



Winter 2006/2007

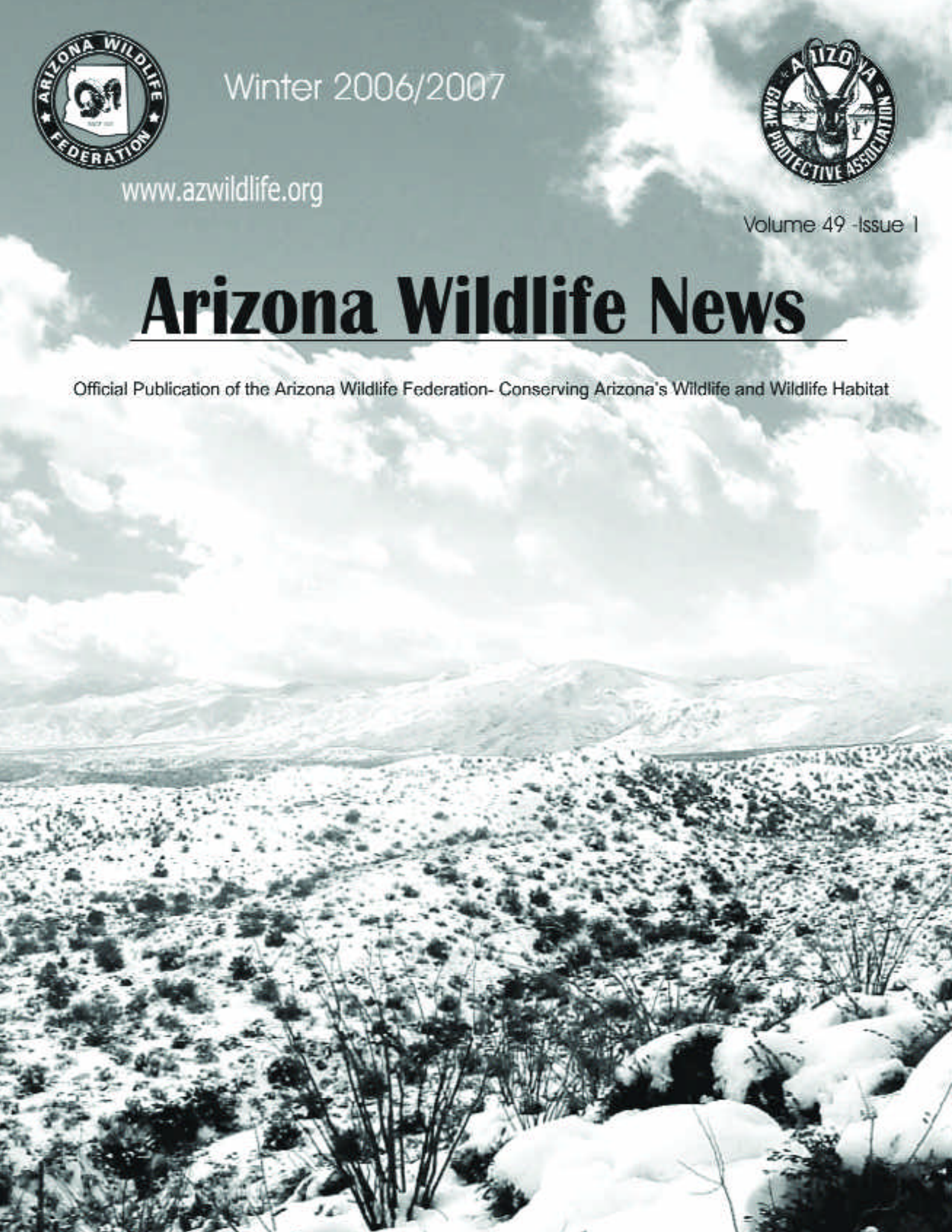
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Volume 49 - Issue 1

# Arizona Wildlife News

Official Publication of the Arizona Wildlife Federation- Conserving Arizona's Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat





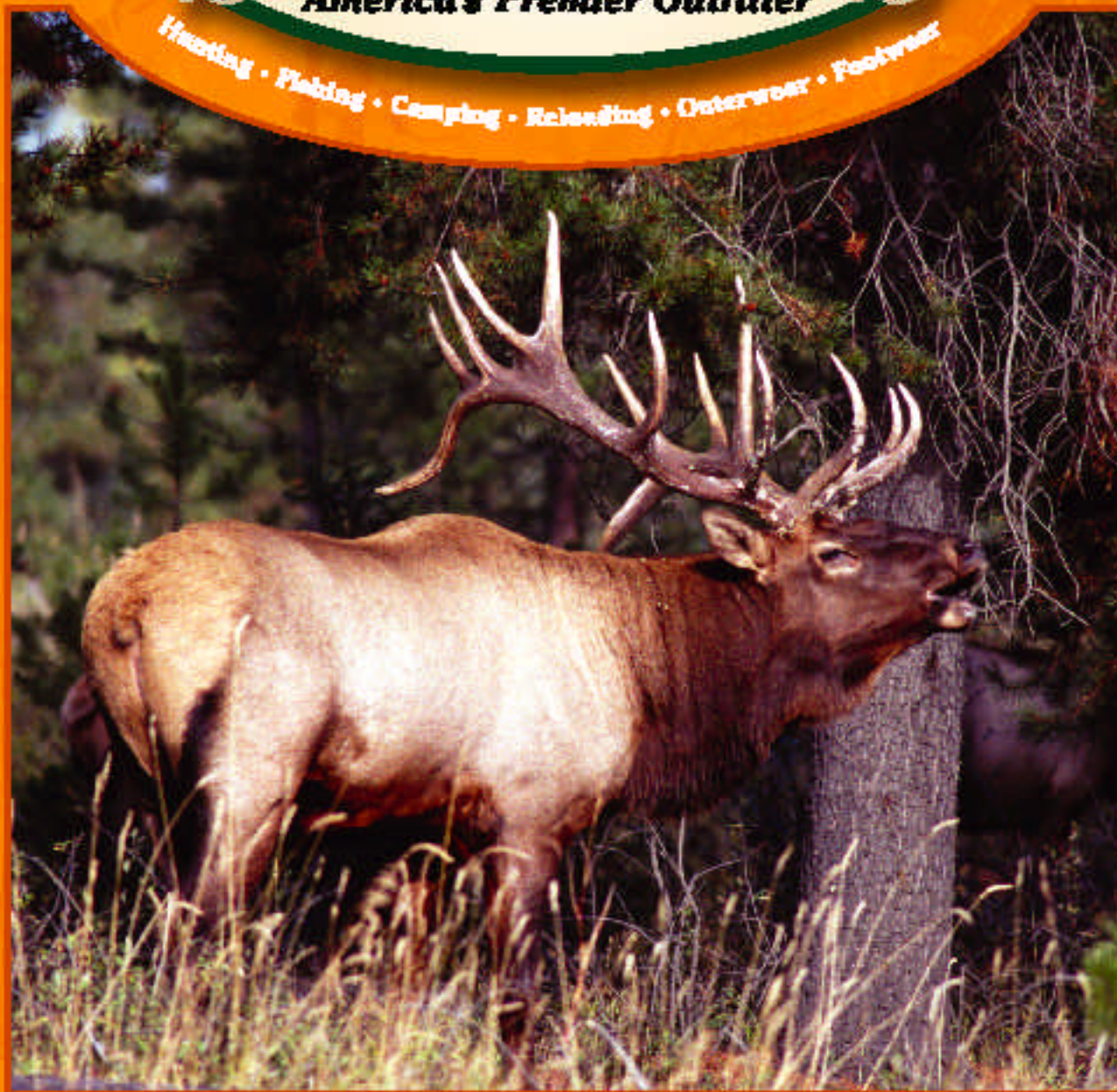
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## In This Issue

- Page 4 Sportsmans Mailpouch  
Page 5 From the President  
Page 6 Historical Tracks  
Page 7 Streams and Game Trails  
Page 8 Jerry's Bull  
Page 9 Annettes's Elk Hunt  
Page 10 Big Titonka  
Page 12 Rattlesnake IQ  
Page 14 BOW Happenings  
Page 16 Fishing Fun  
Page 17 Upcoming Events  
Page 18 Know Your Board  
Page 19 Agency News  
Page 20 AWF Roundup  
Page 21 The Camp Cook  
Page 22 Membership

**On the Cover:** This issue of the Arizona Wildlife News features an image taken last spring on the Mazatal Mountain range. Photographer is Raymond Drayer

If you have a photograph or painting that you would like to submit for consideration on a future cover of Arizona Wildlife News, please contact AWF at the address below.

### ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS \* VOLUME 49 \* Winter 2007

published by the ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

An Affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation

644 N Country Club Dr, Ste E, Mesa, Arizona 85201-4943 \* 480-644-0077

The official publication of the Arizona Wildlife Federation, the state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, Arizona Wildlife News (ISSN ) is published quarterly as a service to affiliate members and Federation members. AWF is Arizona's oldest conservation organization. The editorials and commentaries in this publication do not necessarily reflect the mission or position of the Arizona Wildlife Federation. AWF is an equal opportunity provider.

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# Sportsmans Mail Pouch

John Underwood



## Editor Scratchings

As we end up this 2006, I thought I would take a few minutes to look back at this past year as far as the Arizona Wildlife Federation is concerned and where AWF will be in 2007. In November 2005, the Budget Reconciliation Bill was passed in the house. This would have allowed the Government to lift the ban on the sale or patenting of public lands, up to 5.5 million acres, allowing the sale of these lands. We were a part of the colliation that got this stopped in 2006. The battle continued on through the year with the government's efforts to sell off your public lands within the national forests, parks and wildlife refuges to private individuals (should I say development). So far the many Wildlife and Conservation groups have defeated this effort. The battle is not over, but AWF is monitoring the situation and ready to join efforts to defeat any future legislation.

Arizona passed two important bills, HB2129 Poaching Bill, which deals with stiff penalties for poaching wildlife sponsored by Rep Jerry Weiers and The Ban on Feeding Wildlife in Pima, and Maricopa counties, which was attached to HB2129 by Sen. Toni Hellon.

The Arizona Wildlife Federation applied for and received a grant from the National Forest Foundation to restore four small lakes on Anderson Mesa in the Coconino National Forest. An AWF Member Appeal letter was sent and YOU responded with generous donations for the project along with the outstanding support from the Az. Game & Fish Dept., Arizona

Antelope foundation, Arizona Predator Callers, Wildlife Conservation Council, Arizona Deer Association and Arizona Bowhunters. Work was started in July and is almost finished. Together we will make a difference!

The Thirty-Sixth Annual AWF Trophy Awards Banquet was held on July 15th starting with Cocktails and Silent Auctions followed by Dinner, Awards, Auction and Raffles. Over 300 folks attended and all had a great and rewarding time. The next Trophy Banquet will be held on April 28, 2007. Plan on coming it is a great experience.

The Becoming and Outdoors Woman events were held and the attendance even exceeded our expectations. The events at Saguaro Lake Ranch in February, April at Friendly Pines, August at Friendly Pines (both in the Bradshaw Mountains), in addition to the many choices of workshops, classes and hands on events, the auctions raised much needed monies for the BOW scholarship fund. Try and plan on attending one of these events in the coming year. They are a fun and learning experience.

The Arizona Wildlife Foundation this past summer sponsored the Becoming an Outdoors Family at the Bradshaw Pines campgrounds. The Foundation provided for meals and outdoor activities for family's and single parents. In October the annual fish outing at the Tempe Town Lakes for the Pappas Kids went off with a roaring success, with over 100 kids attending, and with thanks to Jim Solomon who ramrods the event and the many volunteers and contributors. The Foundation plans more events in the coming year. Stay tuned.

Your Arizona Wildlife Federation

and Arizona Wildlife Foundation is an all-volunteer organization with the exception of our office manager. We value your support and rely solely on donations, sales of artwork, books and merchandise to build and sustain our education and conservation programs. You can contribute to our efforts with donations, bequests, gifts in trust, annuities, life insurance policies, assignments of royalties, as well as corporate sponsorships.

Until next time, Have a Wonderful Holiday, be safe, and enjoy Arizona's great outdoors!

We urge our readers to communicate to us cheers and even jeers (given in good taste, or course). Keep your communications short and to the point. All must be signed. If you send us questions, we will seek answers and print them here. There may be times mail volume may prevent us from publishing every letter we receive, but we will do our best to print as many as possilbe.

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It is our goal to provide a well-written informative magazine and your feedback will help us do that. This is your magazine, let us hear from you.



# From The President

Greetings AWF Members!

Well, the election is finally over and I think we are all relieved it is over, regardless of what we think of the outcome! Two items I followed with great interest were Prop 105 and Prop 106, the propositions involving state trust land reform. AWF believes that state trust land reform is badly needed in Arizona.

Both propositions failed so the movers and shakers will be going back to the drawing board to work on state trust land reform again. AWF was not involved in drafting either Proposition 105 or 106, but it was not for lack of trying. Hopefully this time the movers and shakers will form a broader coalition that includes wildlife advocates and sportsmen as they make a renewed attempt at state trust land reform.

As the movers and shakers go back to the drawing board, AWF will strive to be involved to provide support for the wildlife of Arizona. Here are some key things AWF will look for in any state trust land reform proposal:

- All "stakeholders" need to be consulted in any reform process...including sportsmen, conservationists, preservationists, ranchers, developers, environmentalists, government agencies, and educators.
- State Trust Land reform must include all State Trust Lands, and not ignore 8.5 million plus acres of rural lands.
- We need to conserve sensitive urban interface State Trust Land around metro areas as an alternative to development.

- Wildlife needs to be recognized as a critical component of all State Trust Lands and an integral part of any decisions concerning those lands.
- State Trust Land use and planning should recognize landscape assessments and wildlife migration corridors as critical components and a priority in determining appropriate disposition and management of the State Trust Lands.
- Public recreational use and access to State Trust Lands need to be priority consideration in management and disposition of State Trust Lands, especially hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing.
- State Trust Land lessees need to be held accountable for good land and wildlife stewardship, with enforcement and sanctions against violators of that stewardship.

These items are taken from the AWF position paper on state trust land reform, which can be found on our website [azwildlife.org](http://azwildlife.org). (thanks to Jim Unmacht for his major contribution to this position paper).

I hope you will show support for Arizona's wildlife by demanding that these items be included in any future state trust land reform proposals that you support!

Thanks Folks!  
Mary Jo Forman Miller  
President, AWF Wildlife Federation

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## WHADDA' YA' KNOW

1. What woods were favored for Native American bow making?
2. What sinew was best for Native American bow strings?
3. A "charcoal burner" is another name for what?
4. What is the real name of the rabbit behind "Jack-a-lope" mythology?
5. Name the disease carried most often by rabbits which is transmittable to humans
6. What precautions should be taken when cleaning a rabbit to prevent exposure to this disease?

(Answers on page 22)



## Historical Tales

by Ryna Rock

REPRINTED FROM AGPA'S *ARIZONA WILDLIFE AND SPORTSMAN*

APRIL 1942

**M**any conservation agencies and high public officials are now emphasizing that wartime calls for increased vigilance and greater effort in wildlife conservation, and for husbanding of all natural resources so far as consistent with the war effort. Do not present conditions actually afford an unusual opportunity to give greater relief to certain hard-pressed game species? Let us see.

