the water. It's also important to not use too much soap and to rinse well when washing.

Drying the wet areas quickly when washing in smaller areas will keep spots at bay. Owners shouldn't rely on sun-drying.

Wet areas should be squeegee dried, while any still damp surfaces should be wiped with a microfiber cloth or PVA towel to ensure they're

completely dry.

Shurhold's 12" SHUR-Dry Flexible Water Blade easily molds to curved surfaces, drying any surface in 1/3 the time. It's made of rubber so it's safe to use on even delicate areas and it eliminates water-spotting without chamois or towels. The company's SHUR-Dry PVA Towels absorb 50% more water than natural chamois, making for faster and more effective drying. The towels prevent water spots on all surfaces and come in an extra large size of 17" x 27".

Waxing regularly will help prevent deposits from sinking into the surface. This makes them much easier to remove with regular washing.

Shurhold's SHUR-Dry Flexible Water Blade retails for \$26.98, while the SHUR-Dry PVA Towels cost \$16.98.

Shurhold is dedicated to educating owners on RV value preservation. Inventor of the One Handle Does It All system, Shurhold manufactures specialty care items and accessories to clean, polish and detail.

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It is our pleasure from time to time to present to our readers information about new products; however, the articles published in *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* are for reader interest only and do not constitute endorsement. Further, we suggest that you check first with local marine, fishing, hunting, and RV dealers/suppliers to see if they have the products mentioned in our articles. Also, please remember that the prices given are those that were in effect at press time and may have changed.



# IT'S FOR THE BIRDS

Margie Allen, Birding Editor



## These Gnatcatchers May Act As 'Nannies'

The **Black-tailed Gnatcatcher** (*Poliottila melanura*) is a small, insectivorous bird that ranges throughout the Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. It is nonmigratory and found in arid desert areas year-round.

### Taxonomy

The Black-tailed Gnatcatcher was described by American ornithologist George Newbold Lawrence in 1857. Meaning "black-tailed," its specific name is derived from the Ancient Greek *melano-* 'black' and *oura* 'tail.'

### Description

The Black-tailed Gnatcatcher reaches about 4.5 to 5 inches in



Black-Tailed Gnatcatcher

length, much of it taken up by a long black tail lined with white outer feathers. The body is blue-gray, with white underparts, and while it is similar to the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, the two birds are differentiated by the amount of black in the tail feathers.

The male has a black cap during the summer that extends to the eyes. Females and winter males, lacking

the black cap, are difficult to distinguish from the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. The best way to tell the two apart is the tail; that of the blue-gray is mostly white when viewed from below, and the black-tailed is predominantly black underneath. Like other gnatcatchers, it may give harsh, scolding calls while foraging for small insects and spiders in desert shrubs.

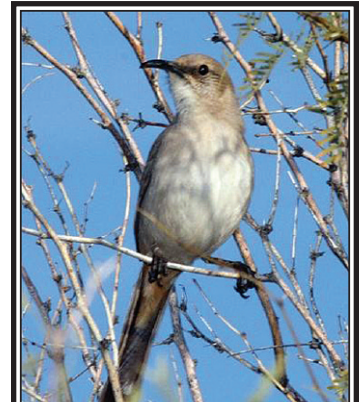
### Behavior

Black-tailed Gnatcatchers live in pairs all year, defending their territory and foraging in trees and low shrubs for a wide variety of small insects and some spiders. Unlike the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, the black-tailed variety rarely catches insects in midair.

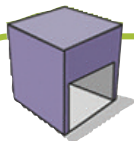
### Breeding

The nest is an open-cup, built by

See NANNIES on page 20



**DESERT DWELLER** — The Le Conte's Thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*) is a pale bird found in the Southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico. It prefers to live in deserts with very little vegetation, where it blends in with the sandy soils. The palest of all thrashers, it grows to 28 cm (11 inches). Le Conte's Thrasher is named for American entomologist John Lawrence LeConte.



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## SOUTHWEST'S CRISSAL THRASHER

# 'Mom And Dad' Share Housekeeping Duties

The Crissal Thrasher (*Toxostoma crissale*) is a large thrasher found in the Southwestern United States (western Texas, southern New Mexico, southern Arizona, southeastern California, extreme southern Nevada, and extreme southwestern Utah) to central Mexico.

### Description

The bird grows to 32 cm (12.5 inches), and has a deeply curved bill. The eyes are dull yellow. Bird expert Roger Tory Peterson described its singing as sweeter and less spasmodic than other thrashers. It can be found near desert streams in dense underbrush, mesquite thickets, willows, scrub oak, high elevations in manzanita, and in the low desert near canyon chaparral.

The bird seldom flies in the open. The Crissal Thrasher rarely flies, preferring to walk or run around its territory and will mostly run for cover when disturbed by a potential predator.

### History

In the early years of the study of the birds of western North America,



Crissal Thrasher

this species was confused with the California Thrasher (*Toxostoma redivivum*), to which it is closely related. Descriptions of *T. redivivum* in John Cassin's 1856 book *Illustrations of the Birds of California, Texas, Oregon, British, and Russian America* led later ornithologists to conclude that at least three of the birds described were actually the Crissal Thrasher.

When an army surgeon working in New Mexico sent Cassin specimens of a bird that he believed to be the California Thrasher, Cassin sent the specimens to Spencer Baird at the Smithsonian Institution. Baird determined that it was not a California Thrasher.  
See **THRAHSE** on page 22



## A Different Kind Of Swimming

Swim season is upon us and East Valley pools are filled with kids of all ages working on their strokes in anticipation of summer meets. Mention "swim team" in Mesa, Gilbert, and Chandler and you hear plenty of tales, comments and advice on swim team life.

However, a few girls in the East Valley area experience a totally different kind of swimming than the usual race down the length of a pool — it's called synchronized swimming.

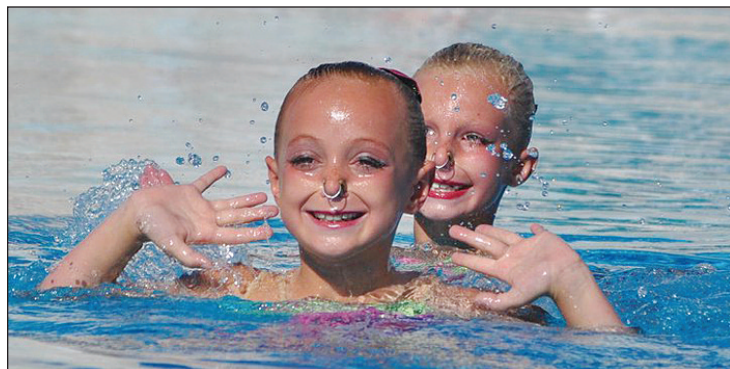
A synchronized swimmer will tell you that they consider theirs the most difficult sport in the world because it is a combination of several sports.



Athletes need the flexibility of gymnasts, the endurance of a marathon runner, and the propulsion of an Olympic swimmer, the artistic quality of a figure skater and the grace and ease of a dancer.

And you have to do it all while holding your breath, smiling and staying in synch with your teammates!

A lot of people may not even be



aware that there is a synchronized swimming club here; giving kids the opportunity to have fun in the water, build friendships, learn teamwork and develop as all-around athletes.

The Arizona Desert Dolphins

Synchronized Swim Team has over 100 members all living in the East Valley. Just recently one of the Desert Dolphin athletes represented her team and her county while competing. See **SWIMMING** on page 24

## NAU's Harris Selected Verizon Wireless WAC Diver

DENVER, Colo. — Northern Arizona's Taryn Harris was named the Verizon Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Diver of the Week early last month. San Jose State's Julia Craddock was named Swimmer of the Week.



