



Western Outdoor Times

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Arizona Boating & Watersports



May - June 2012

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Just Wear It!

PFDs Are Always In Style

Tight Lines Pages 7-9

Game Bag Page 10

Western Wildlife Page 11

Land Cruising Page 12

PHOTO BY AZGFD

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Season Your Summer With Safety

Tri-State Boating Safety Fair To Promote Life Jackets

May 19 event will kick off boating season along Colorado River System.

LAKE HAVASU CITY, Ariz. — Boating officials from three states are teaming up once again to stress the importance of wearing a life jacket; they will be at the ninth annual Tri-State Boating Safety Fair at the Colorado River. The event will take place May 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at London Bridge Beach Park, 1340 McCulloch Blvd., Lake Havasu City.

The event coincides with the kickoff of National Boating Safety Week (May 19-25) and the "Ready, Set, Wear It" life jacket campaign sponsored by the National Safe Boating Council in partnership with the Canadian Safe Boating Council.

Highlight: PFD Trade-In

As in past years, a hallmark of the event will be the life jacket trade-in. People may bring their old life jackets and get free new ones, approved by the U.S. Coast Guard, while supplies last. All told, officials expect to give away about 400 life jackets.

Other activities at the safety fair include complimentary boating-safety information and free boat inspections for proper safety equipment.

Boating professionals and others also will participate in an attempt to break the record for simultaneous life jacket wear worldwide. The goal is not only to promote the comfortable and versatile options when it comes to life jackets, but also to educate the public about life jackets and safe boating in general. At Lake Havasu, the life jacket event



SECOND MOST DANGEROUS — The lower Colorado River System is shared by Arizona, California and Nevada. If taken as its own boating entity, the Colorado River System is the second most dangerous waterway in America, including the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, the Great Lakes, and the Gulf of Mexico. State lines artificially slice up the system, so the three states come together to talk about the river holistically. While many laws are congruent, a few laws differ and can confuse boaters. Providing a forum to the millions of Colorado River boaters to learn about the different boating laws is crucial to reduce the number of accidents, injuries and fatalities that occur every year.



will take place at noon at the park.

"We have seen these events morph over the years, as we try ever more elaborate ways to get through to boaters," said Kevin Bergersen, boating law administrator at the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "We are doing all we can to let boaters know that life jackets are comfortable, fashionable, and most importantly, can save your life in a boating accident."

Summer Safety Topics

In addition to life-jacket wear, boating professionals will be on hand to answer questions, hand out information and distribute promotional and safety items for children. The Coast Guard Auxiliary, local law-enforcement agencies, and other

groups will be available to cover every kind of summer safety topic.

"We have seen this event grow in participation and importance through the years," said David Pfiffner, Nevada's boating law administrator. "We know how to help boaters on Havasu and along the entire Colorado River have a safe, enjoyable summer. We just encourage boaters to come by and take a few minutes to catch up on information that could save a life."

After the main event, the three states have teamed up to provide information all summer long on the Web site www.Boat-ColoradoRiver.com, and through targeted outreach efforts using social media.

"Boaters who cannot make the event are

See **FAIR** on page 14



AZGFD

ON THE COVER

Out With The Old; In With The New

Kevin Bergersen, boating-law administrator at the Arizona Game and Fish Department, is surrounded by the pile of life jackets that people turned in so they could get new, updated ones — for free — at last year's Tri-State Boating Safety Fair.

Again this year, boating officials from three states (Arizona, California, and Nevada) are teaming up to highlight the importance of wearing PFDs. The ninth annual event is set for May 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at London Bridge Beach Park, Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

LIKE SIGNED IT IN 1958

1995: National Safe Boating Week Became Seven-Day Event

The National Safe Boating Council is a membership organization with over 330 U.S. and Canadian members committed to reducing boating accidents and enhancing the boating experience. The Council is committed to providing education programs to promote the safety of the recreational boating experience.



National Safe Boating Council

The National Safe Boating Council is a partner organization supporting the North American Safe Boating Campaign, which unites the efforts of a wide variety of boating safety advocates, including National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), the Canadian

Safe Boating Council and the many members of the National Safe Boating Council.

History

The National Safe Boating Council was formed in September 1958 as the National Safe Boating Committee to educate boaters about safe boating during National Safe Boating Week.

The first time there was a week designated to safe boating was in June 1952 when the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary observed a "Safe Boating Week" as a Courtesy Examination weekend in Amesburg, Mass.. This tradition continued until 1957 when an official National Safe Boating Week observation took place sponsored by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in various parts of the country.

As a result, the U.S. Coast Guard prepared

a Resolution, and on June 4, 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed PL 85-445, to establish National Safe Boating Week as the first week starting on the first Sunday in June.

The National Safe Boating Week Committee, now known as the National Safe Boating Council, organized the event by coordinating efforts among the various boating safety groups. In 1995, the date for National Safe Boating Week was finally changed to the full week (Saturday – Friday) before Memorial Day Weekend each year. This allowed the message of safe boating to reach more boaters before the season and enforce the message for a longer amount of time each year.

The National Safe Boating Week Committee branched out on its own as the National

See **EVENT** on page 14

REMINDER FROM THE LAKE PLEASANT SAILING CLUB

National Safe Boating Week: May 19-May 26, 2012

LPSC is the proud recipient of a 2012 "WEAR IT!" Grassroots Outreach Campaign Grant.



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In Memory

She Was Our Birding Editor

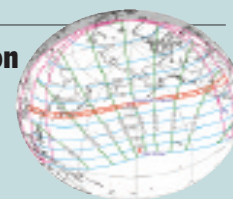
Sadly, in New Mexico recently, we said goodbye to Jim Allen's mother Margie Caroline Allen. See story Page 18.



Land Cruising

Get A Glimpse At Glen Canyon

Join Glen Canyon National Recreation Area staff on May 20 to experience a rare annular eclipse of the sun. See story Page 12.



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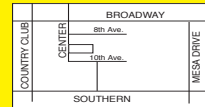
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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

Alcohol and Drugs

Arizona law prohibits anyone from operating a power-driven vessel while under the influence of alcohol or any drug that causes the person to be even slightly impaired. Alcohol and drugs cause impaired balance, blurred vision, poor coordination, impaired judgment, and slower reaction time. Alcohol contributes to about one-third of all fatal boating accidents nationwide.

- ◆ A person is considered to be operating under the influence (OUI) of alcohol if he or she has an alcohol concentration of 0.08% or greater as determined by a test of his or her breath, blood, or urine. "Extreme OUI," is blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.15% and higher.
- ◆ If convicted of OUI or "Extreme OUI," a person can be fined up to \$2,500 and jailed for up to six months. Subsequent convictions and "Aggravated OUI" may carry even more severe penalties.
- ◆ By operating a vessel on Arizona waters, you have consented to be tested for alcohol or drugs if arrested by a law enforcement officer for alleged violations under Arizona Watercraft Statutes.



Designate a Sober Mate or Captain

Statewide Boating Safety Education Classes

May 2012

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	May 14 & 16 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. (Must attend both)	Arizona Game & Fish Tucson Office 555 N. Greasewood Road Tucson	\$0	(520) 429-6106
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	May 19 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076

June 2012

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	June 2 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Tucson Office 555 N. Greasewood Road Tucson	\$0	(520) 429-6106
Arizona Game and Fish Department	June 9 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 E. Broadway Rd. Tempe	\$8 per family	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game and Fish Department	June 16 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Water Safety Center at Contact Point 1801 Hwy. 95 Lake Havasu City	\$5 per family	(928) 916-2004
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	June 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076
Arizona Game and Fish Department	June 30 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Arizona Game and Fish Dept. Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219

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Download a copy of the Tri-state Colorado River Boating Safety Guide at www.boatcoloradoriver.com to know the laws along this "shared" body of water.



GET YOUR COPY OF SPLASH!

Splash, The Movie is a boating education video unlike any other. Produced by the Arizona Game and Fish Department in 2008, this 30-minute movie about a little girl's experience at Saguaro Lake with her grandfather will entertain your entire family while covering important boating safety topics. For a free copy of the DVD, please call 623-236-7235.

This information brought to you by:
Arizona Game & Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086
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Western Outdoor Times

Arizona Boating & Watersports



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We at Western Outdoor Times/Arizona Boating & Watersports are thankful for the life of Jim Allen's mother, our Birding Editor, and sincerely thank Dr. David H. Elliott and the nursing staff at Alta Vista Hospital in Las Vegas, NM, for the care they gave Margie Allen during her last days of life.

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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.

Arizona Boating & Watersports is distributed free in Arizona, Southern California, Mexico, Canada, the U.K., and other states and countries.

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Don't Think You Need A Lifejacket? Take It From A Swimmer: 'Yes, You Do'!

I have heard many a boater say, "I don't need a lifejacket. I am a good swimmer."

I am too. And I used to think the same thing. I thought I didn't need a life jacket unless it was rough water and I could not see land. I was confident I could easily swim to shore in the tiny Arizona lakes.

At least I felt that way until I finished an Ironman swim.

I competed in a 2.4-mile swim at Tempe Town Lake, finishing with a respectable time. Got to the ramp, put my feet under me to jog the 10 feet to the finish, but they just would not hold my weight. I curled onto my knees and struggled to crawl to the top of the ramp. I almost couldn't do it.

It was embarrassing and awful to drag myself with Jello-wiggly arms to the end. I could barely hold up my torso and my legs would not move as I directed them. The lifeguards eyed me as I struggled to the finish.