Automobile tires are already off the market, so far as the hunter is concerned, and by the next fall hunting season (If not now) we shall all be saving every possible mile of rubber use. Gasoline, already rationed in the East, might be rationed elsewhere at any time as the needs of our armed forces increase.

Sporting ammunition at present is in stock, but no one can say whether it will still be available next fall in anything like the quantities normally used in the hunting season. I doubt that there will be normal supplies. You may think differently—wishful thinking may be comforting to you, but is apt to be disappointing.

This combination of circumstances beyond our control seems to the writer to offer an unparalleled opportunity to give a real break to migratory game birds in particular. That they need all the protection they are now receiving, and even more, is indicated by such excerpts as the following, from the last Annual Report of the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, "A heavy kill resulted from liberalized hunting regulations....Estimates.....revealed about 7,000,000 ducks and geese on the North American continent, an increase of only 5,000,000 over last year. This is the smallest increase to be recorded since the beginning of the restoration program and suggested that the shooting-season harvest came perilously close to the entire crop." "Continuous studies of the status of the woodcock indicate that its numerical strength is still insufficient to meet the demands of sportsmen.....A fear that the Wilson's snipe also was suffering progressive reduction was confirmed by the year's studies.....Investigation of the status of the white-winged dove in the Southwest and at points in eastern and western Mexico showed that while the heaviest concentrations are in the United States, these are steadily declining." "Management of the species is imperative, for though conditions vary locally, there are fewer birds left than there are food, water, and nesting resources for them."

While the writer has always believed that the best interests

of the hunters themselves would be served by a one or two year closed season on waterfowl, the majority, supported by the munitions makers, themselves notoriously shortsighted, have willed it otherwise. Is not a closed season on waterfowl for a year or for the duration a sensible, logical, practical, and desirable conservation measure? Then why not resolve to actively promote it?

While woodcock is not of direct concern to Arizona sportsmen that seems to us no reason why we should not support a move for a closed season on the species. The writer was amazed and disappointed when, after a severe winter which greatly reduced this species by freezing up its bog feeding grounds in the south, neither the woodcock hunters nor the Fish and Wildlife Service moved to meet the situation by closing the season for even one year. If its "numerical strength is still insufficient to meet the demands of sportsmen" why in heavens name is it not given a closed season—by the sportsmen themselves.

Wilson's snipe admittedly needs further protections also, and what better time than now? This species occurs so sparingly in Arizona that it is almost unknown to our hunters. The same is true of the Sora Rail, which should be protected when the other migratory birds mentioned are given a closed season. As for non-migratory species, the problem is a local one, but we may well consider what is bet to do under present and probably near-future conditions. The writer would not suggest even under these conditions shutting off of all hunting privileges, but only those pertaining to hard-pressed species.

We shall require hunting license revenue for game protection. We have not only enough deer, but in some areas too many; enough and to spare of elk in at least one area; and the same for antelope; some buffalo will doubtless have to be removed from the herd; and quail are in fair abundance and will furnish some hunting to good hikers without the use of automobiles.

Why not turn the available rubber and ammunition into the channels of hunting where there are sufficient or even surplus supplies of game, and give the more heavily persecuted species real chance to recover? Many locals languish for lack of some active interest. How about bringing this up for discussion? Which local will be the first to make a move in that direction? **-AWN-**





By John Underwood

## Streams and Game Trails

On September 2<sup>nd</sup> I was dove hunting off the Alamo Lake Rd. N.W. of Wickenburg. I stopped and visited with Matthew F. Peirce, the Wildlife Manager of the area for Game and Fish. We both agreed that the dove were scattered due to the wet summer the area has experienced. He then gave me his card and wrote his contact number on the back.

On September 11<sup>th</sup> I went back to the Alamo area via Hwy 71 and Bullard Wash. The plan was to scout for quail and maybe find a flight of dove. The going was slow and 4-wheel drive was necessary to travel the 10 miles to the upper part of Bullard Wash. That is where the suburban bogged down. Right in the middle of Bullard Wash. When you get a 4X4 stuck you are really stuck.

Did I forget to mention that when shifting from 4 wheel high to 4 wheel low, the truck came out of 4 wheel altogether and I was not able to re-engage? So I took out my trusty little shovel and started digging the sand out

from under the suburban. This went on for 2 ½ hours, digging, jacking up, brush, rocks, well you get the idea. My trusty Lab Kaley was in no mood to help dig so she went to her kennel which I unloaded along with the rest of the gear to lighten up in hopes of getting the truck lighter, thus powering out. Nope! Did not help.

While setting in the shade pondering my fate, I happened to remember Matthew Peirce's card and contact number. I called Mr. Peirce and told him my woeful tale. He said he would come down and help me out. I said I would wait for him. About an hour later Mr. Peirce showed up and pulled me out of the wash. We visited again for a while along with my profuse Thanks. The rest of the trip home was uneventful. This along with all the other good work the AZG&F does shows that they are out there for us also. Thank You Again Matthew F. Peirce AZG&F Wildlife Manager region IV. Oh yeah, didn't see any Quail and only 3 doves. **-AWN-**



Matthew F Peirce

### Kaley

While on a Quail hunt in October, Kaley, my Labrador, came over a berm and abruptly stopped ears back hair on her neck up in front of her about 20 feet was an area of tall grass & weeds by an old metal water tank. She would not go any closer and we preceded a full 20 feet around this area and when clear she started hunting again. Both of us knew there was a rattler in those weeds.

Be sure to check out Jim Walkington's article on rattlesnakes on page 10. Jim gave Kaley snake avoidance training last year and a tune up this past August. It works!



### By the Numbers

(Source: NSSF) Surveys show nearly 80 percent of Americans support hunting, although less than 10 percent actually participate. These 20.5 million hunters contribute more than \$30 billion annually to the U.S. economy and support more than 986,000 jobs. They are the primary financiers (more than \$1.5 billion per year) of conservation programs that benefit all Americans who appreciate wildlife and wild places. As the trade association for the firearms, hunting and recreational shooting industry, the National Shooting Sports Foundation supports programs designed to ensure the future of hunting.

(Reuters) One recent study by the National Sporting Goods Association estimates more than 3 million women now hunt, accounting for about 16 percent of the nearly 21 million active hunters in the United States.

The study, which covered 2001 to 2005, found that 2.4 million women hunted with firearms in 2005, up 72 percent from 2001. Fifty percent more are target shooting, while the number of women bow-hunters has grown 176 percent to 786,000.

The fastest-growing age groups are women aged 18 to 24, followed by those aged 35 to 44.

## Jerry's Bull

by Jerry Thorson

**I** believe that the best time of year is when you have completed your applications for big game hunt tags. I always feel happy and contented to know that the applications were completed accurately and on time. I also dream that I will be drawn for my first choice on elk, deer, antelope sheep, and buffalo.

Now you know what a dreamer I am, because it is rare to get your first choice on the quality hunts and this year was no exception as I drew my second choice for archery bull elk in unit 3A/3C and also my second choice for the late Kaibab rifle mule deer tags. They are both great hunts so I felt immediate pressure to determine how to fit both hunts into my work schedule. I decided to hunt Friday through Sunday on the first two weekends and Tuesday through Thursday of the last week of the archery elk season. That gave me nine days to hunt and allowed me to complete my work on the non-hunt days and also recharge my batteries. My friend Bob Dye volunteered to help me scout and also help on the first hunt week end. Bob's Carlton cow mouth call can make bulls forget about danger and many smaller bulls came within archery range but the big bulls kept their distance. My friend Allan Gay also volunteered to help on the second weekend of the hunt and he successfully called in bulls with his electronic caller. All of the bulls that came to the call were smaller than what we expected for unit 3A/3C, but it is an incredible experience to have any elk come close to you during a hunt.