Craddock, San Jose State Swimmer



Harris, Northern Arizona Diver

Harris, a senior from East Wenatchee, Wash., helped Northern Arizona to its first ever victory over Pac-10 opponent Oregon State in a double dual meet against the Beavers and in-state rival Arizona on Jan. 8 in Tucson, Ariz.

Harris came up big as she claimed second place in both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events with scores of 332.33 and 365.18, respectively. Both scores were season-best marks for Harris.

Her performance in the diving events helped the Lumberjacks secure the victory over Oregon State.

The selection was Harris' first of the season and fifth of her career. She was named Diver of the Week two times last season and two times as a sophomore.

Craddock, a sophomore from Litchfield Park, Ariz., had a great showing in a dual meet at Cal State Bakersfield on Jan. 7, as she claimed two individual titles and was a member of the victorious 200 medley relay team. She won the 50- and 100-yard

See **DIVER** on page 17

## GREAT FROZEN WATERSPORTS

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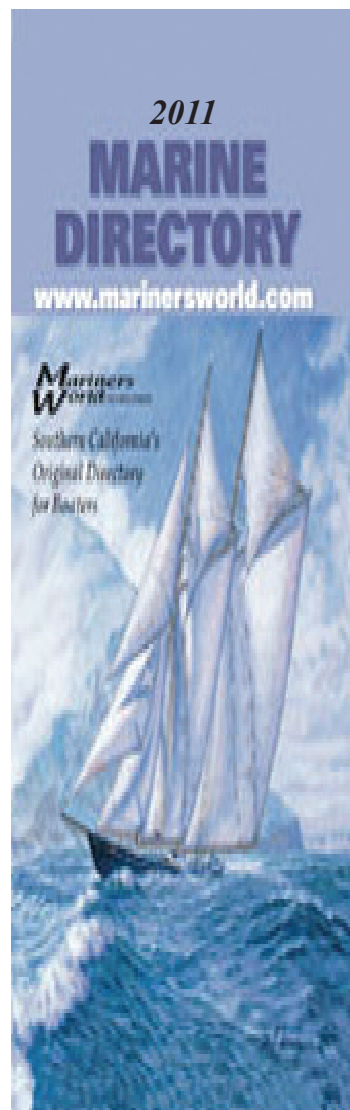
The Coyotes Curling Club is pleased to announce a fantastic deal for our friends, worked out with the Phoenix Coyotes! If you like curling — and like hockey — this deal is as

good as it gets!

The Coyotes Curling Club has worked out a deal whereas you, your family, your friends, even your Snowbird Uncle who's here for eight

more weeks, can purchase discounted tickets for the March 8 hockey game that pits our Phoenix

See **COYOTES** on page 24



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# DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid-Jan.

## BOATING

**DESERT BELLE AND WYATT EARP PLUS HAPPY HOURS ON BOARD:** March 26 and April 16, 6-8 p.m. — The great grand nephew of the legendary law man will be aboard for two spectacular shows of “A Life on the Frontier”; tickets include passage aboard *Belle*. Also, Feb. 18 through the end of May, there will be “Happy Hour” cruises aboard, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. There will be special prices for beer and wine and live entertainment on most Friday and Saturday evenings. Call Desert Belle Cruises: (480) 984-2425 or (877) 749-2848 or visit [www.desertbelle.com](http://www.desertbelle.com).

**8TH ANNUAL ARIZONA DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL:** March 26-27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. — Tempe Town Lake, 50 dragon boat racing teams from all over the world are expected to participate — 40-foot-long rowing canoes, 20 paddlers, one steersperson & a drummer in a 500-meter race, also features music, food, vendors and performances by martial arts and dance groups, fundraiser, free, [www.azdba.com](http://www.azdba.com)

**7TH ANNUAL DESERT SPRINTS REGATTA:** March 5 — Tempe Town Lake. [www.tempe.gov/boating/](http://www.tempe.gov/boating/)

**WHITEWATER RAFTING TRIPS:** March 1-June 1 — Upper Salt River, the Highway 60 Bridge between Globe and Show Low, 1, 2, 3 & 5-day world-class whitewater rafting trips in one of America’s most pristine river canyons, [www.azroa.org](http://www.azroa.org)

**HAVASU POCKET CRUISERS:** Feb. 14 through 21 — London Bridge Resort and Convention Center; [www.sailhavasus.com](http://www.sailhavasus.com)

**AZ YACHT CLUB MEETINGS:** Second Tuesday of every month 7 p.m. — 19th Tee, Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe; [www.arizonayachtclub.org](http://www.arizonayachtclub.org)

## CAMPING/RVING/ AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN APRIL 1-3:** early Feb. registration — Arizona Wildlife Federation and Arizona Game and Fish Department sponsor the Becoming an Outdoors Woman Workshop; (480) 644-0077.

## COMMUNITY

**YUMA CROSSING RIVER DAZE ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL:** Feb. 11-13 — Historic North End; celebrate the river and its role in Yuma’s story, and the amazing engineering feats that made this thirsty desert bloom, (928) 783-0071 or (800) 293-0071 or [www.visityuma.com](http://www.visityuma.com)

## FISHING

**ARIZONA FLYCASTERS CLUB MEETINGS:** Second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. — Sunnyslope Community Center; <http://www.azflycasters.org>

**SRT BASS PHOENIX CHAPTER MEETINGS:** Ongoing — Shake, Rattle & Troll BASS Club; volunteers needed; new members (boaters and non-boaters), families, children, friends are welcome; (623) 221-7655

## HUNTING

*For more information on hunting, please see “Game Bag: Write On Target” in each issue of AZBW/WOT.*

**COMMENTS NEEDED ON TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN:** Feb. 28 — The Bureau of Land Management is developing a Travel Management Plan (TMP) to designate the routes that will remain open to the use of motorized vehicles by the public. Comments may be emailed to [Lake\\_Havasus@blm.gov](mailto:Lake_Havasus@blm.gov) or by filling out the comment form on BLM’s Arizona State Web site at [www.blm.gov/az](http://www.blm.gov/az). Click on Lake Havasu. For further information you may call Myron McCoy at (928) 505-1216 or write to [Myron\\_mccoy@blm.gov](mailto:Myron_mccoy@blm.gov).

## SHOWS/EXPOS

**ARIZONA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT OUTDOOR EXPO:** March 26-27 — Phoenix: Ben Avery Shooting Facility, hands-on activities, demonstrations and exhibits on hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, archery, off-highway vehicle (OHV) and watercraft recreation, conservation and wildlife education, camping and other outdoor elements, free, Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; (602) 942-3000 or [www.azgfd.gov/expo](http://www.azgfd.gov/expo)

**INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMENS’ EXPO:** Feb. 24-27 — University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale, Ariz., 300 exhibitors, the latest in adventure trips, hunting accessories,

fishing gear and family fun, camping equipment, info about lodges, resorts, boating, seminars, contests and hands-on features, \$7-15 and youth 12 and under are free, Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; (800) 545-6100 or <http://phoenix.sportsexpos.com> or (480) 947-6219 or [jim@azbw.com](mailto:jim@azbw.com)

## WATERSPORTS

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

**Frozen:**  
**COYOTES HOCKEY AND CURLING CLUB:** Feb. 19 and March 8 — The curlers have arranged for reduced-price tickets for the March 8 Coyotes hockey game with Vancouver; to order tickets, please contact Melanie Jaroszewicz, group sales account executive: (623) 772-3309 or [Melanie.Jaroszewicz@PhoenixCoyotes.com](mailto:Melanie.Jaroszewicz@PhoenixCoyotes.com). Also, there is still room in the Feb. 19 “Learn To Curl” class as well.