The water was 58 degrees — as cold as most Arizona waterways are for much of



NAU

the year. I was well protected from the chilly water with a full wet suit and a neoprene hood. Only my face, hands and feet were exposed, yet in the hour and 17 minutes in the water, I had lost the ability to support my own weight.

Few people realize it takes an Ironman championship swimmer about 20 minutes to swim a mile in open water, yet most people believe they can easily swim a mile. I knew then, as a fact, if I ever had to swim a mile in cold water without a wet suit (which offers some buoyancy) or a life

See LIFEJACKET on page 6

Upgrade Your Boating Skills

From Ron and Rose Werner
Phoenix Sail & Power Squadron.

As the warm weather is upon us, we are all thinking about dusting off the boat and going to have some fun on the lake! As most of us do not boat much in the winter-time, we need to ensure that our boats are properly maintained and that we have not forgotten about the safety equipment we must carry.

Remember: When you are out on the water help is not necessarily close by!

Since we may not have been boating for several months, too many of the skills required are not engrained into our normal repetition, so everything we do on the water needs to be thought about ahead of time.

This month May 19 – 27 is the nationwide/international observance of Safe Boating Week. This event was considered important enough that it was signed into our state's legislation for observance.

So, how do you know what to do about renewing skills? Our recommendation is to ask a person who is trained in boating:



its laws, its equipment, its safety cautions, its skills, and more.

For starters you may look into local organizations (e.g., AZGFD, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Lake Pleasant Sailing Club, Phoenix Sail & Power Squadron) that support safe and correct boating procedures; it is highly recommended to take a Boating Safety Class. (Please see current schedule on page 3 of this issue.)

Whatever you do, do not guess; search out the right answer the first time.



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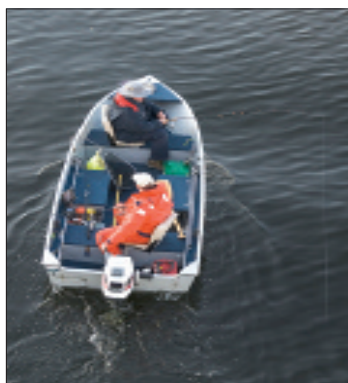
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DON'T BE FOOLED — Little boats. Good fishing. Cold waters. Add it all up and you have a great time to be on the water — just don't let the sunny, warm days fool you.

Three Safety Tips To Get You Safely Through The Spring Fishing/Boating Season

In many parts of the country, people are asking when did winter end and spring begin? Anglers and boaters are taking advantage of the unusually warm weather, but some may be forgetting that cold waters still lurk beneath the keel. Here are three easy safety tips from BoatUS.com/foundation that will help you get safely through the spring fishing and boating season.

Don't allow the warm weather to let your guard down: The air temperatures may be downright balmy, but deceptively cold waters increase the risk of hypothermia even on a "T-shirt" day. Also remember there may be fewer boats out on the water that could come to your aid. Bring extra layers or change of clothes and rain gear this time of year.

Plan on how to get back in the boat: If you accidentally went overboard, do you have a way to get back aboard? You may be surprised how hard this can be — especially if you are alone or haven't prepared for it. It could be as simple as having a rope with looped footholds affixed to a cleat that can easily be grabbed from the water. The BoatUS Foundation also tested after-market boarding ladders for small jonboats, RIBs and larger center console boats.

You can view these tests at youtube.com/user/BoatUSFoundation/videos?sort=dd&view=0&page=2. A hard-copy of the tests along with a ranking of the best ladders can also be found at BoatUS.com/foundation/boardingladders.

Refresh your memory: Take a boating-safety course now from the comfort of your own home. The no-cost BoatUS Foundation Online Boating Safety course, which is designed so that you can stop and then continue at any time, includes videos that demonstrate important safety devices such as flares, shows the rules of the road, how to get help in an emergency, and the best way to fit a life jacket to a child so they will not slip out. Go to BoatUS.org/onlinecourse. It may also help you save money on boat insurance and meet your state's requirements for boating-safety education.

Also, remember the courses listed on page 3 of this issue; often there are excellent choices from AZGFD, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Phoenix Sail and Power Squadron, the Lake Pleasant Sailing Club, among others.



AZGFD Offers Grant Money To Improve Public Boating Facilities

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is offering \$660,000 in federal grant money to enhance and improve public boating facilities at Arizona lakes and waterways.

"If you enjoy boating on Arizona waters, this money is specifically for improving that kind of recreation," said Ron Christofferson, Game and Fish's boating facilities program manager. "Every year, the department makes grant funds available to applicants who wish to complete boating-facility projects that otherwise might not receive funding. This is the opportunity to apply for these grants."

The funds currently available are through the Clean Vessel Act and the Boating Infrastructure Grant. These federal programs focus on pump-out facilities for on-board restrooms, as well as boating facilities specifically intended to accommo-

date watercraft over 26 feet in length. Funding for the grants is provided by federal taxes on the sale of equipment related to fishing and boating, and on motorboat fuel.

Many such projects have been completed in Arizona over the past decade, ranging from renovation and building of new courtesy docks, pump-out stations and restrooms, to adding new marine fueling stations. Such improvements have recently been implemented at Canyon and Bartlett lakes, as well as at Lake Pleasant and Lake Havasu.

"This is an outstanding example of a program where the people who pay fees and taxes directly benefit from the grant funding. In this case, anglers and boaters pay taxes on fishing tackle and motorboat fuel and import fees on tackle and boats. Then, this money is allocated each year to

each state to support boating access projects anglers and boaters can enjoy," Christofferson said.

Agencies, marinas and individuals eligible for the grant money are those with legal ownership or control of public boating facilities on any Arizona public waterway where boats are allowed.

Grant funds are awarded through a competitive application process, and applicants are reviewed and judged on the basis of priorities, project feasibility, and overall merit as they relate to the current needs of the boating public. No state funding is currently available through these programs.

For more information on how to apply for the grants, visit the department's boating facilities Web page at http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/boating_facilities.shtml.

Spring Snowmelt Prompts Water-Safety Warning

From the Coast Guard Auxiliary

Outdoor recreationists on the nation's mountain-fed rivers and lakes should take serious precautions against cold temperatures and swift currents when in or near water this spring.

Despite this year's below-normal snowfall, the spring snowmelt can still result in swift and cold river flows that can create treacherous conditions for all recreationists (yes, even in Arizona) — waders, swimmers, paddlers, boaters, anglers, and even hikers cooling off at the water's edge.

For example, the utility and state departments in California cautioned that even though the water content of California's mountain snowpack is near 40 percent of normal, there is still a significant amount of water in the snowpack and it is rapidly melting as mid-spring temperatures continue to warm.

As warmer weather and longer days accelerate melting snow in mountainous regions, water temperatures will continue to drop and flows will continue to rise in waterways and reservoirs, with some reservoirs spilling and resulting in higher flows downstream.

Those planning outings near mountain streams, rivers and reservoirs need to be vigilant and take appropriate safety measures. Water flows will fluctuate with the warming and cooling of the day, so boaters always need to be prepared for a change in conditions.

Even experienced swimmers can get caught in swift river flows. Check local water conditions before taking a boating trip, wear a life jacket, and avoid alcohol.

Know The Water

• Sudden immersion in cold water can stimulate the "gasp reflex" causing an in-

voluntary inhalation of air or water. It can even trigger cardiac arrest, temporary paralysis, hypothermia and drowning. When faced with swift water, even the strongest swimmers can be easily overwhelmed.

• Cold water entering the ear canal can cause vertigo and disorientation. This may confuse swimmers, causing them to venture deeper into the water.

Know Your Limits

• Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool — people tire more quickly and can get into trouble.

• Cold water causes impairment leading to fatalities. It reduces body heat 25 to 30 times faster than air does at the same temperature.

• Many unseen obstacles can be lurking below the water's surface. Swift water can make these obstacles even more treacherous. Guided trips for inexperienced paddlers are recommended.

Wear A Life Jacket

• Conditions change quickly in open water and even the best swimmers can misjudge the water and their skills when boating or swimming. Wearing a life jacket can increase survival time.

• A life jacket can provide some thermal protection against the onset of hypothermia and keep you afloat until someone else can rescue you.

Parental Supervision

Actively supervise children in and around open bodies of water, giving them your undivided attention. Appoint a designated "water watcher," taking turns with other adults.

Teach children that swimming in open water is not the same as swimming in a

pool: they need to be aware of uneven surfaces, river currents, ocean undertow and changing weather.

Know The Law

• Generally, every child under age 12 and under must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket when on a moving vessel. A Coast Guard-approved life jacket must be carried for each person on board a boat. This includes rigid or inflatable paddle craft.

• Every person on board a personal watercraft (popularly known as "jet skis") and any person being towed behind a vessel must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.

In most states, it is against the law to operate a boat or water ski with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or more. You can be arrested even when your BAC is less than 0.08 percent if conditions are deemed to be unsafe.



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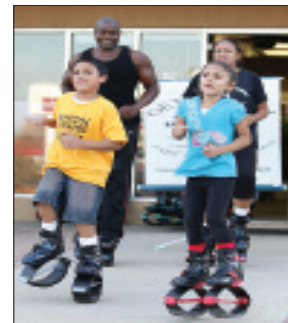
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Bryan Martyn Selected To Head Arizona State Parks

The Arizona State Parks Board has announced that they have chosen Bryan Martyn as the new Executive Director for the agency.