The last three days of my hunt I was by myself and decided not to call but try to get close to the bulls when they were bugling. Near Black Canyon Lake we had seen many bulls and heard one bull that had a growl at the end of his bugle that made him unique. I would hike up a hill before dawn and could hear him on an adjacent hill that merged with my hill up on top. On the last Tuesday of the hunt I got close to the growler bull but he slipped into the deep, dark pine tree canyon that was just beyond the hill that I climbed. I heard a loud crash after the bull was in the canyon and was wondering if one of those Rodeo Chediski fire trees had fallen on him as he stopped his bugling. I hunted by a tank near the growler's canyon during the day, but he would not come near me during the day. A smaller 6x6 did come to the tank on Tuesday evening but the opening that I intended to launch my arrow through did not appear to be big



enough for a clean shot in the dimming evening light, so I did not shoot.

On Wednesday morning I tried once again to get up the hill before the growler and as usual he slipped into the deep canyon just before me. I waited near the mouth of that canyon since there were some shooting lanes and the bull that I had yet to see was within 50 yards based on his bugle. Soon a 6x6 came walking out of the canyon on a path that would pass within 40 yards of me. Since this was the next to last day of the hunt the bull looked big enough for me so I got ready for the 40 yard shot. I pulled my bow up, focused on the opening at 40 yards, and found the sun shining in my eyes. I lowered my bow and tipped my hat forward to shade my eyes, raised the bow, drew back the arrow, and released when the bull stepped into the opening and the arrow hit the ground well before the bull. The need to shade my eyes from the sun let me forget that this was a 40 yard shot instead of a 30 yard shot so the bull jumped and ran 20 yards and then just walked away. The growler was still in the canyon and seemed to be getting closer so I waited and about 5 minutes after the smaller 6x6 walked by the growler came walking that same path. I think he had such great fun chasing the smaller bull from his canyon that he wanted to catch up with him for some additional training. This time I found an opening in the trees at 30 yards and waited for the bull to get to the opening. The bull stepped into the opening and I released the arrow. There was a thump that led me to believe that my arrow had passed through his lungs. The growler jumped and ran about 20 yards like the smaller 6x6 but then he stopped and looked back in my direction to see if he could locate the danger in his territory. I froze as I did not want him to see me and decide that he had the energy to run down into the deep canyon. He turned away from me and looked in



the direction he had been walking and then less than one minute after my arrow pierced both lungs between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> rib from the back he hit the ground as if he was dead. He was not dead, elk are incredibly strong animals and after lying on the ground for a few minutes he stood up and held his head down as if he were feeding and then he lay down gently and I remained frozen. He stood up again; lay down again and finally at 8:07 AM stopped moving and I approached him watching for any signs of life. After, I was confident he was down for good I got out the camera and determined that the portable plastic clamp on anything tripod was not in my pack. I needed pictures of this bull and me as I have never tagged a bull before but had to find a substitute tripod. A small pine tree had one horizontal branch that would support my camera but I needed to attach the camera securely to the tree so that the camera would not move. A roll of chartreuse trail marking tape did the trick to tie the camera to the branch. I deboned the bull where he laid and hung the meat in game bags at the mouth of the

canyon. I carry poly rope in my pack that has loops tied every two feet so that I can tie the rope between two trees and hang the game bags on the rope and not have them bunch up so that the wind can cool the meat. I packed out the rib eye's tenderloin's, heart, and liver on Wednesday evening and kept them in my camper refrigerator. I needed rest and the elk was 200 feet higher in elevation and .4 miles from my truck so I had a late supper slept until a few hours before dawn and then packed the rest of him out in a total of 7 .8 round trips or 5.6 miles. I used a walking stick on all the trips to provide the third leg that was needed to keep me up right on the steep sections. The last load was the head and the hide which I am sure weighed more than 100 pounds; the walking stick was really helpful when trying to get the 3 foot wide antlers between those two foot wide openings in the trees. We tried the tenderloins the following Sunday and my wife and both daughters said the elk was excellent. I hope to have the shoulder mount back from the taxidermist next summer.

## Annette's Elk

by Brett Porter

**I** was born in Tucson Az and have been hunting in az all my life. We have turned it into a family affair looking forward to the fall when the family can all get together and support who was ever lucky enough to get drawn for one of the coveted AZ big game tag.

This year it was not our normal recipient of a tag, not Son, Brother, father, uncle or friend. But the person, who normally takes care of camp, has our meals ready for us before or after the hunt and always was there with a supportive smile. It was my wife Annette.

I guess if you are lucky enough to draw a tag in the same general area that 18 years before, your wife's water broke and we had to hurry home to give birth to our first son.

That it would only make sense that our second son's football team would have a bye the weekend of opening day. That she could make the 5 hour drive after school with our son Cody his friend Zack and my brother Kevin, arriving at camp at 11:30 pm Thursday the night before the hunt. That my uncle Ted and



uncle Ted and I would drive up from Phoenix and arrive in camp at 4:30am opening day to assist in the hunt. That my father and I had scouted for several days prior to the season.

We were truly ready for a good hunt. At 6:45 am on our way up the

mountain we encountered a nice bull, we set up to see if we could get the bull out of the trees and with some expert calling from my uncle Ted we harvested a nice 6x6 bull.

The rest of the day and all of the weekend was spent packing the meat out and reliving the excitement when, the camper Annette became the hunter.

I would like to thank my Parents Ken and Judy for always taking the time to support our interest and be involved in our family.

by James H. Unmacht II (NAHC Life Member #40125536)

I guess I've wanted to hunt buffalo ever since I was a youngster growing up in Iowa. Those thoughts more than likely precipitated from watching Western movies and reading Western novels, but were also spurred along as my family crisscrossed the country on several vacations 40 years ago. It was just hard to fathom the Great Plains "black with bison", something that now might only happen with other species in the Arctic or on the Plains of Africa. So with that stage set, I would occasionally think about a buffalo hunt driving past a few fenced buffalo in the Midwest, or when the local grocery store had some buffalo burger for sale. After a time, reality would set in and the buffalo hunt would seep back into memory after the last bite from the burger.

Moving to Arizona in the late 80's changed the playing field however. In reading the Game & Fish Hunt Regulations one day, the Buffalo reference caught my eye...suddenly there was some opportunity! The price, the odds of getting drawn and even more difficult, convincing my wife I needed to begin fronting the fees for the annual draw, did not make this a slam dunk. We successfully worked through that though and eventually my Buffalo Bonus Point Quest was on!

I began acquainting myself with Arizona's buffalo history and it didn't take long to determine I wanted to actually hunt one of these beasts and not just shoot it. Of course I also wanted a "Big Titonka" (titonka = buffalo in Sioux), not a cow or yearling. So most of the time I was looking at a House Rock hunt on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon versus a Raymond Ranch hunt on the grasslands south of Flagstaff. The odds for this draw were astronomical however. Once in a Lifetime summed it up, but after 14 Bonus Points and the Game & Fish Commission's new stance towards the herd on the House Rock, I was thinking my chances for a hunt, let alone a successful one, were minimal. The National Park Service no longer had the welcome mat out for wandering bison at the Grand Canyon NP, even though they'd been "visiting" there for decades. The Raymond Ranch alternative began to look more appealing.

So that's where my focus shifted, to simply have the opportunity to harvest one of these fine animals, fill the freezer and take one more step towards the Arizona Big Ten. I was stilled at 8 for 10, with only a bear also alluding me. As I pondered the applications for the Fall 2006 draw, I

automatically put in my "Hunter Pool Application" again like I had religiously for years. They were now called "management hunts" versus "depredation hunts"...oh the era of political correctness!