**ARIZONA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:** March 26-27 — Arizona Snowbowl, Flagstaff; ski & snowboard races open to all levels, \$15 per race, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm, 928-773-9707 or [www.flagstaffskiclub.org](http://www.flagstaffskiclub.org)

**ARIZONA CUP FREESTYLE/SKATE-SKI RACE:** Feb. 27, 9 a.m. — Flagstaff Nordic Center, 15K skate (freestyle) ski race on groomed ski trails, all-day trail pass included; (928) 600-0385 or [www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com](http://www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com)

**FULL MOON SKI:** Feb. 16 — Flagstaff Nordic Center, 928-600-0385 or [www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com](http://www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com)

**EAT, DRINK, AND SKI MERRY:** Feb. 13, 1 p.m. — Flagstaff Nordic Center, a three-course meal and wines while skiing and snowshoeing along scenic, groomed trails, pre-register, \$65 single, \$115 couple, (928) 220-0550 or [www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com](http://www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com)

**FULL MOON SKI:** March 17 — Flagstaff Nordic Center, (928) 600-0385 or [www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com](http://www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com)

**Swimming:**  
**ANNUAL USAT COLLEGIATE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIATHLON & 5TH ANNUAL LAKE HAVASU TRIATHLON:** March 19, 6:45 a.m. — includes swim 1500 meters; \$75, [www.tucson-racing.com](http://www.tucson-racing.com)

**Water Skiing:**  
**26TH ANNIVERSARY PARKER IWSRA SKI RACES:** March 12-13 — Blue Water Casino, Parker; (928) 669-6511 or <http://parkerarea-tourism.com>

## WILDLIFE-RELATED

**ANNUAL FEATHERED FRIENDS FESTIVAL:** March 26, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. — Gilbert Riparian Preserve, more than 60 activities and exhibits centering on amphibians, reptiles, insects, wildlife, birds, and more, interactive exhibits, educational activities, crafts, games, hands-on learning, nature walks, free, but \$2 donation requested; (480) 503-6744 or [www.riparianinstitute.org](http://www.riparianinstitute.org)

**ANNUAL WELCOME BACK BUZZARDS:** March 19 — Superior, Boyce Thompson Arboretum, local flock of Turkey Vultures are due back to their roosts in the Eucalyptus grove, join in the celebration, bird watching tour follows buzzard viewing, \$3-7.50, 7 am – 2 pm, 520-689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

**TRES RIOS NATURE FESTIVAL:** March 5-6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. — Estrella Mountain Regional Park, Goodyear; celebrate the natural history and heritage of the valley, discover watchable wildlife opportunities, canoe trips looking for wildlife & birds, tours of historic areas, children’s area with hands-on crafts, live animals, storytelling, free; (623) 204-2130 or [www.tresriosnaturefestival.com](http://www.tresriosnaturefestival.com)

**Editor’s Note:** Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT’s calendar of events — “Downstream” — to [editor@azbw.com](mailto:editor@azbw.com). To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the 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.



# Dock Cart Directory

List your business/services in "Dock Cart Directory" — for the low price of \$10/month — call jim at (480) 947-6219 or e-mail him at jim@azbw.com

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halesmarineservice@aol.com  
www.halesmarineservices.com  
22241 North 24 Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85027

### Fiberglass Repair

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925 South Center  
Mesa, AZ  
480-833-6561

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InnSuites Hospitality Trust  
602-944-1500 ext 243  
ischloss@innsuites.com  
1615 E. Northern Ave., #102  
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### Marinas

Bartlett Lake Marina  
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602/316-3378  
http://www.bartlettlake.com/index.html  
info@bartlettlake.com

Scorpion Bay  
Lake Pleasant  
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Morris Town, AZ 85342  
928/501-2628  
http://www.scorpionbaymarina.com/  
info@scorpionbaymarina.com

### Marine Canvas

ABC Marine  
602-470-1600  
abcmarine@netzero.net

### Products

Descal-It Products  
Company/Seasports Gone  
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Tucson, AZ 85714

Nautical Reflections Boat Wax  
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### Publications

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Tempe, AZ 85283

### Public Relations

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www.ravenevents.com

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darla@outdoorsaz.com  
www.outdoorsaz.com  
Glendale, AZ

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don@shakerattleandtroll.com  
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### Sailboats

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2424 East Buckeye Road -  
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4139 East University Drive -  
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www.yumarivertours.com  
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Yuma, AZ 85364

### USCG Auxiliary

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
District 11 South  
ehuntsman@4tms.com

### Web Sites

#### Arizona Boating & Watersports

(480) 947-6219  
jim@azbw.com  
www.azbw.com  
1030 East Baseline Road, 105-901  
Tempe, AZ 85283

Tour Clare  
jim@tourclare.com  
www.tourclare.com

#### ROCKY POINT, MEXICO Ocean Activities

Santiago's Ocean Services  
602-324-9558  
esther@santigosoceanservices.com  
www.santigosoceanservices.com

### Publications

Rocky Point Times Newspaper  
(52) 6383836325  
rptimes@prodigy.net.mx  
www.rockypointcollectibles.com  
P.O. Box 887  
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mbsilvey@yahoo.com

### Publications

Mariners World Publishing Company  
The Marine Directory  
info@marinersworld.com  
www.marinersworld.com  
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## SAILING

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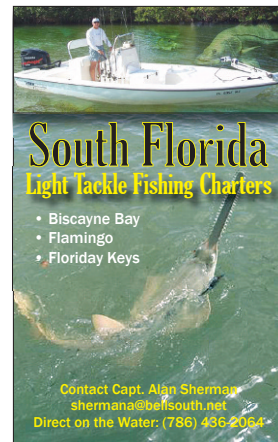
Interested in the Arizona Yacht Club? Attend the monthly membership meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the 19th Tee, at the Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe. E-mail membership@arizonayachtclub.org.

### LAKE PLEASANT SAILING CLUB —

If you own a sailboat and are looking for a fun group of people to sail with, consider The Lake Pleasant Sailing Club. Held every monthly except for July at Rolling Hill's 19th Tee (Rolling Hills Golf Course) 1405 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, Az. (where Van Buren turns into Mill Ave near Phoenix Zoo). info@lake-pleasantsailing.com

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on page 17

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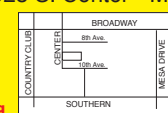


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## EQUIPMENT

Continued from page 5

all times. Children 13 and under are required to wear a life jacket.

### Visual Distress Signals

Visual distress signals, or flares, are deployed during emergencies to signal distress to nearby boaters and emergency personnel. The USCG requires one of the following: one orange distress flag and electric distress light; or three handheld or floating orange smoke signals and one electric distress light; or three day/night red flares that are handheld, meteor or parachute type. Expired flares should never be used.

### Fire Extinguishers

Perhaps nothing is more frightening aboard than a fire. All boats should carry at least one marine Type



**ALL ABOARD!** — Investing in boating-safety gear can get costly, but the price is small in comparison to injuries, lost lives or property damage. When outfitting a vessel, it's important to first obtain essential marine safety equipment and then bring along other non-crucial, but nice-to-have items. Critical gear includes all the items owners are required to carry by the US Coast Guard (USCG) by craft size.

USCG B-I fire extinguisher, but boats larger than 16' are required to have one on board if there is an inboard engine, enclosed compartments where combustible materials are stored, closed living spaces or permanently installed fuel tanks. Boats 26' or larger can carry two to three fire extinguishers. Users should recharge the extinguisher when its gauge falls into the red.

### Sound-Producing Device

Sound carries over water

very efficiently, so being able to make a sufficient sound to attract attention can aid in a speedy rescue. Bells, whistles and air horns make ideal sound producing devices and meet the USCG requirement. The boat's horn is also sufficient, however, it is always a good idea to carry another sound signal that is independent of the vessel.

### Paddle

Although not required by the USCG, it is a good just-

in-case item to keep aboard. Most owners of center-console boats wouldn't think of bringing a paddle, but it's better to be prepared than caught off-guard. The durable, red paddle (shown here) easily attaches to Shurhold's telescoping or fixed-length handles and only costs \$29.95. For more information about USCG safety requirements, visit [www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org).