"The Arizona State Parks Board has completed a three-month national search and is pleased to announce that we have selected Bryan Martyn from the potential candidates. The Board understands the financial pressures this agency is facing and we felt Bryan would be an excellent leader to help us navigate into the future," said Board Chair Walter Armer.

"[Martyn] has been a Pinal County Supervisor for four years overseeing a \$429M budget and 2,700 employees and has served on the Arizona State Parks Foundation Board. This type of leadership experience has given him a good understanding of what this agency has to do

to find sustainable funding.

"We need his extensive background not only in working with Arizona's leadership but also the grassroots citizenry and government programs to help us build and maintain our community partnerships," said Armer.

"Martyn ... [started] his new position on May 1 and ... [the job has been overlapped] with our former Interim Director Bill Feldmeier so they [could] collaborate on the partnership issues and financial situation the agency is negotiating every day."

As a distinguished veteran and long-time resident of Arizona, Martyn retired after 20 years in the United States Air Force and Army as a helicopter pilot and special operations instructor. He graduated from Embry Riddle Aeronautical Univer-

sity with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics and later received his graduate degree in Defense Management from American Military University.

Since his retirement, Martyn has graduated from the prestigious Valley Leadership Program and Hispanic Leadership Institute in Pinal County.

Currently, Martyn lives in San Tan Valley with his wife of 24 years, Susie, and four sons. He's an active member of the Rotarians, Lions, American Legion and a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also is a member of the Pinal Partnership, East Valley Partnership, San Tan Valley Think Tank, Governor's Military Affairs Commission and some nonprofits.

For more information about the Arizona State Parks department or any of the



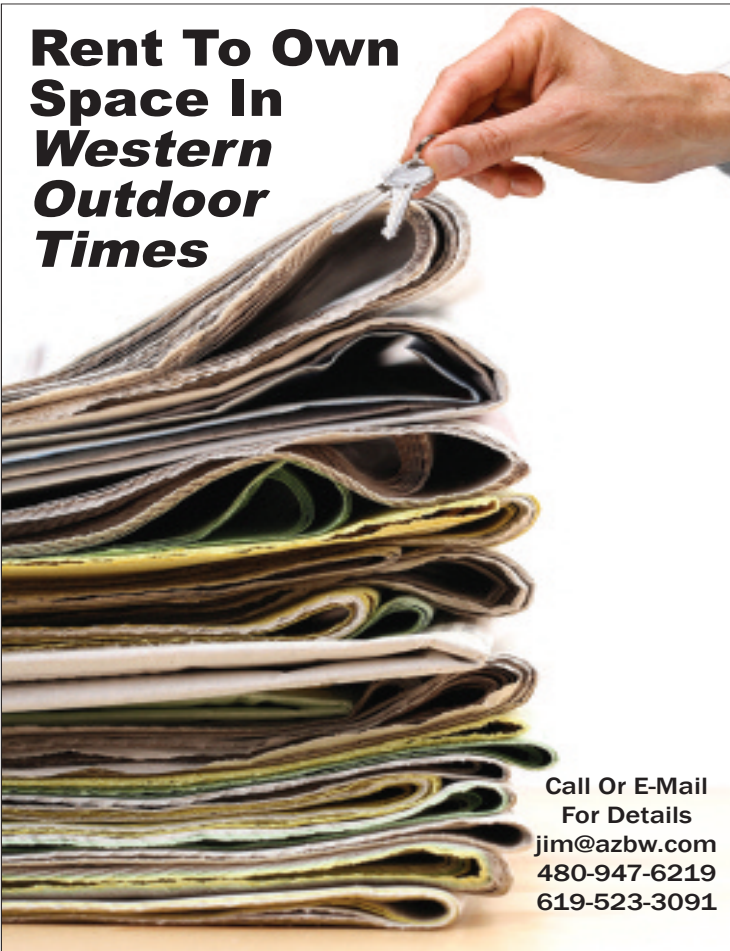
Bryan Martyn
AZ State Parks

programs, call (602) 542-4174 (or from outside of the Phoenix metro area (800) 285-3703) or visit www.AZStateParks.com



PARTY TIME! — As the Arizona weather warms, boating season gets into full swing. As do parties. If you want a fantastic day on the water with a group of family, friends, or co-workers, there is no better way than to rent this party boat and spend the day on beautiful Bartlett Lake. All the amenities you'll ever need are already on board; just bring your group, some food and drink, and be ready to enjoy! To ensure the dates you wish are available, call early to make your reservations: (602) 316-3378, info@bartlettlake.com. This is a very popular boat! To read more about it, visit www.bartlettlake.com.

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ATV Accident Shows Need For Helmets

From AZGFD

An accident that injured a woman and her four grandchildren recently was a powerful reminder of the need for all-terrain vehicle riders to wear helmets.

The woman packed her grandchildren onto an ATV meant for one person and went for a ride Sunday on a dirt lot in Gilbert.



But, the outing ended abruptly when she drove into an irrigation ditch, sending her and all four kids to the hospital. The woman, 50, sustained head injuries. Three girls, ages 3, 4 and 5, suffered multiple, non-life-threatening injuries, and another 3-year-old girl had minor injuries, Gilbert fire officials said.

No one was wearing a helmet.

"The accident is a prime example of why it is vital to wear a helmet when operating an ATV," said Jimmy Simmons, off-highway vehicle law enforcement program manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The woman's head injuries could have been prevented or been less severe if she had been wearing a helmet, according to Simmons. He also stressed that state law requires anyone under 18 riding an ATV to wear a properly fitted and fastened U.S. Department of Transportation-ap-

proved helmet.

"Those kids are very lucky they weren't seriously hurt," Simmons said. "Kids' skulls aren't fully developed, so they are much more prone to cracking their skulls and traumatic injury."

"The operator was also carrying too many people for the design of the vehicle. The extra weight can affect the ATV's balance, and having so many passengers can interfere with the operator's ability to drive safely."

And, even though anyone older than 18 is not required to wear a helmet, Simmons pointed out, Game and Fish still recommends that adults wear them while operating an ATV.

According to information provided by the Arizona Department of Health Services, wearing a helmet can mean —

- Up to a 64 percent reduction in non-fatal head injury
- Up to a 42 percent reduction in the risk of death

The health services department also noted that people with a history of non-fatal ATV injuries were less likely to report current use of helmets or protective equipment.

In the Gilbert accident, police are investigating the woman for child endangerment and reckless driving.

Game and Fish promotes safe and responsible ATV use.

"Riding ATVs can be a fun family activity that allows folks to get out and enjoy time together outdoors. But without proper safety gear and responsible use of ATVs, things like this accident happen."

Simmons said. "By taking the proper precautions, you can help keep an enjoyable outing from turning into a bad day."

Curl Your Way To A Cool Summer

Now that the excitement of the 9th Annual Desert Ice Bonspiel is behind us, the Coyotes Curling Club turns towards the upcoming 2012 Summer League!

The Summer League has always been a league where new curlers can test their hand at this incredible game in an affordable manner, learn from experienced curlers before, during, and after every game.

The league is designed to be short for those who have other commitments over the summer.

For those experienced curlers, the Summer League is the perfect time to hone their skills in preparation for the Fall League or in preparation for all of the out-of-town bonspiels still happening across the USCA!

Any way you look at it, getting out of the 110-degree weather and into 18 degrees after two hours of curling during the summer months is a win-win.

As an added bonus, this is the first year the Coyotes Curling Club have incorporated three Learn-To Curl classes throughout the league! This league is a perfect combination of time, skills development, and curling.

The League schedule is as follows:

Saturday, June 16: 6-8 p.m. (Learn To Curl-Beginner)



Coyotes Curling Club

Friday, June 22: 5-7 p.m. (Learn To Curl 2A-Advanced)

Saturday, June 30: 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 7: 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 14: 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 21: 9-11 p.m. (Learn To

See CURL on page 15

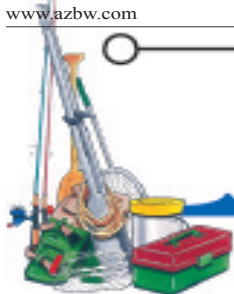
LIFEJACKET

Continued from page 4

jacket, I would drown.

Now when someone says, "Don't need a life jacket. I'm a good swimmer." I wince. I know they are fooling themselves, just like I had."

Anonymous
LPSC sailor/swimmer



LIGHT LINES

FISHING IN ARIZONA AND BEYOND



LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

Smallmouth, Largemouth And Walleye Are Ready And Waiting

By Wayne Gustavson

For a little while longer, Lake Powell's water level is stable and temperature remains in the low 60s, which is ideal for excellent bass, walleye and crappie fishing. With day length and ambient temperature increasing, the best tip is to fish in the shade. That includes the shady side of an individual rock or the shady side of a canyon. Seek shade to increase catch.

Bass Spawning Near Completion

Bass nests are still seen in the clear water and some have male guards cruising in the vicinity. But, bass spawning is near completion. Smallmouth have begun the migration from shallow nesting areas in the backs of the coves toward the channel where they will reside on rocky points and ledges for the rest of the summer.



THE EYES WERE BIGGER THAN THE STOMACH — It seems that this Bartlett Lake largemouth bass bit off more than he could chew. As Don McDowell of Shake, Rattle, and Troll Radio explained when asked if either or both of the fish could survive: "Only if someone removes the smaller fish. What happens is the dorsal fins on the smaller fish won't allow the larger fish to release the small fish. The smaller fish basically is stuck and without intervention, both are doomed."