Well, in the middle of the Phoenix Summer, in the one hundred and teens temperature wise, I received a voice mail from Game & Fish. It was Thursday afternoon July 6, 2006...I was drawn for a House Rock Buffalo hunt and had 24 hours to RSVP. After realizing this wasn't a prank call, I called Game & Fish and said yes! Then I was asked to listen to the spiel, think about it and call the next day. This was touted as one of the most difficult hunts in Arizona, likely to be in wilderness area, and buffalo

## Big Titonka



are big! I also knew several people that hunted buffalo at the House Rock and weren't successful, some after 30 days without seeing an animal, so I listened attentively, made notes and thought about it. There would be 5 hunters and G & F personnel would assist. They wanted us to camp north of the headquarters, do no scouting, and I had to be at "Buffalo Class" Friday night at 8pm on the 14th. I was hunter # 5, which meant if we saw one animal, the plan was hunter # 1 would go first, and so on. Previous success ratios weren't good, and I could buy a lot of beef for \$750.

I still wanted to accept the tag, even though I was in the middle of chairing the Arizona Antelope Foundation fundraiser, it was mid-July, way too hot to hunt, and the success ratio wasn't the greatest. But I told the employee I would think on it. I did and got the greenlight from my spouse. So I called the next morning at 8:15 am and said yes! ...and right after I said yes, my credit card number was requested...but then I learned I was hunter # 1! Things were looking up.

Now the adrenaline started to flow...I was going to hunt buffalo on the House Rock! We watched "Dances with Wolves" that evening and all I could envision was me belly crawling over the knoll, looking out over the grasslands and picking out my quarry...a Western Romantic, however it didn't quite turn out that way!

-I didn't have a Sharps, my Browning A-Bolt would suffice.

-I wasn't going to shoot lead either, copper was the order of the day for me, with due respect for the California condors!

-Two trips to the Ben Avery Shooting Range for accuracy, as secure scope mounts are critical.

-On the way north we blew a trailer tire and spent a couple hours in Flagstaff at the repair shop.

-By the time we reached the House Rock Wildlife Area, it was 107 degrees, only 5 degrees cooler than Phoenix.

-It was my son's birthday, and keeping a large birthday cake cool, intact and edible, was no easy thing! Our ice cream didn't stay firm long either.

-We were bringing our 10 week old birthday present puppy along for the fun.

-The bugs were horrendous.

-Fire restrictions had been lifted, but our firewood sat



unburned on night one...we didn't have a problem staying warm!

-Buffalo Class didn't lower the temperature...We learned in the heat that G & F would be pleased with a 20% success ratio...let's see, 1 kill. Chances of killing a bull were slim, and G & F wanted cows killed. There were 250 suspected members in this herd and the target population was 125.

-The selected and recommended camping spot was north of the headquarters, one of our group ignored that and camped in the "restricted area", or the place the buffalo were supposed to be.

-It was also suggested we not do any preseason scouting. You guessed it, the guy that camped in the wrong place, also scouted for 3 days. He had "heard" some animals the night before.

-Game & Fish would "help" if you'd like, which would be OK on day 1, but we'd reevaluate on day 2. The catch, all the helpers were supposed to stay in camp. At 4:30 opening day, 2 of our 5 brought help, while my "scouts & skinner" obeyed and stayed in camp.

With little sleep, I roused at 3:45 am to be at the Rendezvous by 4:30. I was ready. We loaded up the trucks for our short drive to the first glassing point and were anxious, as the sun was about to rise. How was this going to work?...it was 70 degrees.

One guy spotted an antelope, I never saw it and no one else did either. The sun was starting to paint the Vermillion Cliffs their characteristic colors, when someone else in our scouting party "quietly yelled"...look over there...BUFFALO!

There broadside in the early dawn, staring at us, in single file amongst the sage, 350+/- yards away, four House Rock bison. Now what? Game & Fish's Wildlife Manager Tim Holt identified them...four bulls! So much for the prediction that bulls were unlikely.

He called out, it's light enough to shoot, first four hunters get ready...I inquired..."can we get closer?" "No, we try and they'll be gone" he candidly commented. "Shoot when ready"...I looked around and decided instantly, I wasn't going to be left out of this opportunity! I called out the animal I was going to take and wasted no time targeting it.

At that point I didn't so much think I was belly crawling over the knoll steadying to select and harvest my buffalo, as I wondered if this was how it felt to be on the Civil War firing lines, only with no bullets cascading back at us. Two animals were hit, mine and the gal next to me. Our animals seemed confused. Two others didn't seem to be hit and trotted away down a hill out of site, leaving our two trophies standing. The fella next to me didn't fire, and Hunter # 5 jumped ahead of Hunter # 4, shooting "out of order" and missing.

We worked our way cautiously closer, as many people told me, once the shooting starts, don't stop until the animal is down. The Cocks Combs and Saddle Mountain Wilderness Area loomed in the distance behind my bison. While I was prepared to go in to the wilderness area if necessary, I surely didn't want to if possible, and particularly did not want to be chasing a wounded animal with temperatures set to exceed 100 degrees again. I wanted to drive to the animal with my buffalo crew and coolers, not hike in and wait for mules to help me pack it out.

We kept firing and the animals went down, and then both were up again...running. How...I don't know, but I wasn't going to lose this animal. He finally went down again and stayed down. So too did the woman's trophy a couple hundred yards north of me. The rest of the crew found noblood from the other two animals and set off after them. As reality set in, the sun rose over

the House Rock and I had a 1500 pound trophy at my feet. A bull no less, and a tag filled!

The "hunt" was over quickly, and now we faced a monumental task, save the head, hide and all this meat from the heat. First the photo sessions commenced, we needed to preserve the event for the future. Dozens of photos were taken and some actually turned out great!

We set up a pop up shade over the animal and went to work skinning and butchering, ice chests ready. Veteran Buffalo Hunter Bill Keebler was to lament, how did the Indians do this with bone knives and flint? Sharpeners were being used constantly as the tough hide dulled even the finest blade quickly. Once we skinned the cape, we separated the head and Bill went to work there, not so much for the taxidermist as to get the skin off so it wouldn't spoil. He spent over 2 hours just on the head. The skin between the horns was over an inch thick!

The old Western movies always made the "buffalo skinner" job out to be a less than desirable occupation, my crew and I now understood that. Toss in the rising temperature and it made the task even more challenging. In the end, the hide alone filled one extra large ice chest by itself!

Quartered and trimmed by mid morning, we had now filled 8 large coolers, leaving only the rib cage and entrails for the coyotes and condors. We were back to camp forenoon and it was only 95 degrees, still "cool". Post lunch, our work continued as we deboned, cut and packaged the meat for the trip home, finishing that task by mid-afternoon. As we wound down, WM Tim Holt stopped by with the fella that didn't pull the trigger next to me at first light. They had seen a couple more bulls, but couldn't get close. They were headed to the Wilderness Area. We were headed to our lawn chairs and celebratory libation

Our day ended on a high note, buffalo tenderloin for dinner, all the coolers filled, firewood burned, and a toast to a trophy!

We headed out of the House Rock Sunday morning for the cool pines of Happy Jack. Our work would continue on Monday, cleaning, grinding, packaging and freezing an entire buffalo, a heckuva lot more bearable when it's 70 degrees. Mission accomplished and dream fulfilled, my bull greenscored 106, so post drying period, it may even make the Arizona Record Book! A fitting end to a great time.