Dedicated to educating boat owners, Shurhold offers a free guide of five key tips for boat-value preservation at [www.shurhold.com/tips](http://www.shurhold.com/tips). Inventor of the One Handle Does It All system, Shurhold manufactures specialty care items and accessories to clean, polish and detail.

Contact local dealers or Shurhold, 3119 SW 42nd Ave., Palm City, FL 34990. 800-962-6241; Fax: 772-286-9620. [www.shurhold.com](http://www.shurhold.com).

## SAFETY

Continued from page 5

and fatalities. Often, with little investment inexperienced individuals are on the water without adequate paddle sport safety equipment or training.

The American Canoe Association and the Coast Guard Auxiliary are committed to reversing this trend. With input from the ACA a new Auxiliary Paddlesports America Course is now available nationwide complementing traditional safety courses that have been offered by ACA for decades. This classroom based training provides paddlers basic knowledge needed to safely operate their vessels including: knowing the paddlecraft, trip planning, safe operation, legal requirements, and paddling emergencies. The American Canoe Association and the Coast Guard Auxiliary will also reach out to paddlers through the paddlecraft vessel safety check program. Experts will talk with paddlers as they examine safety gear and provide personalized paddlesports safety guidance.

"With this cooperative effort we will reach out to the growing population of paddlers providing needed training to keep them safe on

the water," said Jim Vass, Auxiliary national commander.

"The ACA is proud to continue our partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary as we continually strive to improve the boating experience for the recreational paddler," said Chris Stec, ACA chief operating officer.

Founded in 1880, the American Canoe Association (ACA) is a national non-profit organization serving the broader paddling public by providing education related to the aspects of paddling, stewardship support to help protect paddling environments; and sanctioning of programs and events to promote paddlesport competition and recreation. For more information about the American Canoe Association visit <http://www.americancanoe.org>

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard created by an Act of Congress in 1939. The Auxiliary, America's Volunteer Guardians, supports the Coast Guard in nearly all of the service's missions. For more information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary visit <http://www.cgau.org>

## DIVER

Continued from page 13

butterfly events with times of 26.73 and 57.68, respectively.

In addition, Craddock recorded the fastest time in the 400 IM (4:26.61), but was

exhibitioned due to her team's large lead. San Jose State also participated in the San Diego Relays where Craddock swam on the winning 1500-yard freestyle relay team that recorded a time of 15:18.34 in the event.



Scorpion Bay offers amenities and conveniences that are unmatched in the industry. Parking is a breeze with our motorized tram. Transport you and your gear from the parking lot to the dock walkway in just minutes using our new motorized tram.

We are extremely please to announce that Dillon's will own and operate the restaurant and bar business. The staff at Dillon's will bring their favorite food items and drink specials as well as offer live music on the covered outdoor patio. Join your family and friends for a great experience while enjoying a fantastic view of the lake.

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#### DIRECTIONS: From the Greater Phoenix Area —

Take I-17 North to Hwy 74 (Carefree Hwy). Go West 10 miles to Castle Hot Springs Rd. Turn right and go North on Castle Hot Springs Rd. Turn right on Lake Pleasant Access Rd. At the pay station for the park, continue straight to Peninsula Rd. and turn right. The marina will be on your left.



## EXPO

Continued from page 1

and outfitters, and resorts and lodges from Arizona, across the West, Mexico, Alaska, Canada and even South Africa.

### What's New:

Hollywood Gun Display includes Eastwood's "Dirty Harry" .44 Magnum; Luke Skywalker's lightsaber from the original "Star Wars" trilogy; Rooster Cogburn's (John Wayne) rifle from "True Grit"; plus guns from "Die Hard", and Nicholson and Dicaprio ("The Departed")

The Orvis Fly Fishing 101 program will offer semi-private casting and fly-tying lessons, for free, with every student receiving a \$25-off coupon

Operation Outdoors USA boat. Already signed by nearly 2,000 veterans, the brand-new, fully rigged Phoenix boat will be donated to the Texas-based Lone Survivor Foundation by Page, AZ residents Jarrett and Rebecca Edwards, a young couple who own and produce the Jarrett

Edwards Outdoor television show on The Sportsman Channel. All show-going veterans are welcome to sign the boat

Close-by Phoenix hiking highlights seminar by Arizona Highways editor-in-chief Robert Stieve, who's new book, Arizona's Hiking Guide, has just been published

Enlarged Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation rifle and gear raffle, with proceeds to help conservation efforts in Alaska

All-new trophy displays from the RMEF and Eastmans' Hunting Journals

"Refuse to Be a Victim" self-protection clinics

### Show Favorites:

Giant, activity-packed Youth Fair hosted by Arizona Game & Fish Department

DockDogs pond and dog-jumping contest (Sunday finals)

Giant archery range hosts a contest on Saturday; computer-controlled, three-dimensional targets pop up and move across the range's foggy outdoor setting

40-ft.-long, fish-filled aquarium tank, site for demos by top bass pros and guides

Urban- and wilderness-survival clinics by Doug Huffman

Adventure Theater, with hourly presentations on a wide variety of hunting, camping and travel-related topics

Huge, water-filled casting pond, with seminars and hands-on lessons (gear and guides provided)

Game-calling competition for youth and adults

Ms. Geico racing-boat display

### New Show Days/Hours:

Come to the show on Thursday, Friday or Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Show admission is \$15 for adults. Youth 15 and under and veterans with military ID are admitted free of charge. Parking is free. Tickets can be purchased online ([www.sportsexpos.com](http://www.sportsexpos.com)) or at the door. For more information, call 1-800-545-6100 or visit [www.sportsexpos.com](http://www.sportsexpos.com) or [www.facebook.com/sportsexpos](http://www.facebook.com/sportsexpos).

## About The International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE)

For more than three decades the International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE) has produced the West's largest, most diverse and exciting events for fishing, hunting and outdoor enthusiasts. Each ISE strongly promotes youth and family in the outdoors. ISE has pioneered a wide variety of guided, all-gear-provided activities for newcomers and experts of any age.

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## REGATTA

Continued from page 1

Phoenix is a mere six hour drive away, I decided that I would head out to the Arizona Yacht Club's big regatta to see what it was all about.

I arrived at the Pleasant Harbor Marina and RV Resort at Lake Pleasant which was not only where the regatta was being held, but was also where we would be staying for the duration of the event. My arrival happened to coincide with the start of the evening's festivities (funny how that worked out, almost like it was planned).

### Culture Clash Possible

I can't imagine what the RV crowd was thinking about the rowdy group of sailors carousing until all hours across the street. To say there was a serious potential for culture clash is a point that was put into specific relief when I went to use the shower and passed by the packed RV "community room" and was treated to a rousing karaoke rendition of "How Much Is That Doggy in the Window."

The wind, which had been pretty amazing when I arrived, actually increased overnight and several of the boats had to be rescued as they had been blown off onto the street. Luckily, two things went right: There were still sailors up roaming around at 3 a.m. who were able to return and secure the boats, and the wind was not blowing toward the party tent or the 27' trimaran that was left without chocks to hold it in place, which would have become the surprise guest at breakfast.

By the morning, the wind was back to manageable levels and the skippers' meeting went off under chilly, crystal clear conditions. There is something to be said for sleeping within walking distance of the racecourse, certainly better than having to get up early and drive to a regatta.

### The Cactus Factor

I was introduced to the PRO who turned out to be someone from Mission Bay Yacht Club here in San Diego. She is married to another PRO who had been my chase boat driver for an event last year. My "chase boat" for this regatta was a 20' pontoon boat, which was a first. There was absolutely no danger of us outrunning anything but we did manage to get around the course and position ourselves in good spots for shooting the various fleets (Buccaneers, Vipers, Catalina 22s, Multihulls, PHRF spin, PHRF non spin, and Portsmouth).