Adult smallmouth have moved down a notch and can be found in deeper water depths at 10 to 20 feet. Young smallmouth are still ever present and eager to attack lures just about anywhere.

Largemouth bass really do not like to leave brush. Big adults are still residing in the thickest trees they can find in shallow water. Expect them to be 5-10 feet of water surrounded by tree limbs. Weightless rigged senkos are still accounting for a good catch of bucket-mouth bass for those fishing shallow, brush-lined coves.

Walleye Are The 'Hot Ticket'

Walleye are the hot ticket right now, particularly north of Bullfrog. The best technique involves worm harnesses attached to bottom bouncers that can be slow trolled along a fairly flat bottom.

Bottom bouncers will travel along slick rock humps and flood plain bottoms with ease but are not good in thick tree-lined areas. Select a relatively open bottom and troll at a depth of 20-40 feet.

Walleye are often captured with flat line trolled wally diver-type crankbaits and randomly caught with plastic baits while fishing for bass. Fish the edge of bass habitat in slightly deeper water to find walleye.

Striper Fishing Heating Up

Striped bass fishing is heating up from Good Hope to Hite where trolling leads to decent catches of fat fish up to 6 pounds. In the main lake, stripers are still waiting for the spawning trigger. Males from 2-4 pounds are holding in 25 to 40 feet of water, eating plankton and a few crayfish. Schools are very active at dusk and dawn.

Troll shallow running crankbaits, swimbaits, or bucktail jigs to locate a school. Once found, return to these spots every night and morning to catch another cooler full of fat stripers from stationary schools. During the day fishing success drops off, although this week there has been a noticeable increase in school size and some have been willing to greedily attack spoons for short periods morning and evening.



GREAT MEMORIES — Ed Feller (right) and his favorite brother Jeff fished together at Hite. Trolling for stripers was good, but smallmouth bass fishing was better. They had a fantastic fishing trip that will make great memories. Now is the time to take the family fishing at Lake Powell.

A 'Singular Event': Striper Spawning

Large females are still mysteriously sulking during the day. They can be caught at night near schooling males. One of these nights spawning will occur. Those lucky enough to witness the event will be able to

catch stripers on every cast for hours.

Spawning fish will range from 2 pounds at the smallest to 50 pounds plus for adult females. They will all be mixed together so a 2-pound fish could be caught

See **FISH REPORT** on page 14



DAY AT THE DOCKS 2012 — Western Outdoor Times/Arizona Boating & Watersports was once again represented at the San Diego Sportfishing Council's Day at the Docks in Point Loma. Leslie Manes, a longtime associate and friend, is shown at the Arizona booth on April 15, distributing WOT/AZBW papers and bringing Arizona greetings to the many event attendees. Thank you, Leslie! John Campbell, another longtime associate and friend, added the Yellowtail Derby 2012 banner to the booth with information on this popular event. Thank you, John!

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Tight Lines

FISHING ARIZONA

It Just Doesn't Get Much Better Than This!

By Rory Aikens
AZGFD

Hey, with temperatures in the deserts expected to soar into the triple digits, it might be time for a cool dose of scented pine air. Especially since we are getting great fishing reports from most of the mountain lakes.

Woods Canyon Lake

Big Lake and Woods Canyon Lake are both hot spots right now. Both of those waters have stores and boat rentals, making them even more attractive. I have been getting lots of reports of anglers catching limits of trout — even some larger holdover ones.

Ironically, these two highly productive waters are two vastly different stocking strategies. At Woods Canyon, it is stocked weekly with rainbows throughout the prime trout-fishing season. It's what we call a classic "put-and-take" lake. Within a week to 10 days after stocking, the vast majority of the fish will likely be caught. That typically equates to high catch rates

at Woods Canyon.

In fact, a lot of youngsters over the decades caught their first trout ever in this picturesque lake on the Mogollon Rim. It's a family memory maker most of us remember with fondness of past fishing adventures and with great anticipation for future ones.

Big Lake

Then there is my old high-mountain sweetheart, Big Lake. This is our largest high mountain fishery and at almost 9,000 feet in elevation, it is also one of our highest elevation waters. Big Lake is also one of our deepest trout lakes.

At this huge, phenomenally productive lake, we only stock it a couple times of year but with hundreds of thousands of young stock. These baby and young trout are then allowed to grow up fat and feisty at Big Lake. Therefore, when you catch a hard-fighting trout at Big Lake, it might have started its life at a hatchery, but it grew up wild and free — acts like it on the end of the fishing line.

Typically, the fish at Big Lake — espe-

cially in the early season like this — have nice firm pink meat like a salmon. Mostly my family practices catch and release, but at Big Lake it's tough to resist taking a couple of trout back to cook and eat next to the campfire.

Knoll Lake

So take your pick. Another "editor's" picks right now is Knoll Lake along the Mogollon Rim. It takes about an hour's drive or so down the bumpy and dusty Rim Road (FR 300) to get to Knoll Lake. That very fact often keeps the hordes away.

The lack of facilities — only a launch ramp and a bathroom — keeps a lot of others away. There is also limited camping opportunity, unless you like dispersed camping. Some might say all those things go against fishing at Knoll. Some of us love Knoll because of those amenity deficits.

Stockings

Be sure to take your youngsters for a little stream fishing. There is nothing quite



like it, especially if you get them to dig their own worms and catch their own grasshoppers. Recently we have again stocked Tonto Creek, Christopher Creek, Haigler Creek and the East Verde River along the Mogollon Rim near Payson.

Earlier we also stocked Wet Beaver Creek and East Clear Creek in the Verde Valley near Camp Verde. Don't forget the Little Colorado River in the Greer area, or Sheep's Crossing of the Little Colorado River where it tumbles in from the shoulders of Mount Baldy.

Stealthy Trout Anglers

The most successful trout anglers will be stealthy. You need to sneak up on the pools and not spool the stream-wise trout, or the not-so-wise stockers. Stay hidden and cast your offering into the riffles above the pool and let the current carry your hopes to the trout waiting in concealed ambush.

My family likes using old cane poles (yes, they still sell them). Light line and little or no weight is the ticket, no matter what type of outfit you employ.

Upper Lake Mary

Also, hearing great reports from pike anglers at Upper Lake Mary near Flagstaff. Some are even catching nice walleye.

Don't want to leave out the warm-water lakes. Pick your lake, your species, and go. This is the really good bite for post-spawn largemouth bass. Bluegills are spawning. Catfish are kicking into high gear. Carp fishing is excellent. Striper fishing is still blowing hot and cold, depending on the lake, but it's always exciting to catch these hard-fishing bass.

Lake Powell

Also, I just heard from a buddy who caught hordes of smallmouth bass at Lake Powell. My old friend Mike McFarland, who guides at Lake Pleasant, said right now is the best bite of the year for striped bass.

Havasu And The Parker Strip

As a side note, it was great meeting everyone at Lake Havasu during the Bass Pro Fishing Festival. Signed a lot of fishing guides there. I fished Havasu long before Lake Havasu City came into being, or really, when Mr. McCulloch was starting it. My first striped bass ever was caught near the dam in 1967.

I also looked at the Parker Strip with longing as I passed — there's some great

See FISHING on page 9

JUMP INTO SPRING!

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Tight Lines

Take Your Camera On Your Next Fishing Trip; You Could Win Big!

There's a lot to pack before you head out for the spring/summer fishing season. Just don't forget the camera to take shots of your catch to submit to the BoatUS Angler "Catch of the Month" photo contest at www.BoatUS.com/angler/contest, which kicks off this week and runs monthly through October 31.

Monthly winners, one freshwater and one saltwater, will receive a one-year BoatUS Angler membership with basic on-water towing and roadside assistance, a \$50 Visa gift card and a "prize pack" filled with fishing and BoatUS Angler gear. In addition, winning photos will appear in *BoatUS Angler Magazine* and *Tacklebox* monthly fishing e-newsletter.

Monthly winners will be automatically entered to win the grand prize in November: an upgrade to unlimited on-water and on-road towing assistance, a high-quality fish replica from The Fish Mount Store, and a \$50 gift certificate from *BoatNameGear*.

BoatUS Angler's roadside assistance "club" for boat trailers and tow vehicles and its on-the-water towing service help anglers spend more time fishing and less time worrying about breakdowns.

Visit www.BoatUSAngler.com for more. Anglers can also check out all of the photos submitted at www.BoatUS.com/angler/contest.

Happy Troller Plate Makes Anglers Smile

Slowing to optimum trolling speed no longer requires a trolling motor, hard-to-retrieve drag buckets or line-tangling drift socks. By blocking part of a prop's thrust with an aluminum plate, Happy Troller from Davis Instruments slows down even large engines.

Mounted on an outboard or stern-drive's anti-cavitation plate, Happy Troller locks down behind the prop by simply pulling a cable. It enables trolling at a slightly higher rpm, helping to avoid the carbon fouling on spark plugs that can occur from extended low rpm engine operation.

In the up position, Happy Troller acts as a stabilizer. On bow-light boats, it

smoothes out the ride in rough water. It also reduces porpoising and propeller cavitation.

Happy Troller can be used in fresh or saltwater, made from stainless steel and marine-grade aluminum protected by a clear anodized aluminum finish. It installs in just 15 minutes and comes with stainless steel mounting hardware.