Many thanks to my "staff and crew"...Head Chef Mary Keebler (we ate extremely well!), Veteran Buffalo Hunter/Consultant Bill Keebler, Camp Manager Tracy Unmacht, Apprentice Hunter Jimmy Unmacht, Camp Titonka Staff...Jerry Guevin, Matt Massey & Georgia Massey and finally, Camp Mascot, "little dog" Maddie.

*May the road rise to meet you, and the wind be at your back.  
Should you ever hunt buffalo, hope you drive versus pack!*



# What's Your Rattlesnake IQ?

by Jim Walkington



**I**n this, the information age, many people are still enormously misinformed about rattlesnakes. One woman asked me if it was true that rattlesnakes bit with their tongue. I assured her they didn't and that they had a mechanism vastly superior to their tongue with which to bite.

Some of the misconceptions about rattlesnakes that people believe today are the tall tales the "old-timers" made up to scare the tenderfeet from back East that were flooding into the West in the 1800s. Other stories and disbeliefs are usually someone's observations, partial observations or observations sprinkled with a personal twist or a generous dollop of alcohol.

Try the following quiz and test your snake IQ.

1. Baby rattlesnakes hatch from eggs the mother lays in a protected nest.

False. The female rattlesnake retains the eggs in her body and the babies are born live, each contained in their own membrane sac.

2. A baby rattlesnake's venom is more toxic than that of an adult.

True. The babies do not inject as much venom when they bite, but what they do inject, is more toxic than that of an adult snake. The amount of venom injected is directly proportional to the size of the snake.

3. The record life span of a captive western diamondback is 15 years.

False, the record is 25 years.

4. There is a tiny piece of gravel inside each rattle, and that is what makes the buzzing sound.

False. The interlocking rattle segments themselves create the sound.

5. Pulling a rattlesnake's fangs renders them harmless.

True and False. Immediately, after the fangs are pulled, the snake cannot



inject venom. However, the snake replaces the removed fangs in a week or less. In the wild, snakes break fangs all the time; they have plenty of spares ready to take over.

6. Rattlesnakes can deal with heat better than cold.

False. Actually, tests have shown that snakes can be frozen and if gradually thawed, can recover. Rattlesnakes kept in the direct sun at a temperature of over 100 degrees- the range was 100°-110°- were dead in fifteen minutes or less.

7. A western diamondback and a Mojave can interbreed and produce hybrids.

True. In captivity rattlesnakes of different species have mated and produced hybrids. These hybrids are fertile; they can breed and produce offspring.

However it's difficult to prove hybrids exist in the wild. What one researcher might claim is a hybrid, another researcher would dismiss as interspecies variation.

8. Rattlesnakes sometimes have blue eyes.

True. Before a snake sheds, the special scales covering their eyes will cloud over and become blue

9. Rattlesnakes will eat dead prey.

True. If they're hungry, they eat. In the wild, rattlesnakes have been observed eating carrion. In captivity, handlers often give the snakes dead mice or rats.

10. In the Sonoran Desert, rattlesnakes hibernate.

False. (in the strict sense of the word "hibernate") When the temperature drops to around 50° snakes become sluggish and will den up until the weather warms. But below the Mogollon rim, there is no true hibernation season for rattlesnakes. Warm days, around 80°, even in December and January, will bring them out hunting.

Rattlesnakes are a fact of life in Arizona. One of the dangers of hunting with dogs in the desert is that the dog may encounter a rattlesnake. A dog bitten by a rattlesnake constitutes a veterinary emergency. Take the dog to a veterinarian immediately.

One way to reduce the chance of



snakebite is to train the dog to stay away from rattlesnakes. This process goes by a number of names; snake proofing, snake breaking, snake training, snake aversion training and snake avoidance training.

So, how does the snake proofing process work? It works by giving the dog a correction via an electronic collar when they approach a live rattlesnake.

A remote transmitter delivers a signal to the collar and the dog receives a shock when their total attention is on the snake. Dogs being dogs, they associate the very unpleasant sensation they receive from the collar with the snakes. The dog's thought process goes something like this: those things hurt me, I don't like to be hurt, and so I won't go over to those critters again. Actually the collar scares them more than it hurts them.

Heck, it scared the puddin' out of me when I shocked myself by accident. As much as we might like to think that our dogs are nothing more than toddlers in fuzzy suits, they're not. Dogs don't think like kids, they think like dogs. They're immediate, they're pleasure centered, and they have the attention span of a

Bartlett pear.

Okay, so they do think like kids, but the youngster's thinking usually matures, the dog's stays at about the level of a three-year-old child.

Dogs that are bitten by rattlesnakes don't learn from the experience. They are still in danger of being bitten again. The bite happens so quickly that the dog may not register it. The pain, swelling, and the agony, comes later.

Remember, dogs are immediate. They live in the moment. They don't associate all the pain and suffering with the bite.

The key to training a dog to avoid live rattlesnakes is to use live rattlesnakes in the process. Please don't let anyone tell you any different.

Rattlesnakes don't smell like gopher snakes and smell is the primary sense the dog uses to detect these vipers.

There are two major snake proofing methods. The first is to put the snake on the ground so the dog sees it. The other technique is to keep the snakes in a cage and take the dog to the cage.

If the snake is on the ground, then the snake has to be rendered harmless by pulling the reptile's fangs or taping

their mouth shut. In the other method, the cage apparatus needs to be constructed in such a way that if the snake strikes they are unable to bite the dog.

Both methods work and both methods have variations on the theme. Your job as the dog owner is to do your homework and decide which trainer you trust with your dog.

Looking at websites is helpful but it doesn't beat a phone call and asking questions. A trainer who runs a legitimate business won't mind answering all the questions you have. If it doesn't feel right, keep looking. Snake proofing works. It's not always 100 percent effective, but having a snake trained dog is always better than having one completely ignorant of snakes.

*Jim Walkington is owner/operator of Viper Voidance located in New River, Arizona. He can be reached at his website [www.vipervoidance.com](http://www.vipervoidance.com) or by calling 480-215-1776.*

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## Bass AND Birds!

an After BOW event



by Linda Dightmon

Photos by Stephanie Clark

**G**enny King lets out a whoop as the pheasant hen pummeled to the ground. “I got one! I got one!” She continues to babble excitedly about adrenaline and how her heart is racing and how she can’t wait to tell her husband and, “Oh! Does anyone have some good recipes?”

We watch as Hank delivers the bird to Tony. “Good boy,” Tony says. “Go find us another one.” More than willing to obey, the German shorthaired pointer heads back out into the field. At fourteen, he is Tony’s oldest dog. He goes a little slower these days but he can still find the birds.

Tony puts the bird in Genny’s vest with sincere congratulations. He sends me a grin and a quiet laugh, happy to witness the birth of a new wing shooter. This is the first of many firsts on that day.

Genny had just harvested her first pheasant. The hen was also the first bird taken in the first ever Bass AND Birds event. Most of the participants were BOW alumni but some had never handled a shotgun. Shooting over dogs was a new experience for all.

The venue was the High Desert Hunt Club near Dewey. The property that was once a working cattle ranch (Chauncey Ranch) is now a YMCA camp as well as a hunt club. As the name would imply, we hunted in high desert shrub terrain. We divided the ladies into three groups of four and they rotated through three sessions. One of the sessions was bass fishing on two private ponds. The fish were cooperating and the women all had fun at the ponds. Walt Oxley, our resident BOW instructor-fishing guru, got the usual rave reviews from the women.



Stephanie Clark shows off her catch  
(photo by Mindy Clark)

Another session was an introduction to the shotgun. This is where we utilized the club’s 5-stand facilities. Once again, the usual BOW instructor core came through. Russ Gunderson and his team of Arizona Game and Fish hunter education instructors volunteered to help us out. The team included Roger Clark, Tom Slaughter, Leroy Smith and Russ. With safety a priority, the instructors made sure to keep it fun and positive. Everyone was able to break some clays, which provided a confidence boost for the field.