Initially, it was mildly disconcerting to be shooting photos of sailing with hills covered in cacti in the

background. It seemed unnatural. Just as I was getting over the cactus factor, I was treated to one of the more bizarre things I have seen in sailing. At around midday on Lake Pleasant, the wind changes direction from a northerly to a southerly breeze. This directional shift is not abnormal, most sailing venues have something similar.

On Lake Pleasant, however, this change happens so rapidly that it is not uncommon to have spinnakers coming at you from both ends of the race course at the same time. Or to put it another way, there are two windward marks. I also learned that the level of the lake (which is man made) actually drops 100 feet (about 50% of the depth) over the summer as water is released to generate electricity and the marinas actually move out into the lake with the water. The whole process is reversed in the fall and winter as they fill the lake back up again.

### McKinnon-Tucker's Story

After a long day on the water, we were treated to a presentation by Maureen McKinnon-Tucker, a paralympic gold medalist in sailing in Beijing. A long time sailor, Maureen was out walking one day when she slipped and damaged her spinal cord, which resulted in her becoming a paraplegic. After several years away from the sport, she was introduced to some other disabled sailors who were training for the Olympics and slowly but surely she got sucked back in.

She met a sailor named Nick Scandone who was battling ALS and together they secured a berth on the US paralympic sailing team to go to Beijing. While she was training, Maureen's two-year-old son was diagnosed with a rare brain cancer. The day he finished his treatment was the same day she got on the plane to go to China. Maureen and Nick put in such a dominant performance in their regatta that by the time the last race came around, they had clinched the gold medal even if they sat out the last race.

Maureen's story is the kind of thing that if pitched to a Hollywood studio, would be turned down because it was just too perfect a story arc with tragedy, adversity piled on top of difficulty, a potentially catastrophic twist that threw the entire endeavor into doubt, perseverance, and a transcendent moment of triumph.

I also got within two feet of an actual Olympic Gold Medal and, in spite of Maureen's earnest attempt to get everyone to take a turn with it, I was petrified that I would be the one to drop it and break the jade inlay.

### An Early Call

Sunday was brutal. Because the Viper class had designated the Birthday Regatta as their Midwinters, there were a number of out-of-town boaters who wanted to make planes or drives home so the first start for the day was at 9 a.m., which meant that the race committee — and the photographer who was riding with the race committee — were expected to meet at the tent at 6 a.m.

In addition to the injury of having to wake up at 5:30 a.m., insult was added when the race organizer realized that we couldn't actually leave the dock until the sun came up so we stood around for an hour and a bit waiting for the first glow of light to show over the horizon. After a bit of racing in the morning, the wind pretty much died and boats began drifting past one another and yelling things like "If you retire, I'll retire!" Eventually the race committee called it a day and we headed back to the tent.

### Wrapping Up

While the scores were being

sorted out, anyone who was interested was treated to the spectacle of one Viper trailer being lifted onto another Viper trailer with a very well engineered but homemade piggy back system so that two boats with their trailers could be towed back to Texas by one truck.

After about an hour, awards were handed out, people started driving away, a few group photos were taken, and I was in the car back to San Diego by 2 p.m. It may not have been classic yachts or insane 21st century America's Cup multihulls, but this regatta more than made up for it with some odd scenery, great parties, and really fun people.

Definitely going on the calendar for next year.

**Editor's Note:** We thank Peter Howson, yachting photographer, for this summary of the 2011 Arizona Yacht Club's Birthday and Leukemia Cup Regatta. Contact him at (619) 940-6806 or (703) 894-8094 or follow this link: <http://saillog.zenfolio.com/2011azycb-dayregatta>. Five percent of all print profits go to the Leukemia Cup Regatta.




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## DRAGON

Continued from page 1

dragon boat racing, supplemented with live entertainment, food and souvenir vendors, all enhancing the opportunity to learn and savor a flavor of Asian culture and tradition while enjoying Arizona's oasis in the desert at Tempe Town Lake.

Again, this year, the AZDBA will welcome Breast Cancer Survivor (BCS) teams from all over the United States and is proud to announce that Special Olympics Arizona will be this year's festival charity. Come see these fierce paddlers from BCS and the Special Olympics teams compete in their own divisions.

In the North American tradition of the sport, joining the Special Olympics and BCS are special division races for youth, corporate, masters (over 40 years of age), women's,



open and mixed teams. With just a few hours of training hosted by AZDBA member-volunteers, interested individuals and teams learn how to paddle, and will participate in the Eighth Annual Arizona Dragon Boat Festival.

Dragon boating is the fastest growing water sport in North America. Arizona's dragon boat festival stimulates the local economy as visiting teams and spectators support local businesses.

## About The Arizona Dragon Boat Association

The Arizona Dragon Boat Association is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the 2,400 year-old tradition of dragon boating in Arizona and showcases the cultural diversity of the sport. Over the past seven years, the Arizona Dragon Boat Festival has drawn thousands of spectators and community participants each year, and this year will have more than 50+ diverse teams, and 1,200 paddlers competing.

Each year AZDBA designates a portion of the festival proceeds to benefit such organizations as the YMCA Strong Kids Program and Special Olympics Arizona.

For more information please visit [www.azdba.com](http://www.azdba.com) or contact Festival Chair Evan Wong: [evan.wong@asu.edu](mailto:evan.wong@asu.edu) or (602) 214-5835

## GETAWAY

Continued from page 6

- Kitchen utensils and dinnerware,
- Gas barbecue grill,
- Patio furniture and
- More

Guests may select from a wide range of rental boats while enjoying a stay in one of the lodges. And, of course, Bartlett Lake is great for fishing, and hiking around the beautiful lake, viewing fascinating flora and fauna, makes a memorable weekend (or longer).

As the weather warms, there will be many who feel as we do at *AZBW/WOT* about these charming little "homes away from home." So, please call early for availability and rates: (602) 316-3378.

**Editor's Note:** *Marina and Boat Club members will receive a 10 percent discount.*

## TRAILER

Continued from page 4

ally 50 PSI). Having a spare in serviceable condition is key, along with a jack that works with your trailer (most vehicle jacks don't). Waiting to replace a tire that is worn or dry-rotted, or not properly inflated are sure-fire ways to disable a boat trailer quickly.

**#2 Bearing problems:** Bearings should be inspected, cleaned and repacked at least once a year — more if you boat in salt water or put a lot of miles on your rig. Keeping dust caps in place helps prevent premature wear. The best early indicator of bearing problems is to stop the rig periodically to feel the hubs for heat. It's normal for hubs to get warm, but they should not be hot to the touch.

**#3 Axle problems:** Axles don't last forever, especially those regularly immersed in salt water. Whether it's a torsion axle or standard leaf-spring mounted axle, pay close attention to any rust and corrosion — and that includes the fasteners (bolts) that keep it attached to the trailer.

## BASICS

Continued from page 4

### On the road —

Think farther ahead on the road than usual: anticipate changes in traffic flow in advance; make wider 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 ves-

sel 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.

## OUTDOOR

Continued from page 1

huge catch-and-release tank.

- Try out your skill at target archery.
- Get fishing tips at the casting demonstration tank.
- Hike a nature trail/field course.
- Try target shooting with different firearms on the range.
- View presentations on wildlife,

outdoor skills, and more.

- See exciting shooting demonstrations and competition by the cowboy mounted shooters and cowboy action shooters.

- Check out boating exhibits and learn about watercraft recreation and safety.

- View off-highway vehicle displays and learn about responsible riding.

- Visit with more than 100 ex-

hibitors — sportsmen's organizations, conservation groups, shooting clubs, wildlife agencies, and commercial vendors and exhibitors of outdoor products and services.

Admission and parking are free. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 26 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 27.