Available in two sizes, the large Happy Troller model fits all stern-drives and outboards 50 hp and bigger, while the small version covers outboards from 20-50 hp. Davis Instruments' Lil' Fella Trolling Plate is Happy Troller's little brother, designed for outboards up to 25 hp. Happy Troller retails for \$139.99 for



Slowing to optimum trolling speed no longer requires a trolling motor, hard-to-retrieve drag buckets or line-tangling drift socks. By blocking part of a prop's thrust with an aluminum plate, Happy Troller from Davis Instruments slows down even large engines.

either model. Lil' Fella costs \$79.99.

Contact local dealers or Davis Instruments, 3465 Diablo Ave., Hayward, CA 94545. 510-732-9229; Fax: 510-732-9188. info@davisnet.com; www.davisnet.com.

VISITING THE WOT/AZBW BOOTH

— during Day at the Docks festivities are John Campbell and Miss Yellowtail Derby 2012, Delanie Gomes. Both stopped by the *Western Outdoor Times*/Arizona Boating & Watersports booth to help promote the 4th Annual Yellowtail Derby. A launch party was May 3 at San Diego's Bali Hai Restaurant, and the derby itself began May 5 and runs through June 10. Arizona anglers, there's still time to join in the fun!



FISHING

Continued from page 8

smallmouth bass fishing below the dam.

So quit reading my memories and go catch some of your own. Maybe I'll see you out there.

Note: If you have a fishing report or good fishing pictures to share (JPEG), send them to raikens@aszgfd.gov. Rory can also be reached at (623) 236-7214. Need ideas on where to go fishing? Try the Department's new interactive Fish and Boat Map: Fish and Boat Arizona.

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New Hunt Regulations Are Available Online

Hunters can start applying for fall hunts via online service.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has posted the new 2012-13 Arizona Hunting and Trapping Regulations booklet online at www.azgfd.gov/draw. Hunters can start applying for a hunt permit-tag issued through the drawing process for deer, fall turkey, fall javelina, bighorn sheep, fall buffalo, and pheasant.

At this time, paper applications can be



office.

submitted either by U.S. mail to Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn: Drawing Section, P.O. Box 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052, or hand-delivered to any Game and Fish

The online application service for this

draw is expected to be available by press time.

Deadline To Apply

The deadline to apply is Tuesday, June 12 by 7 p.m. (MST). For those mailing a paper application, keep in mind that applications must be received by the department by the deadline. Postmarks do not count.

Those submitting a paper application are encouraged to apply early to take advantage of the "correction period." If your application has an error and is received be-

fore 5 p.m. on May 25, you will receive up to three phone calls from Game and Fish in a 24-hour period to help correct the application. After that date, mistakes can cause your application to be rejected.

The printed 2012-13 Arizona Hunting and Trapping Regulations booklets are anticipated to be available at department offices and at license dealers statewide around mid-May.

The drawing process for elk and pronghorn antelope occurred earlier this year.

For more information about Arizona's drawing processes, hunting-season dates and more, visit www.azgfd.gov/draw.

Important Information For Sportsmen, Other Wildlife Enthusiasts — Part 2

From AZGFD

The Arizona Game and Fish Department recently distributed information addressing an "open letter" from a constituent group describing challenges facing sportsmen. The Department provided some additional information regarding the "loss of wildlife" issue described in the open letter.

Another issue listed in the open letter is that of "access to public lands."

We agree that access for public recreation has been, and will continue to be, an issue as our state continues to grow. Challenges include private landowners closing off access to or through their property, land management restrictions by public agencies, and others.

We feel it is important for sportsmen, wildlife enthusiasts and other outdoor recreationists to know the efforts the Arizona Game and Fish Department has made on an ongoing basis to maintain public access.

Landowner Relations

Access restrictions in Arizona have in-



ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
MANAGING TODAY FOR WILDLIFE TOMORROW
www.azgfd.gov

creased over the last decade. Some private landowners have closed off access to their lands — or to public lands landlocked by private property — where access was once permitted. Reasons for private landowners denying access vary, but include vandalism, trespassing, littering, off-road activities, disruption of landowner operations, and liability issues.

Game and Fish respects the rights of private landowners and continues to work with them, in partnership with sportsmen's/conservation groups and other members of the public, to maintain access through the various aspects of the Department's Landowner Relations Program. These efforts have helped maintain access to several million acres of land in Arizona.

The various aspects of the Landowner Relations Program include the following:

Access Program

The Department's Access Program

works cooperatively with private landowners across the state to create and maintain public access on or through private land. It is a cost-share program funded through Heritage funds, used for various projects with private landowners that can help the property and benefit wildlife habitat in exchange for short-term or perpetual access agreements.

These projects vary in scale depending on the importance of the access point as well as the length of the access agreement. Access funds can also be used to purchase perpetual public access easements on privately owned roads that provide public access to federal lands.

The projects that can be accomplished vary greatly, depending on the landowner's and wildlife habitat needs. Some examples of cost-sharing projects that benefit landowners, the Department and the public include road maintenance to provide access, brush treatments to restore grasslands, dirt tank clean outs, installing water distribution systems and drinkers, fencing, and grassland reseeding.

Through this program, nearly 3.2 million acres of private and land-locked state trust and federal lands are opened to public access.

Adopt-A-Ranch Program

The Department's Adopt-A-Ranch program is another way Game and Fish has helped maintain public access to or through land. Nearly 30 Adopt-A-Ranch projects are completed every year.

Under the program, groups of interested members of the public (e.g., sportsmen's/conservation groups, Boy Scouts, OHV clubs) "adopt" a ranch with the idea of working directly with the landowners and the Department to mitigate problems associated with public recreational access.

The volunteer group visits the ranch one or two times a year to perform regular maintenance, such as rebuilding fences, hanging gates, picking up litter, or helping with various ranch improvement projects. In turn, the landowner allows continued public access.

The Department maintains lists of landowners and groups, giving them the opportunity to link up for a mutually beneficial relationship that also benefits the public.

Landowner Respect Program

This is a voluntary program that fosters cooperation between landowners/lessees and the public to develop solutions to potential conflicts. The Department works with landowners/lessees to install various informative and regulatory signs.

The aluminum signs inform the public of laws and etiquette for using ranch lands. The signs also improve the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts. All materials requested are free of charge and imply no

obligation from the landowner to permit access to all users.

The Respect Program also provides a limited number of sign-in boxes, fence ladders, gates, and kiosks. All materials remain the property of the Arizona Game and Fish Department and are removed if the landowner chooses not to participate in the program any longer.

The Respect Program provides about \$15,000 worth of signs every year to more than 300 cooperating ranches throughout the state. The program covers more than 10.6 million acres.

Habitat Partnership Committee

The Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee (HPC) and affiliated Local Habitat Partnership Committees (LHPC) were established by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission in 1992. Although the program was originally created to reduce elk and livestock conflicts and promote partnerships through cooperative projects, its concept expanded to focus on all wildlife habitat management and related projects.

HPCs are designed to facilitate local decision-making regarding wildlife habitat issues and improvements, and act as a vehicle for partnership development and communication between private landowners, members of the public, local and national conservation organizations, and state and federal entities.

The primary funding mechanism for HPC projects comes through the efforts of wildlife conservation organizations that market and sell special big-game license tags (SBGLT) awarded to them by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. These sales raise about \$1.4 million annually, with 100 percent of the proceeds returned to the Department.

These same organizations then work cooperatively with the Department to identify quality projects to be implemented using SBGLT funding.

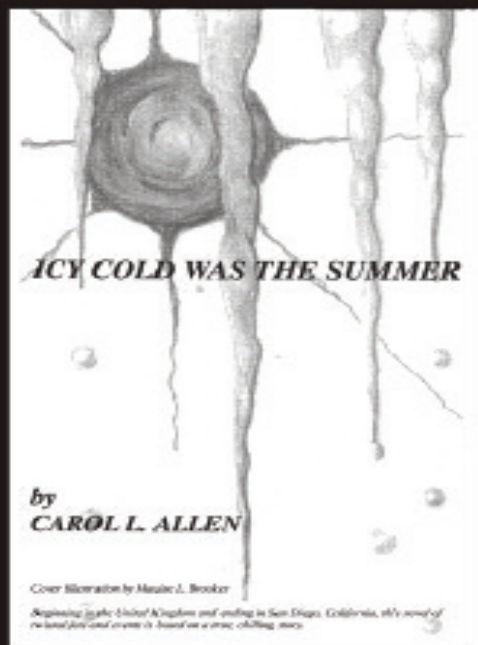
The HPC and SBGLT programs also provide financial support for the Landowner Relations Program on important projects that benefit wildlife and maintain access for the public. An example of this is elk tag funding, allocated through the HPC, to provide water enhancement projects on the Big Boquillas Ranch.

These cooperative projects have helped maintain public access on this large private ranch, which is owned by the Navajo Nation. In addition, stewardship projects funded through elk tag dollars have helped to mitigate influences of elk on private lands, and deer and pronghorn tag dollars have funded projects for dirt tank clean outs that have helped to maintain relations with lessees and enhance relations on private lands.

Leveraging Partnerships And Outside Funding

The Department actively seeks opportunities to partner with other agencies and pursue funding opportunities related to

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Western Wildlife



ESA Decision Won't Affect Bald-Eagle Management

Arizona's nationally recognized species-management program will continue.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department pledges to continue its proven protective management program for bald eagles even though the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently decided that the species in Arizona is not a distinct population segment and does not warrant listing as an endangered species.