Felisha Witkowski shoots 5-Stand while  
Russ Watches

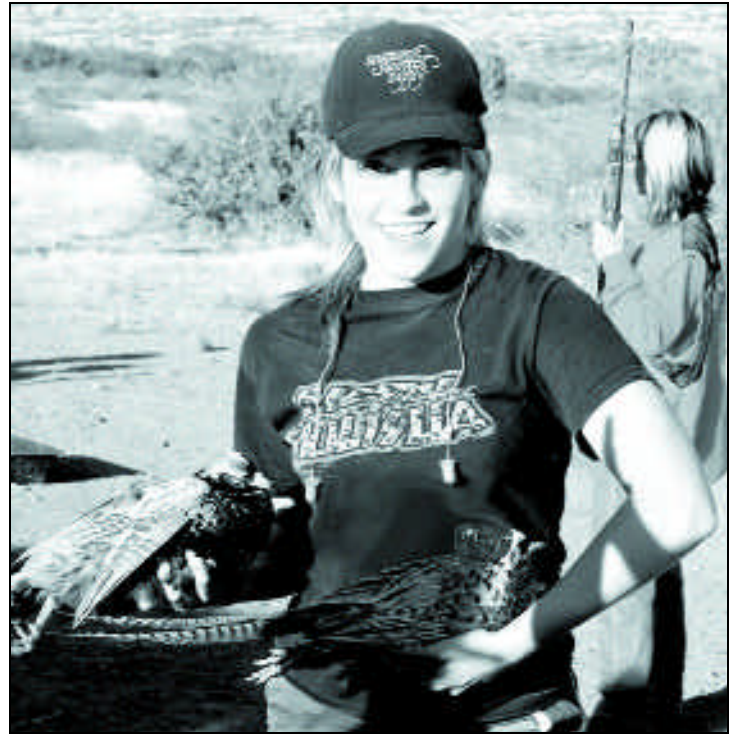
Back on the field a variation of Genny’s experience was repeated for each participant. This was their third session. Each shooter had a coach at her elbow to help every step of the way. Every woman was able to take home at least one bird but most got two. Genny’s teenage daughter, Abby, harvested two big fat roosters that day.

It took the efforts and generosity of many to make this event possible (affordable) for us. Cabela’s donated the clays, ammo, and shooting vests. The High Desert Hunt Club gave us member pricing on pheasants and the use of their facilities. Our volunteer BOW instructors came through once again, offering up the precious gift of time and expertise. Many thanks go out to Mike Biener and Jeff Witkowski for their services as “wingmen”. And of course, the event would not have been possible without the sponsorship of Arizona Game and Fish and the Arizona Wildlife Federation.





Board member and BOW alumni Chris Fonoti after her first hunting trip.



Our youngest participant, Abbey King poses with the two roosters she took on two awesome shots.



Mindy Clark isn't sure that she wants to touch it but she is all smiles!

It was the dogs that made the day truly special. Five dogs were rotated out throughout the day. There was Hank, Sam, Mason, Spike and Ellie. For that we must thank Tony Marquez of Desert Creek Kennels. These ladies got the opportunity to hunt over some of the best gundogs in the state. This writer may be a little prejudiced but there is nothing prettier than watching well trained gundogs work.

For more information go to:  
[Desertcreekkennels.com](http://Desertcreekkennels.com)  
[Ymcahighdeserthuntclub.org](http://Ymcahighdeserthuntclub.org)



**2007**

Images courtesy of Joseph Berke, Kimberlee Kreuzer and Linda Dightmon

**BOW Deluxe: February 2-4**  
 \$420, which includes the trail ride, instruction, program materials, resort style lodging and meals. This workshop will showcase the wonders of our Sonoran Desert.

**Traditional BOW: May 18-20 & August 17-19**  
 \$235, which includes instruction, program materials, lodging in rustic cabins and meals. This workshop will be held at Friendly Pines Camp in the tall pines of the Bradshaw Mountains.

All workshops feature evening entertainment, campfires and other night time activities to round out your outdoor experience. Classes include hiking, fishing, hunting, shooting, outdoor cooking, GPS, wilderness survival, rappelling, birding, map and compass, camping, archery and many more!



For more Information:  
 Visit our web site  
[www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org)

Arizona Wildlife Federation  
 644 N Country Club Drive, Suite E  
 Mesa, AZ 85201  
 480-644-0077  
 Email: [awf@azwildlife.org](mailto:awf@azwildlife.org)

**Discover Arizona**



**Discover You!**

Becoming an Outdoors Woman is an Outdoors Skills Clinic for women. The objective of the program is to provide women with an opportunity to learn basic outdoor skills in a fun, non-threatening manner.





By Jim Solomon

# Kids + Volunteers = Fishing Fun

**T**he Thomas J. Pappas fishing event went off without a hitch. Largely thanks to the help of all the volunteers. In March when we first began this event we had 85 kids, this time

The grill was managed by the guys from Auto Trader Magazine under the supervision of Ken Fincel, "Promotions Director".

Everyone had a great time and we were even visited by some of the local celebrities. Tanya (Bass n Babe ©) Kreuzer, Matt Shura, Paul Hodges and Jeff McClure were there, as was our Representative from House District 12, Jerry Weiers.

I wish to extend a debt of gratitude to; the Chandler Rod and Gun Club for the extra rods and reels, Basha's, Bar S, Frito Lay for the food, Ken and the guys from Auto Trader for doing the cooking, Arizona Game and Fish Department for rods, reels and instruction, the Arizona Wildlife Federation, my sister Patti, and to all the volunteers that took time from



Kids Done Fishing



Two happy youngsters!

it grew to 122 kids ready to take on the fishing world. Ty Piper from the Game and Fish Dept. came loaded with 100 rods and reels and the good folks at Chandler Rod and Gun Club provided the rest. (Thank God)

There were a lot more fish caught this time around and larger ones. The kids caught striped bass, trout, sunfish, carp and catfish. Basha's, Bar S, and Frito Lay provided hot dogs and chips for lunch.



Representative Weiers and Cabela's mgr. William "Mac" Phillips show off the carp that Kimberly (Center) caught

their work day to come and help these kids with a special experience that they may never have gotten. We'll keep you posted on the next field trip.



# Thirty – Seventh Annual Trophy Awards Banquet

## Saturday April 28, 2007

Plans are underway for the Arizona Wildlife Federation's Thirty-Seventh Annual Trophy Book awards Banquet on April 28, 2007 at the Mesa Hilton. This is Arizona's premiere sportsman's event for 2007. This year's Arizona Big Game Trophy head display will once again feature some current year winners, as well as champions from the past.

Join us as we recognize the recipients of the 2006 Trophy Awards and honor the remarkable Big Game wildlife of Arizona. Your support for the raffles and fantastic silent auction will help generate monies to fund habitat restoration projects across the state.

5:00 pm Cocktails and Silent Auctions  
7:00 pm Dinner  
8:00 pm Trophy Awards  
9:00 pm Auction and Raffles

\*Regular Ticket - \$80.00 per person (includes admission, dinner plus some General Raffle Tickets)

\*Long Gun Tables \$1200 include admission, dinner, raffle tickets and one Long Gun or equivalent that will

be delivered to your Table.

\*Friends of AWF may purchase a table for 10 friends for \$650

For those wishing to upgrade their support, Arizona Wildlife federation is offering two new areas.

### RIPARIAN \$ 2500

Includes same as Long Gun Table plus ¼ page ad in the Arizona Wildlife News for four issues and listed on the AWF web site until next years banquet and will be presented an appreciation Wall Plaque at the banquet for your outstanding support.