For more information, visit [www.azgfd.gov/expo](http://www.azgfd.gov/expo).

## BARTLEBY

Continued from page 6

This "thing" was swimming near the top of the water and occasionally the back would appear above the water. As he kept watching, the "fish" began to get higher out of the water to the point that he could somewhat judge its size.

The more he watched, the bigger the thing appeared until at last he judged it to be at least three times the length of his 22-foot boat. At this point it was getting closer and its head appeared. Definitely not a catfish he thought, but what? The head was oblong and in proportion to the giant body and there were teeth

much like canine teeth protruding.

Common sense began to overtake his curiosity and he started to back slowly away. It wasn't much longer before the thing disappeared altogether.

When he returned to the dock, fishing didn't seem like such a good idea any more. He awkwardly told friends what he had seen. He didn't have pictures and decided to let it go for then and return when he got his nerve back up to see if he could spot the monster (?) again.

If anyone else has seen something similar on Bartlett Lake please contact us. Pictures would be great.

Is this a fish tale, or?

## NANNIES

Continued from page 12

both sexes, and is typically found in low shrubs less than five feet off the ground. It is constructed of a variety of materials including weeds, grass, strips of bark, spider webs and plant fibers. It is lined with finer, softer material.

Three to five bluish-white eggs with red-brown dots are incubated by both parents and take 14 days to hatch. The young are fed by both parents, and leave the nest 10 to 15 days after hatching. Even though cowbirds often lay eggs in this species' nests, and the pair end up raising cowbird young, the Black-tailed Gnatcatcher population seems to be holding up well.

## HUNT

Continued from page 10

10 and older may participate, but those between 10-13 must first pass an Arizona Game and Fish hunter education class. For those 14 and over, the class is still strongly recommended, but not required. For more information on hunter education classes, visit [www.azgfd.gov/i\\_e/edits/hunter\\_education.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/i_e/edits/hunter_education.shtml).

"This is a great opportunity for people to reconnect with nature," Tucker said. "It's an opportunity to slow down and enjoy what this area has to offer."

For more information or to register, visit [www.huntingfair.com](http://www.huntingfair.com). Questions may be directed to [rphillips78@hotmail.com](mailto:rphillips78@hotmail.com).

Hunting licenses can be purchased at Arizona Game and Fish offices and license dealers.

## NATURE

Continued from page 9

in some of the northern coves at Lake Pleasant, and afternoon water temperatures ranging up to 57 F or so in the shallows. Don't expect such conditions right now. However, once mild weather returns —

### Crappie, Bass To Get Active Again

There was a New Moon Feb. 2. Each day is around 1 minute and 40 seconds longer. When warmer temperatures return, a few days of warm weather should result in increased activity patterns for both bass and crappie.

Canyon Lake newly stocked with rainbow trout. At press time, AZGFD is scheduled to stock Dead Horse Ranch State Park and the Verde River, plus the Lower Salt River. Don't forget Parker Canyon Lake in mid-February.

We have seen some lakes recently producing stringers of huge bass for some anglers. We are likely poised to see much more of that. In 2005, we saw lots of interior lakes fill not just with water, but also with huge amounts of nutrients. Spawns and fish grow outs were terrific. Then, in winter-spring 2010, we experienced something similar. Those two age classes of fish should create some terrific fishing dynamics at our lakes this year.

In the high country last year, most lakes filled and many spilled. Despite a lackluster January, December storms created a bright outlook. Now we just need to add some more snow pack. Keep your fingers crossed. Regardless, it's going to be a good year — but it might be a great one if

## BIB

Continued from page 11

fueling or adding oil.

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## DECAL

Continued from page 11

Fish OHV law enforcement program manager. "Programs like Junior Trail Riders are a huge step in the right direction."

The community of Round Valley will also be a test area for the new program due to the close proximity of the national forest.

"We know that the test program will go well and look forward to expanding the program to all cities and

save 10%. Dealers, garages and gas stations can use Chadd Padds as a proactive spill response solution, as well as to promote their businesses. The completely customizable mats can incorporate company names and graphics. Saving fines and clean-up costs, the versatile pads are easily placed in Chadd Padd dispensers at the pump, sold in stores or given

towns within the A-S forest area," said Rogers.

### Provides Funding

The statewide OHV Decal program provides the funding for the OHV Sticker Fund Project grant program administered by Arizona State Parks. OHV Decal funds and grant opportunities help pay for trail maintenance, signage, maps, facility development, habitat damage mitigation, education and enforcement.

If your OHV is made by the man-

away for local exposure. Wholesale rates, greater quantities, larger sizes, dispensers and other accessories are also available.

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ufacturer for use over unimproved terrain and weighs 1,800 pounds or less, you are required by law to obtain the OHV Decal. The \$25 OHV Decal can be purchased at any Motor Vehicle Department office, any MVD third-party service provider, or online at [www.servicearizona.com](http://www.servicearizona.com). The OHV Decal must be renewed annually.

For more information about OHV use in Arizona, places to ride, and educational opportunities go to [www.azgfd.gov/ohv](http://www.azgfd.gov/ohv).

everything comes into place. We'll see.

### Youth Activities At ISE

Don't forget to have the International Sportsmen's Exposition coming Feb. 24-27. Once again, AGFD will operate the Youth Outdoor Area with the kids fishing tank, archery, air guns, live wildlife and all kinds of other fun stuff. We'll have our "Arizona Fishin' Holes" booklet on sale for \$5 during the show (regular price is \$8). Also, those who buy an annual fishing and/or hunting license from us at ISE will get a free "Arizona Fishin' Holes" booklet.

Hey, "Arizona Fishin' Holes" has been updated with all the GPS coordinates and Web site addresses to make it even more glove-box and on-the-road friendly for all of you. Come check it out.

Also joining the Youth Outdoor Area this year is *Arizona Highways Magazine*. Game and Fish is actually partnering with *Arizona Highways* to create a more exhaustive Arizona Fishing Guide. We think you will like the end result — it's due out in December of 2011.

### Something New At Tempe Town Lake

In two weeks, we will also be trying something new in Tempe Town Lake — artificial underwater structure called "Reef Balls." So stay tuned.

Renovation work is also continuing on Tonto Creek in the Mogollon Rim country below our Tonto Creek Hatchery. This stream will be much more fish able this year.

As a side note, I fished Canyon Lake in early February with Justin Seay. The fish were holding deep. I

got skunked, but it was still a great day fishing — I filled my creel with lots of great memories. We watched desert bighorn sheep scramble up a cliff, I took pictures of an amazing bald eagle nest on top of a needle-like rock pillar jutting high into the sky, watched lots of kayakers (most older than me even) out enjoying this picturesque lake, and photographed some fairly cooperative great blue herons.

It's not always about catching fish, but catching great memories. So go and catch some memories too.

### Crappie Report

Good news and bad news. Good news is that last week lots of crappie were caught at Alamo, Roosevelt and San Carlos. The bad news is that bad weather will surely kill the bite. Most AZ crappie lakes take two to three days after a storm for the bite to get going again. In the case of Rosey, three to four days.

**Alamo** — Good numbers are still coming out of Alamo. And, as we progress into spring it will only get better and better. Last week I talked to John, he's a retired guy living at the lake for a few months. He told me that the flotilla on the river end of the lake is catching good numbers of big slabs spider rigging very slow.

Pre-made "Crappie Rigs" can be purchased at most local tackle stores for less than \$1 and are an easy way to set up. Use a 3/8 or 1/2 ounce weight on the bottom, put a minnow on both hooks and troll very slow.

**Roosevelt** — Last week anglers reported bags from half a dozen up into the teens. However, it seems that boating etiquette is out the window as most trollers are fighting for the

same small area at the north end of the School House buoys line. Thirty or so boats all trolling an area the size of an urban pond can make for a frustrating day.