"The Service's recent decision has no bearing on Arizona's bald eagle management program that has been in place for more than 30 years and has led to a more than 600 percent increase in the state's population," said Larry Riley, Game and Fish's assistant director for wildlife management.

"Arizona has a nationally recognized bald eagle management program that, in conjunction with federal protection laws that already exist, will help the species

continue to thrive."

That program is a partnership effort of the Southwest Bald Eagle Management Committee — a group of 24 government agencies, private organizations and Native American tribes.

A Great Success

The bald eagle is considered one of the greatest successes of the Endangered Species Act, particularly in Arizona where the population has grown from 11 nesting pairs when the species was originally listed as endangered in 1978 to more than 60. In 2011 alone, the species set three records for the highest number of breeding areas occupied (55), eggs laid (79) and number of young eagles (56) that made it to the milestone of fledging (first flight).

Cooperative on-the-ground management efforts that have contributed to this success include monitoring and survey flights, seasonal closures of critical breeding habitat during the breeding season, eagle rescue efforts, contaminants analysis, and an award-winning nest-watch pro-

gram to protect breeding activities.

In addition to the ongoing active management efforts, bald eagles in Arizona continue to be protected under a number of federal laws, including the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Lacey Act, the Airborne Hunting Act, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna.

In addition, bald eagles also receive protections under Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17, which protects all of Arizona's native wildlife, including threatened and endangered species.

Primary Purpose: To Conserve

The Service's decision was the result of a revised 12-month finding on a petition to list the Sonoran Desert Area population of bald eagle as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Although Game and Fish believes that the bald eagle population could qualify as a distinct population segment, the department agrees that ESA listing is not war-

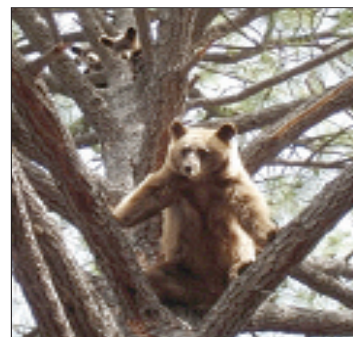


ranted at this time due to the continuing management of the population.

The department fully supports the federal listing of species under ESA when those species are either threatened with the possibility of going extinct or meet the criteria for being endangered.

However, one of the primary purposes of any listing is to ensure appropriate conservation measures are taken to remove threats and recover the species, which is being addressed in Arizona without ESA listing.

For more information about bald eagle management efforts in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.gov/baldeagle.



Be Bear-Aware!

Be 'Bear Aware' As Weather Warms Up

As spring temperatures continue to warm in our state, the Arizona Game and Fish Department advises people who camp, recreate or live in bear habitat to be "bear aware," as bears are coming out of their winter dens and becoming more active.

Consecutive dry winters and intermittent seasonal rains, coupled with the impacts from last year's large fires, suggest there may be more cases of bears visiting residential areas this year in some parts of the state.

Bears in search of food are often attracted to homes and into proximity with people. This close contact puts both humans and bears at risk. Most conflicts are the result of people unintentionally feeding bears, most often by allowing them access to household garbage, bird feeders, garden areas or trees bearing fruit.

Since garbage stored outside is the biggest attractant, storing garbage in a secure garage or shed until the morning of collection will virtually eliminate the chances of a bear visit. If a bear does not find a food source, it will move on.

Fences, lighting and dogs have not been found to be effective, long-term deterrents when foods are available. Bears are good climbers, so to reduce a bear's ability to get over a fence, it should be at least six feet tall and constructed of non-climbable material.

Recognizing the potential risk to both humans and bears, Game and Fish spends considerable time and money each year relocating bears. Unfortunately, this effort

SAY 'CHEESE!'

Ocelot Photographs Spark Analysis

New trail camera photos of an ocelot in the Huachuca Mountains are now being analyzed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department to determine if it is the same one sighted there twice in 2011.

The photos — taken late April 26 and early April 27 — were provided to the department by a third party who wishes not to be identified. The ocelot's spotting pattern is being compared to that of an ocelot photographed by Game and Fish officers in February 2011 and by a hunter's trail camera in May 2011. The spotting patterns in the 2011 photos, both taken in the Huachucas, matched.

"If photo analysis concludes it is the same ocelot, it shows that the cat not only survived the Monument Fire, but also remains in the Huachucas," said Regional Supervisor Raul Vega of Game and Fish in Tucson.

Only One Since The '60s

Ocelots are small to medium-sized spotted cats with a long tail. These cats have been listed as endangered since 1982 under the federal Endangered Species Act. Since being listed, ocelots have only rarely been seen in Arizona. Only one other ocelot, an animal run over near Globe in April 2010, has been confirmed in Arizona since the mid-1960s.

The department has been provided with two other trail camera photos of an ocelot

reportedly taken in Arizona, from February 2012 and November 2009. In both cases the location of the photos could not be determined, although the February 2012 photo was of the Huachucas ocelot based on the spotting pattern.

Ocelots Are Protected By ESA

Ocelots tend to be smaller in size in the more northerly portions of their habitat range than those individuals in the central or southern habitat areas. The upper body coloring is highly variable, ranging from grayish to cinnamon or tawny to reddish brown. Dark markings form chainlike streaks down the sides of the ocelot's body. They have a fairly long tail, as long as the body, and short rounded ears.

The present range for ocelots is in the eastern and western lowlands of Mexico, from southern Mexico through Central America and in the lowland areas of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil. On the fringes of their range, they occupy a very limited region in both the United States (a remnant population exists in southern Texas) and Argentina.

Other animals such as bobcats, young mountain lions and servals — an African cat popular in the pet trade — are sometimes misidentified as ocelots, which is why verification is so very important.

Ocelots are protected by the Endangered Species Act and should be left alone.



Stock Photo

SAME CAT? — New trail camera photos of an ocelot in the Huachuca Mountains are now being analyzed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department to determine if it is the same one sighted there twice in 2011. The photos — taken late April 26 and early April 27 — were provided to the department by a third party. If this is the same ocelot, the cat appears then not only to have survived the 2011 Monument Fire but also has stayed in the Huachucas.

If anyone encounters a cat believed to be an ocelot, the Game and Fish Department requests that photos, along with observation information, be reported immediately to the department. A phone number for reporting is 1-800-352-0700.

For more information on ocelots, visit www.azgfd.gov/ocelot.

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RV Land Cruising



Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: The Premier Eclipse Viewing Location

Join Glen Canyon National Recreation Area staff on May 20 to experience a rare annular eclipse of the sun. Wahweap View, three miles north of the Carl Hayden Visitor Center on US Highway 89, is the park's official eclipse viewing location.

Rangers and amateur astronomers representing astronomy clubs in Arizona and New Mexico will provide solar telescopes and viewing devices to experience this extraordinary phenomenon.

Wahweap View parking is limited to the first 45 vehicles; no RVs or vehicles with trailers will be permitted on Wahweap View. Visitors are asked to park at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center and ride the free Solar Eclipse Shuttle Bus to Wahweap View that will operate from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. MST. Tour buses will be allowed to

drop off passengers on Wahweap View and then be redirected to a satellite parking area.

The eclipse can be easily viewed in many western states but will be especially prominent in Northern Arizona. Because of the accessibility of the mesa tops in and around Glen Canyon and the town of Page, there are many areas that provide unobstructed views of the West.

Beginning at 5:26 p.m. MST, the moon will begin its slow passage in front of the sun and by 6:35 p.m. MST will be at maximum eclipse that blocks the entire solar disk except for a thin brilliant ring around the edge. Glen Canyon staff will provide safety viewing glasses at Wahweap View since it is essential to wear protective eyewear wherever you plan to view the

eclipse.

Other eclipse events will take place in various locations from May 17-May 20. All programs are free to the public. Park entrance fees apply inside Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

May 17: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sidewalk Solar Astronomy at National Bank of Arizona, 58 S Lake Powell Blvd. Rangers and astronomers will set up solar scopes to show our active sun.

May 18: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kids and Family Friendly Astronomy Day at Carl Hayden Visitor Center. Rangers and astronomers will have many activities for kids and adults.

May 19: Noon-1 p.m. Meet and greet astrophysicist Tyler Nordgren at Colorado River Discovery, 130 6th Ave, Page, AZ.



Rangers and astronomers will provide Sidewalk Solar Astronomy during that time.

May 19: 8 p.m. Evening presentation by astrophysicist Tyler Nordgren at Wahweap Amphitheater. Star gazing follows presentation. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (fee to enter park applies).

May 20: 10:45-11:45 a.m. Astronomer Steve Dodder presents "The Moon and Its Phases" at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center.

May 20: 4-7 p.m. Annular Eclipse Wah-

See ECLIPSE on page 14

BEAT THE HEAT!

All Are Invited To Join The Reptiles, Bugs, Scorpions And Other Critters

Cave Creek Regional Park has a full schedule of desert-related education events in June.

This summer there's a "cool" chance to experience the wonders of the Sonoran desert while escaping the heat. Cave Creek Regional Park will be offering a variety of programs early in the morning, late in the evening or in the luxury of our air-condi-



Arizona Bark Scorpion

tioned Nature Center.

Hikes/programs are canceled if heavy inclement weather is imminent. If possible, canceled hikes will be posted on the Web site. www.maricopa.gov/parks/cave_creek.

Please join in for exciting ranger-guided hikes and family-oriented programs at Cave Creek Regional Park. This complete list of opportunities for Cave Creek Regional Park and other county parks can be found by visiting our website at http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/cave_creek.