Break away from the pack; try Hackstack, Wye Cove, Windy Hill or Salome. There are crappie in Roosevelt in places other than Schoolhouse. Look for flock of Grebes diving for shad. The crappie should be close by.

**San Carlos** — My buddy Gene (Perch Jerker) and I fished SC last Friday along with some other AZCA members in a flotilla of about 30 boats. We boated 26 good crappie and missed/lost another 20 or so. Results from the fleet were mixed; most guys did better in the early morning spider rigging.

### A Couple Of Reminders

As the day warmed, it seems the fish wanted a faster double grub set up. All colors of grubs worked, but I would use something with red in it as the water is very stained. Remember to get your San Carlos permit and there is a 25-crappie-per-angler limit there. Also, the lake is low and there are no marker buoys so be careful. While underway, stay in the middle of the lake and keep a lookout for long points.

Please don't crowd other anglers out there. We all want to catch fish but we have to remember to respect others. Get there earlier or try other areas. It doesn't make any sense for everyone to be jammed up in a crowd, then no one benefits. There are plenty of crappie to go around.

For more information on crappie fishing and the Arizona Crappie Association, please visit [www.azcrappie.com](http://www.azcrappie.com).



## THRASHER

Continued from page 12

nia Thrasher and published his findings in 1858, identifying the Crissal Thrasher as a new species.

Printer's errors in Baird's 1858 publication led to longstanding con-

fusion and contention over the naming of the Crissal Thrasher. As printed, Baird's publication identified the new species as *Toxostoma dorsalis*, because the printer had switched the species name of the new thrasher with the species name of a new junco species, *Junco dorsalis*.

Baird arranged for the error to be corrected, recording the name as *T. crissalis* the following month. Thereafter, the *T. crissalis* name was accepted and used until 1920, when ornithologist Harry Oberholser published a note asserting that *T. dorsalis* must be used instead because it had

publication priority over *T. crissalis*, even though the original publication had been a mistake and had been quickly corrected.

As a result, the *T. dorsalis* epithet appeared in ornithological literature until 1983, when the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature formally restored Baird's intended name of *T. crissale*.

### Nest

The Crissal Thrasher builds its nests in dense shrubs about 3 to 8 feet up, typically under a large branch for protection both from other birds and the sun. The male and female cooperate in building the cup-shaped nest, which is built from twigs and lined with finer vegetation.

The eggs, which are blue in color and lack spots (this is the only species of thrasher to lay eggs without spots), are laid in clutches of two to three eggs and incubated for about two weeks, with both the male and female taking turns on the nest.

The young are fledged 11 to 13 days after they hatch. The chick is paler and duller than the adult, with a browner undertail.

### Diet

The species is an omnivore, eating both insects and spiders, and seeds and fruits. The Crissal Thrasher is mainly a ground feeder, using its long bill to probe for its prey amongst the leaf litter, particularly under shrubs.

## GILA

Continued from page 7

Frye Mesa Reservoir.

"We would like to stock those surplus Gila trout into Frye Mesa Reservoir, which is located below Mt. Graham in the Pinaleno Mountains, to provide a unique angling opportunity," Young said.

That's not the only unique angling aspect to the proposal. "If the commission approves the proposal, we would create another unique possibility for anglers — fishing for five species of trout on the same mountain — Gila trout, Apache trout, brown trout, rainbow trout and brook trout," said Don Mitchell, Tucson regional fisheries program manager.

In fact, Mitchell said, Mt. Graham would become the only mountain on Earth where anglers could fish for both Gila and Apache trout.

Gila trout were reintroduced to Frye Creek on the mountain above Frye Mesa in the fall of 2009. Frye Creek is closed to fishing while the population establishes. From Frye Mesa, you can look down upon the town of Safford.

New Mexico already has a limited season on Gila trout in specific waters.

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## JAVELINA

Continued from page 10

9.) Tags can be purchased in person, versus the old mail-and-wait method.

10.) You already have a 2011 hunting license — so get your money's worth.

Now that you are excited, here is what you need to do. Go to your local Arizona Game and Fish Department office. There are seven offices statewide, including Phoenix, Mesa, Tucson, Kingman, Flagstaff, Pinetop and Yuma where you can choose from two remaining javelina seasons:

**Through Feb. 13.** Handgun, archery and muzzleloader (HAM) season — The HAM season gives the hunter two full weekends for an up-close pursuit. This can be a challenging, but rewarding hunting experience and helps deer hunters hone their stalking skills. The ability to use a handgun makes this hunt very popular. A scope is not required and center-fire home-defense handguns are adequate.

**Feb. 18-24.** General firearm season — The general season has many of the same elements as rifle deer season. This hunt is a great way to get out and glass the hillsides, and make a well-placed shot for the harvest. If stalking within handgun or archery range is giving you fits, the general season allows the hunter to use rifles. However, with the greater distance comes the need for greater accuracy, so be sure to sight in Old

Betsy before taking to the field to make sure you know your distances and are on target.

Visit [www.azgfd.gov/draw](http://www.azgfd.gov/draw) for a listing of the available leftover spring javelina tags and open areas. Pick your hunt number (not the unit number) you are interested in, and head to the nearest Game and Fish office with \$28.75 (\$105.00 for non-residents) and you are on your way to getting back in the field.

When you are done with your hunt, be sure to post a picture of your time in the field (like the one shown in this article posted by nicolem80) for everyone to enjoy at [www.azgfd.gov/photos](http://www.azgfd.gov/photos).

### Javelina Hunting: A Unique Southwestern Experience

Don't miss out on a springtime hunting experience unique to the Desert Southwest. The javelina is one of those critters that invokes a "what's that?" comment from most newcomers.

Javelina resemble wild pigs, particularly because of their pig-like snout, but with an extremely large, rodent-like head. This large head looks disproportionate to their small, compact body that sits atop relatively tiny legs. They have salt-and-pepper, bristle-like hair with a prominent vertical white stripe or "collar" behind the neck.

Because of their small size and coloration, they blend into the desert surroundings quite well. It takes a good eye and meticulous binocular

work to locate animals, especially when they aren't moving.

Once they are located, the hunt is on. Stalking a herd of javelina can be challenging due to their keen sense of smell and hearing. If you are fortunate to harvest an animal, javelina meat can be barbecued, pit roasted, or processed into a variety of sausages.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department regulates the number of javelina permits issued each year. Hunter-harvested animals do not affect sustainable populations of javelina. Seasons are staggered based on method of harvest, including:

For license and permit-tag requirements visit [www.azgfd.gov/draw](http://www.azgfd.gov/draw) or stop by your local Game and Fish office in Phoenix, Mesa, Tucson, Flagstaff, Kingman, Pinetop or Yuma and ask a friendly customer service representative.

For those whose interests are piqued about hunting, but not yet ready to venture into the field on their own, we have you covered. The Arizona Game and Fish Department provided grants to local sportsmen conservation organizations to host free first-time javelina hunter camps, including —

**Women Hunters' Camp, Feb. 11-13** — This camp is just for the ladies (ages 18 or older) to provide a comfortable and non-intimidating environment to learn about hunting with other women. Pre-registration is required in order to provide a quality mentored experience.

The camp is located southwest of Tucson in the Buenos Aires Wildlife Refuge. It is hosted by Coueswhitetail.com, Youth Outdoors Unlimited and Outdoor Experience 4 All. See details at [www.coueswhitetail.com/womens\\_javelina\\_hunt\\_2011.htm](http://www.coueswhitetail.com/womens_javelina_hunt_2011.htm).

**New Hunters' Camp And Outdoor Fair, Feb. 18-20** — This event is open to all new hunters, as well as those not hunting but interested in learning more about the outdoors, wildlife and camping. The camp is located just west of Prescott. It is hosted by Arizona Bowhunters Association and Outdoor Experience 4 All. See details at [www.huntingfair.com](http://www.huntingfair.com).