What To Bring

Please wear sturdy shoes (closed-toe), dress appropriately for the weather and bring more water than you think you will need. See descriptions below for specifics.

Notes: Fees for guided hikes and programs are included in the park entry fee of \$6 per vehicle or with your annual pass. Reservations are not required unless specified in the program description.

June Schedule

June 1 Friday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. —

Moonlight Hike: Clay Mine: Join us on an amazing and mysterious adventure as we enter our Clay Mine at night! This will be an easy one-mile hike as we have the moon light the way to the mine. Once inside, candles will bring us through the history of this mine and will learn how its contents were used to cure all your ailments. Bring water and a flashlight in case you need it. We will supply the helmets to enter the mine as long as you wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Meet at the Group Campground.

June 9 Saturday, 10 - 11 a.m. —

Desert Survival: Join us for a discussion of basic techniques for staying alive in the desert. We'll discuss safety, hydration, "staying found," orienting, venomous creatures, etc. These are skills that could save your life one day. Meet at the Nature Center.

June 16 Saturday, 10 - 11 a.m. —

Reptile Feeding: Have you ever seen a reptile eat? Join the staff after your morning hike and see how our cold-blooded residents eat their meals for yourself! Frozen rodent entrees will be served to the critters. Come learn about the important roles these creatures play in our dynamic food web. Feeding takes place in the Nature Center.

Saturday, Noon - 1 p.m. — Ven-

omous Creatures: Join us for a presentation about the venomous creatures you may find around the Valley! Enjoy the beauty of these wonderful and misunderstood animals while learning about fasci-

nating facts and the important roles each creature plays in the desert ecosystem. As Marie Curie, French Physicist and two-time Nobel Prize recipient said, "Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood." Meet inside the Nature Center.

Saturday, 7:30- 8:30p.m. — Bug

Theater: The Blacklight Chronicles: Join Ranger Sarah and bug expert, James Waters of ASU, as we light up the night and see what creepy crawlies want to come visit us. This is a hit with the kids and you will be surprised how much you will enjoy it too! First we will start with a presentation on different types of insects and spiders that live in the desert and then we will create our own movie screen of bugs! We will see moths, beetles and even a praying mantis or two. Bring flashlights and go easy on the bug spray! Bug guides will be on hand. You are more than welcome to enjoy a picnic dinner beforehand and then meet with us afterwards. Meet at the Nature Center.

June 23 Saturday, 7:30-9 p.m. —

Scorpion Hunt: Did you know that scorpions glow in the dark under a blacklight? Join us on this fun and safe night walk to find these elusive desert dwellers (using our eyes only). You will learn cool facts about these amazing creatures and sharpen your spotting skills! All ages will enjoy this casual one-hour/one-mile night walk. Please wear closed-toe shoes and bring water and a flashlight (blacklights are recommended). No pets, please. Meet at Nature Center.

For more information, visit www.maricopa.gov/parks/cave_creek

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ECLIPSE

Continued from page 12

weap View; gates to Wahweap View open at 3:30 for parking. Free Solar Express shuttle bus provides service 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. MST from Carl Hayden Visitor Center to Wahweap View.

Along with dozens of astronomers and equipment to help view the eclipse, rangers will make pinhole cameras to view the eclipse, have solar gadgets to show the power of the sun, and provide eclipse-viewing safety glasses to the first 400 people who come up to Wahweap View.

For additional information contact Ranger Joan Mayer at 928-608-6353

"There are things in the Universe that we cannot see yet they exist There are things in the Universe that we can see that no longer exist Such is the nature of understanding the Universe and oneself."



SOLAR COOKING — What a concept! Arizona is a great location for solar cooking, and it suits boating and water-sports enthusiasts as well as campers (as shown in this photo) perfectly! Possible future articles may include recipes, stories of experiences with solar "appliances," and information on the eco, health, and practical benefits of cooking with sunshine. Meanwhile, for more information, e-mail heather.r.stevens@gmail.com.

FISH REPORT

Continued from page 7

followed by 30-pounder. Cast a single hook on a bucktail jig after dark to prevent hooking your hand during lure removal.

Striper spawning is a singular event that should be on any angler's bucket list. I have been fortunate enough to have witnessed this event only about five times in 30 years. Night fishing is not my favorite, but conditions are right this week for striper spawning to occur.

On A Calm, Warm Night

Here is the plan. Choose a calm night when water temperature has increased from the low 60s in the morning to mid

70s in the evening. Choose a warm night when water temperature remains high. That triggers the females and spawning occurs.

Find the male aggregation by trolling or casting to prominent points at dusk. Sometimes surface splashing near shore at dusk marks the spawning coves. Anchor the boat one long cast from shore. It is fine to catch males while waiting for the bigger fish to move in.

This event is the only fishing experience that exceeds a major striper boil lasting longer than an hour. The time is close. I hope you find them.

At press time lake elevation was 3,634 and water temperature was 64-72F.

FAIR

Continued from page 1

encouraged to visit the Web site to find out about the different boating laws that exist on the Colorado River," said Lucia Bercera, California's boating law administrator. "The Web site also has information on how to select an appropriate life jacket."

Second Most Dangerous

The lower Colorado River System is shared by Arizona, California and Nevada. If taken as its own boating entity, the Colorado River System is the second most dangerous waterway in America, including the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, the Great

Lakes, and the Gulf of Mexico.

State lines artificially slice up the system, so the three states have come together to talk about the river holistically. While many laws are congruent, a few laws differ and can confuse boaters. Providing a forum to the millions of Colorado River boaters to learn about the different boating laws is crucial to reduce the number of accidents, injuries and fatalities that occur every year.

The life jacket campaign is funded by a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, and is administered by the Coast Guard.

More details are at www.BoatColoradoRiver.com.

EVENT

Continued from page 1

Safe Boating Committee, Inc. in 1973 to lead major boating safety efforts. The next year, the committee was reincorporated as the National Safe Boating Council, Inc.

Membership

Currently, the Council supports a volunteer membership of over 330 organizations. These organizations are federal, state and local agencies involved in recreational boating safety and educational activities, national and regional nonprofit public service organizations, and national nonprofit boating industry organizations. Membership is diverse, with approximately 65 percent of the membership being nonprofit organizations and 35 percent being for-profit organizations.

Programs

The Council promotes and sponsors boating-safety-instructor training courses and programs including —

Boating safety instructor training course — a partnership-training program between the Council and National Association of State Boating Law Administrators designed to recognize the instructor candidate's prior training and instructor experience.

Close-quarters boat control course — a defensive boat handling and close-quarter control course that focuses on maneuvers and techniques for enforcement officers and agencies that need good skills in operating power boats while performing their duties.

Boating Safety Sidekicks — introduced in 2000 for children to learn about safe boating practices and how they can become safer boaters.

North American Safe Boating Campaign — the official entrance of Canada in 2000 transformed National Safe Boating Week into a larger, international event.

Annual Conference

In 1997, the Council joined with the National Water Safety Congress (NWSC) to create one, annual event called the International Boating and Water Safety Summit (IBWSS).

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DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid-May



1912-2012

BEYOND ARIZONA

2012 YELLOWTAIL DERBY — Through June 10; San Diego; john@azbw.com

BOATING

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK: May 19-26 — See story on page 1.

TRI-STATE BOATING SAFETY FAIR: May 19 — See story on page 1.

35TH ANNUAL GREAT WESTERN TUBE FLOAT: June 9 — Parker; Patria Flat, float 5 miles down the Parker Strip as singles, groups, or teams, prizes and awards at Blue Water Resort & Casino Beach, registration at 7 am, float at 9 am, 928-669-6511 or <http://parkertourism.com>

WATERLESS BOAT RACES: May 19 — Lake Havasu City; one part stock car racing, one part demolition derby, one part boat racing, features cars pulling boats (without trailers) around the Havasu 95 Stock Car Speedway, the object is to finish the race with as much boat left as you can, afterwards, the stock car racing, 928-716-6300 or <http://www.havasuspeedway.com>

CAMPING/RVING/ AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

27TH ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND PENSTEMON FESTIVAL: July 14 — Flagstaff; The Arboretum at Flagstaff, features native plants for the home garden, gifts & books, special activities, tours, children's craft activities, free, 10 am - 4 pm, 928-774-1442 or <http://www.thearb.org>

HA:SAN BAK SAGUARO HARVEST FESTIVAL: July 7 — Vail; Colossal Cave Mountain Park, (16721 E. Old Spanish Trail, 85641) participants harvest saguaro fruit, prepare & taste saguaro products & learn about the saguaro, its natural history, importance & uses to the Tohono O'odham, \$65 for the workshop, plus admission, pre-register, for just the celebration with tastings and entertainment, \$5/car up to six people, 520-647-7121 or <http://www.colossalcave.com>

BEAR AWARE

Continued from page 11

does little for the bears or homeowners. Some bears must be destroyed because they are considered too dangerous, have lost their fear of humans, or continue to get into conflicts with people.