Hunting is an eco-friendly lifestyle by only taking a small harvest from an abundant, sustainable wildlife resource. This usable bounty is the result of more than a hundred years of successful wildlife conservation, championed and funded by sportsmen — the original wildlife conservationists.

Wildlife conservation and management of the state's game animals, which also benefits many non-game species, is made possible through the direct sale of hunting and fishing licenses, big game tags, and matching funds from the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (a federal excise tax that sportsmen pay on certain related equipment). The Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive any of the state's general funds to operate.

Happy hunting and be safe!

## TROUT

Continued from page 7

bass all from Kiwanis.

The largest rainbow trout of the year was 3.7 pounds, caught by Antonio Lopez at Water Ranch Lake in Gilbert. Other winners include —

### Kept

Largemouth bass: 6.9 lb., Joe Sanchez, Kennedy Lake, Tucson

Tilapia: 6.2 lb., Esteban Hernandez, Encanto Lake, Phoenix

White amur: 12 lb., Brandon Dugan, Riverview Lake, Mesa

### Released

Common carp: 28 in., Ronda Larson, Kennedy Lake, Tucson

Channel catfish: 26 in., Jim Howell, Red Mountain Lake, Mesa

Rainbow trout: 18 in., Tom Hodge, Surprise Lake, Surprise

Lists of 2010 and previous year's Big Fish-of-the-Year winners can be found at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).

Information on how to apply for record kept or released fish can be found in the current "Urban Fishing Program Guidebook" or in the "Arizona Fishing Regulations" booklet. All winners receive certificates, caps

and other prizes.

### Cold Temperatures Rough On Tilapia

Reports are coming in of dead tilapia from home-association ponds and along the Salt and Gila Rivers. There is nothing wrong with these waters. The death of tilapia is due to cold water temperatures only.

When cold fronts move in and water temperatures fall to the low 50s, the immune system of tilapia shuts down and they become susceptible to bacterial and fungal infections. Three to four weeks later, many of the tilapia die.

We recommend not keeping and eating any tilapia during this winter stress period. All other fish such as trout, bass, bluegill and catfish are not affected and are safe to keep and eat.

### Urban Fishing Report

Extra large trout from 2-7 pounds were loaded into all lakes in mid-January as part of the annual incentive trout stocking. In addition to lots of big fish, an extra 15 per-

cent more fish were put into the 21 Urban Fishing Program waters. Trout were last stocked Jan. 24.

A 6-pound rainbow was caught from Alvord Lake in Phoenix four days after the stocking. A 4.4 pounder came from Red Mountain with reports of bigger trout in the 7-pound range.

Power Bait fished off the bottom is the way to go for big trout. Other

good baits for trout include worms, meal worms and small lures such as KastMasters and Super Dupers. With cold lake temperatures, the bite for catfish, bass or bluegill is slow.

Trout fishing is consistently good-to-excellent at Green Valley lakes in Payson with Power Bait and worms fished on the bottom working best.





## COYOTES

Continued from page 13

Coyotes against the Vancouver Canucks!

The curling cub has "reserved" a block of 40 seats in ROWS L, M, and N, SECTION 108 (closest to

Section 109). This section is in the zone where the Coyotes will attack twice!

### Why is this game for me?

First, tickets in the Lower Level retail for \$75 bucks. Because you

know us, you can get them for ONLY \$49 bucks! How's that for a stimulus package!

Second, in order for your Coyotes Curling Club to host a table on the concourse during the game, to show off CURLING, all of the great events and leagues we have, and not to mention — market some other fundraising ideas we have — we told the Phoenix Coyotes Hockey organization, "Heck YES we can find 40 friends to go see this great game!"

Call Melanie with the Coyotes; she'll get your two, three, six — as many tickets as you need, for the

game. Sit among curlers and hockey fans alike! Every seat is a great seat, but tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

To order tickets, please contact Melanie Jaroszewicz, group sales account executive (623) 772-3309 or Melanie.Jaroszewicz@PhoenixCoyotes.com.

Thank you for your continued support!

### Skip Darryl Horsman

P.S. There is still room in our Feb.19 "Learn To Curl" class as well; hope to see you on the ice!

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## SWIMMING

Continued from page 13

peting in Peru, and bringing home two gold medals, and also a silver medal.

The Arizona Desert Dolphins offer a variety of programs, including free trial classes for ages 5 to 100! In addition to synchronized swimming classes they also offer

aquatic boot camps for boys, girls, and adults.

For more information on the Arizona Desert Dolphins classes' boot camps, or for the Camp Gottawanna-SYNCH, check out the Web site at [www.azdolphins.com](http://www.azdolphins.com), or [www.azdesertdolphins.blogspot.com](http://www.azdesertdolphins.blogspot.com). Or, feel free to call Coach Becky at (480) 313-4350.

## St. Patricks Day March 17



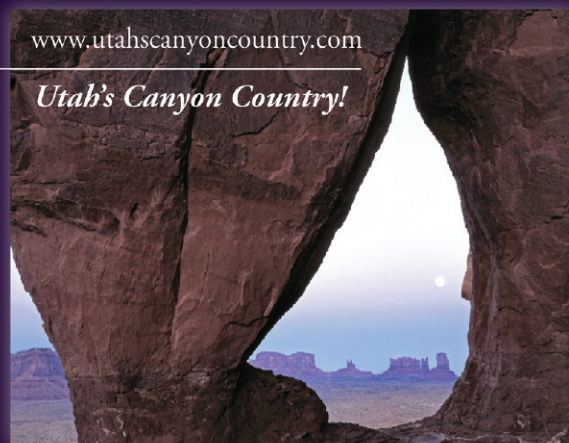
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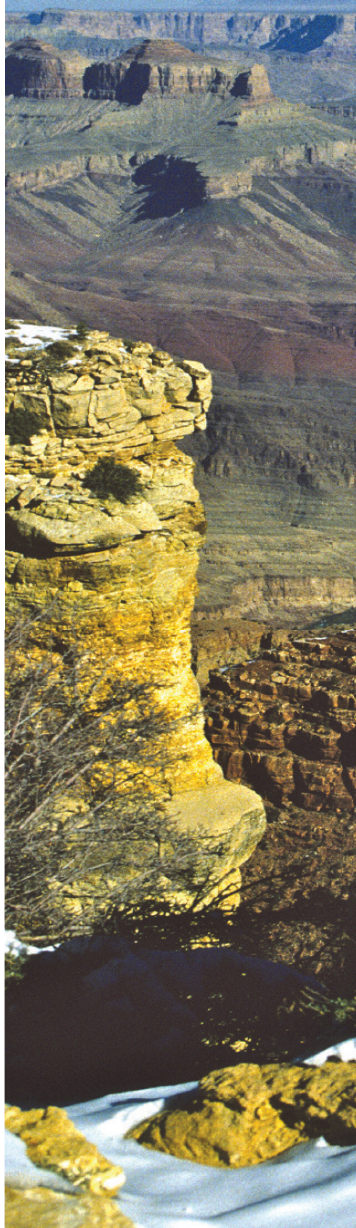
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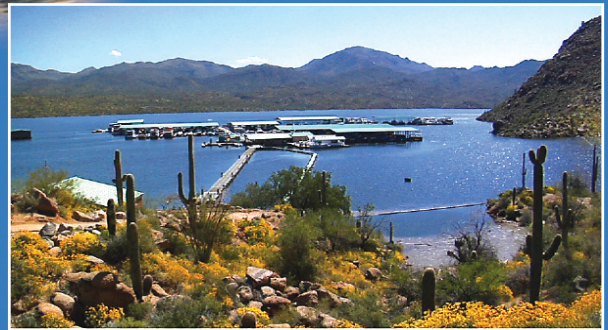


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