Following removal or relocation, the homeowner might experience more problems from a different bear if the identified attractant is not eliminated. Relocating a bear is also traumatic for the animal and does not guarantee it will live. Some are

FLAGSTAFF: WILDFLOWERS & WINE: June 29 — Flagstaff; The Arboretum at Flagstaff, a wide selection of red and white wines will be available for tasting at a series of locations throughout the gardens, Vincent Z. will provide live entertainment outdoors, 12:53 pm, 928-774-1442 or <http://www.thearb.org>

ANNUAL MUSIC IN THE GARDEN SPRING CONCERT SERIES: June 29 — Desert Botanical Garden, desert beauty and the sounds of the Valley's premier musicians, this week features Cold Shott and the Hurricane Horns, R&B/blues, reservations recommended, \$15-21, Fridays, 7:30 pm, 480-481-8188 or <http://www.dbg.org>

CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

COMMUNITY

JULY 4TH TEMPE TOWN LAKE FESTIVAL: July 4 — Tempe; Fireworks Spectacular, concert event stage, live music, inflatable kid's Ride village, vendors, water fun and games for the family, \$8 or \$15 for two, under 12 free, 4-11 pm, 480-350-5189 or <http://www.tempe4th.com>

FISHING

26TH ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY FISHING CONTEST: June 17 — Pinetop-Lakeside Woodland Lake Park, registration begins at 10 am, prizes, trophies, hot dogs, sponsored by VFW 2364 and Ladies Auxiliary, 928-367-4290 or <http://ci.pinetop-lakeside.az.us/>

HUNTING

APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 12 — For deer, fall turkey, fall javelina, bighorn sheep, fall buffalo, and pheasant; www.azgfd.gov/draw

RAILHEAD SHOOTING COMPETITION: June 28-July 1 — Williams; Williams Shooting Range, with the Arizona Cowboy Shooters Assoc., includes shooting range, vendors and event banquet at the Wild West Junction, <http://www.acsaine.com>

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

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killed by larger, older bears that have established territory in an area.

If a bear is in your yard or neighborhood and refuses to leave, immediately contact your closest Game and Fish office during business hours, or call 1-800-352-0700 evenings, weekends, and holidays. Depending on what the bear is doing, department personnel may respond if it remains in the area.

If you see a bear in the distance, go in a different direction to avoid it. Bears rarely approach people. If a bear does approach you, discourage it by —

Hunting Access In Counties And Municipalities

Over the past year the Department was able to successfully implement legislation that added nearly one million acres of lands accessible to hunting in proximity to municipalities. Many of these lands were uninhabited annexed areas on the outskirts of cities and towns, not slated for development for many years. Hunting had been an appropriate use of the annexed lands but was prohibited due to municipal firearms ordinances or existing state law. The Arizona Game and Fish Commission and Department took a thoughtful, conservative approach in implementing the new laws in close coordination with municipal and county authorities.

Federal Land Management

A significant portion of Arizona consists of public land managed by federal agencies such as the Forest Service and the

Free:

LEARN-TO-CURL CLASSES: June and July — Scottsdale, Alltel Ice Den; see story on page 6 of this issue; <http://www.coyotescurling.com> or <http://www.deserticebonspiel.com/>

Swimming:

28TH ANNUAL MOUNTAIN MAN TRIATHLON: July 15 — Flagstaff; Lake Mary, Sprint: swim 700 meters, bike 10.6 miles, run 3.1 miles; Olympic: swim 1500 meters, bike 24.9 miles, run 6.2 miles, spectators free, 6:30 am, 928-526-8761 or <http://www.mountainmanevents.com>

4TH ANNUAL JCC SCOTTSDALE FIRECRACKER ADULT & YOUTH & SPRINT TRIATHLON & DUATHLON: July 9 — Scottsdale; Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center Pool, (12701 N. Scottsdale Rd.), mini tri: adults: 250 yd. swim, 9.5 mi bike, 2 mi run; Maxi Tri: 500 yd. swim, 12.6 mi bike, 2 mi run; Youth: 100 yd swim, 3.1 mi bike; 1/2 mi run DU: adults: 1/2 mi. run, 9.5 mi bike, 2 mi run, 5:30 am, <http://www.trifamilyracing.com>

17TH ANNUAL HOLUALOA FIRECRACKER TRIATHLON: July — Tucson; 750 meter pool swim, 12 mile bike ride around the UA area, 3 mile run through UA campus, includes a Youth Triathlon with a 250 meter swim, a 4 mile bike and a 1 mile run, 5:45 am, <http://www.tritucson.com>

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

- Giving the bear a chance to leave the area.

- Staying calm if the bear does not leave, continuing to face it, and slowly backing away.

- NEVER running and NEVER playing dead.

Black bears are the only species of bear in Arizona. Although they are called black bears, their fur color can vary widely and include brown, cinnamon and blond bears. These are the smallest and most common type of bear in North America.

PAYSON SPRINT TRIATHLON: June 9 — Payson; Rumsey Park, Taylor Pool, swim 500 yards, bike 15 miles, run 5K, pre-registered participants receive a race shirt, check in at 6 am, 928-474-5242 or <http://www.paysontrifamilyracing.com>

37TH ANNUAL MIGHTY MUD MANIA: June 9 — Scottsdale; Chaparral Park, (5401 N. Hayden Rd.), includes mud obstacle courses for 1-6 yr olds and 7-17 yr olds, and a mud puddle pool for tiny tots, also sandcastle building, giant waterslides, giant water cannons and a swim, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, 480-312-2771 or <http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/MightyMudMania>

WILDLIFE-RELATED

WILDLIFE AT GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK: May 18-May 20 — The park will be hosting a variety of events; we will be commemorating Endangered Species Day (May 18), hosting Celebrate Wildlife Day (May 19), and viewing both the annular eclipse of the sun and the night sky (May 20). Please, read below for more information or visit the park's Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/naturescience/wildlife-day.htm> OR <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/annular201205.htm>

HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL: June 23 — Flagstaff; The Arboretum at Flagstaff, (4001 S. Woody Mountain Rd., 86001), learn from experts about the habits of native hummingbird species and how to attract them to your garden, tour the gardens to find out plant species that will work in your zone, families can participate in hands-on activities, 5:30 - 9 am - 5 pm, 928-774-1442 or <http://www.thearb.org>

SIERRA VISTA: HUMMINGBIRD BANDING AT SAN PEDRO: June 2 — Sierra Vista; San Pedro House, (9800 E. Highway 90), get an up-close look at the catch, band, weigh, measure and release by licensed banders of the tiny birds for research purposes, 4-6 pm, 520-432-1388 or <http://www.sabo.org>

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

CURL

Continued from page 6

Curl 2B-Advanced)

Saturday, July 28: 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 8: 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 11: 6-8 p.m.

There are still spots open for the Summer League and the Learn-to-Curl classes. Register yourself, you and a friend, or as a full team — choose one of the three value options, and come out curling. We'll take care of the rest!

If you have any questions regarding the League, please e-mail our League coordinators Carl Nelson at carlnelson@coyotescurling.com or Shawn Tait at shawntait@coyotescurling.com.

Thank you and good curling!

INFORMATION

Continued from page 10

recreational access and improving relationships with private landowners.

For example, working in partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), we've been able to hire four regional Landowner Relations Specialists that are split-funded between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and NRCS to work on access and habitat issues on ranches across the state.

Through the Department's successful grant application to a federal Farm Bill program (the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Improvement Program), Arizona Game and Fish will receive \$1.7 million over three years to provide to landowners, through short-term access agreements, for projects that ensure recreational access to and through private lands and improve wildlife habitat.

Bureau of Land Management. Management, and access to, various forms of recreation on those lands is impacted by a variety of factors, including a growing population, increased visitation, resource protection, and diverse public values over use of the land.

The Department is regularly engaged with those agencies on issues involving the management of those lands, including Forest Plans and Resource Management Plans, Travel Management Plans, wilderness and monument designations that sometimes carry the possibility of restrictions on outdoor recreation such as target shooting, vehicular access, dispersed camping and off-highway vehicles, and others.

The Department's Future Efforts

The Commission and the Department are committed to ensuring recreational access for the public through the aforemen-

tioned efforts, as well as through ongoing engagement in new and creative ways to form relationships with private landowners and land management agencies that result in cooperative solutions to difficult recreational access issues.

These issues continually change over time, and we are committed to a flexible, adaptive approach that takes into consideration the full spectrum of activities, policies, rules, and on-the-ground relationship building to ensure recreational access for Arizonans.

If you are interested in contributing to the Department's efforts, there are opportunities available to volunteer your time and efforts. More information is available by contacting the Department's Volunteer Coordinator at (623) 236-7311. Monetary donations are also accepted and will be used specifically on activities that ensure public access.



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Margie Caroline Fitch Allen: Jan. 25, 1925-May 5, 2012

By Her Daughter-In-Law Carol L. Allen

Margie Caroline Fitch Allen was our Birding Editor and a woman who taught us so much about not only birds of the world, but also about wildlife and animals in general. She loved them all. In fact, one of the main reasons Margie and her brother Jack Fitch lived in the somewhat-remote mountain country of Rociada/Pendaries, N.M., was to be

close to the wildlife and her birds. Besides her love of animals, Margie was an avid reader of non-fiction with preferences for biographies and history works. It was fascinating to talk with her about well-known figures whose lives had paralleled her own. Although her recent homes were all in New Mexico, Margie was born in Nebraska, educated at Wayne State Teachers' College, and taught (chemistry, home economics, English, and

girls' athletics) at Washington High School, Phoenix. Besides her brother Jack, Margie is survived by her son and our publisher Jim Allen, two daughters: Leslie Thornton and Lynn McWilliams, and three grandchildren. Margie Allen — sister, mother, grandmother, and advocate for all in the animal kingdom — will be greatly missed. We can only think now that her spirit is soaring with her beloved birds.



Margie and Jim Allen, Sr., circa 1945

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