### LARGE AREA LANDSCAPE \$ 5000

Includes all the above for RIPARIAN and an appreciation Wall Plaque stating LARGE AREA LANDSCAPE presented at the banquet in recognition of your outstanding support.

Look for more information soon at [www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org).

### Becoming an Outdoors Woman Deluxe

This retreat will make an ideal Christmas or Valentine's Day gift for the discriminating woman in your life. Lots of outdoor fun without the inconveniences of camping!

The Arizona Wildlife Federation will be sponsoring its second annual winter Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) workshop. The dates are February 2-4, 2007. It will be in the Goldfield Mountain Range at Saguaro Lake Ranch. This retreat will showcase the beauty and wonder of our Sonoran Desert.

There will numerous fishing opportunities for beginning and intermediate anglers. The Arizona Audubon Society will be there. We've planned sessions on hunting desert critters, a varmint call stand, field archery, natural history of the desert, canoeing & kayaking, and dutch oven cooking. There will be hiking, photography, and trick, track, trail Sonoran style.

The cost is \$420 Details of class descriptions and registration materials can be found at [www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org) or call 480-644-0077. You can also email Tracy Unmacht at [hockeymom329@cox.net](mailto:hockeymom329@cox.net) anytime.

# AWF GEAR



Denim shirts (long and short slv) \$45  
Men's Polo's \$40  
Ladies Twill shirts (long and short slv) \$45  
Men's Twill shirts (long and short slv) \$45  
Green hats \$20



# AWF Round Up

## Meet Your Board



### Randy Virden Ph.D.

Director: School of community Resources & Development  
Arizona State University

Randy has been an Arizona resident since 1971. He grew up in the North Dakota/Minnesota area ducks, geese and pheasants and Minnesota lake fishing. Graduate of Arizona State University, 1973, his first job was working as a park ranger for Maricopa County Parks. Randy currently serves on the Maricopa County Parks Commission and is a Director at Large on the board for AWF. He went to Forestry School for his PhD. to study "the people who like the forests", not the trees. Avid hiker who likes to fish, camp and travel with his wife and daughter. He is a history buff and teaches a conservation history class with strong emphasis on park, wildlife and wilderness protection. Aldo Leopold is one of his heroes and especially like his early ties to the AWF.

### Terry Herndon

My name is Terry Herndon, I am 47 years old and I was born and raised in Phoenix Arizona. I am an avid hunter and outdoorsman. I am a licensed guide in Arizona and in New Mexico.

I am a family man who puts his family first and foremost above anything else. I have been married for 25 years to my wife Margie and we were lucky enough to be blessed with three beautiful daughters, Nikki, Amanda, and Kristy. Nikki is 24, Amanda would be 22 but passed away when she was 3 months old, and then there is Kristy, she is 20.

I am an employee of Honeywell International and have been there for 17 years working as a Manager.

I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix and I am working through the Master of Business in Global Management at this time.



My current responsibilities include being the Hunting Section Leader and chat forum moderator and administrator for The Arizona Outdoorsman @ AZOD.com.

I am a Life Member of The Arizona Elk Society and The North American Hunting club, and I am also a member of the NRA's Free Hunters and a member of The Arizona Bowhunter association.

There are a few other groups I help which include; The Arizona Wildlife Federation (Banquet Committee Chairman and State Liaison), The Arizona Deer Association (Youth Chairperson) and the Hunt

of a Lifetime (Public Information officer)

I also enjoy being a freelance writer for the Arizona Outdoorsman Magazine and I have had a story in the Trophy Hunter magazine as well.

The outdoors and wildlife are a huge part in my life and I like to help as much as I can to keep the hunting and fishing heritage alive and well in Arizona.

### Chris Fonoti Region II Director

Raised on the east coast, degree in biology from Bates College in Maine. Taught biology before moving to Hawaii where she spent the next 30 years enjoying the out of doors that Hawaii offers. Chris continued teaching and received her masters' degree in Educational Administration.

A member for many years of the NWF, Nature Conservancy and Defenders of Wildlife. Moved to Arizona in 1999 and have enjoyed the many outdoor activities Arizona has to offer including, Becoming an Outdoors Woman that AWF offers. "I have not missed a one". With her participation in the BOW program, Chris was invited to run for a position on the Board of AWF. Upon joining the board, Chris continues to use her knowledge and dedication to spread the word AWF supports and participates in. Chris is also a trustee on the board of Arizona Wildlife Foundation. "Without dedicated members in the many conservation and preservation organizations, there won't be much left of the Wild for future generations to enjoy." Chris resides in Flagstaff.







## Hunt of a Lifetime

By Tom Cadden, Public Information Officer, AZ G & F

Many young people would love the chance to go on a hunting trip in Arizona, and many fine sportsmen's and other organizations help provide that opportunity. But for a special group of youngsters—those diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses—that dream has a heightened sense of importance and urgency. A unique organization called Hunt Of A Lifetime helps them realize their dream.

### The organization's founding

Hunt Of A Lifetime is a national nonprofit organization that provides hunting and fishing adventures to children who have been diagnosed with life-threatening medical conditions. It was founded by Tina and Chester Pattison, a Pennsylvania couple whose 19-year-old son Matthew died of cancer in 1999.

Matt's wish before he died was to hunt moose in Canada. The Pattisons contacted the national Make-A-Wish Foundation, but they were told the organization was no longer granting requests for hunting trips. A local outfitter in a small town in Alberta, Canada heard about the young man's situation. The outfitter offered to provide the hunt for free, and a number of other people pitched in to provide transportation and provisions. Matt got to go on his hunt, and he harvested a moose. He died the following spring.

After Matt's passing, Tina spread the word about how everyone's efforts had positively affected her son. The anticipation and enjoyment associated with the hunt had done wonders for his spirit. She knew that other families might have the same needs. Through her efforts and the donated services and financial assistance of many other individuals and organizations, the nonprofit Hunt Of A Lifetime Foundation was founded.

### Arizona's "compassionate transfer" law

Arizona had a Hunt Of A Lifetime chapter, but it was limited in what it could do because the state had no provision to transfer donated tags. This changed last year due to the efforts of a sportsman named Terry Petko, who was the catalyst for changing Arizona law so a donated tag could be used by a youngster with a life-threatening medical condition.

"About five years ago, a friend of mine called to see if I could help take a terminally ill youth on a hunt in Arizona," says Petko. "I contacted Tice Supplee, then the game chief at the Arizona Game and Fish Department, to see if we could get a donated tag. Tice told me there wasn't a way to do that type of transfer at that time, and it would require a legislative change."

Despite no experience in the legislative process, Petko began researching how to introduce and lobby a bill. He found a sponsor in Rep. Andy Biggs of District 22. The proposed legislation, known as the "compassionate transfer" bill, would allow an individual to donate his/her big game hunt tag to a qualified 501(c)(3) organization for use by a minor child with a life-threatening medical condition. The transfer would be facilitated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The bill made it part-way through the legislative process two years ago but stalled. It was reintroduced last year, was passed by the Legislature, and was signed into law in April

2005 by Gov. Janet Napolitano.

### Dedicated contributors

Petko's efforts led to his being offered the position of "ambassador," or local representative, of Arizona's Hunt Of A Lifetime chapter. He says Arizona's program last year put seven kids on different hunts for elk, mule deer and even bighorn sheep.

Petko gives credit for the program's success to the efforts of many people. "A lot of dedicated sportsmen and women donate their time and services to this program," he says. "We have guides and outfitters who offer to lead or help out with the hunts. Other sportsmen donate money and equipment."

Petko also says success wouldn't be possible without the efforts of the "Team Arizona" members of the Arizona chapter: Stephanie Rainey (videography/photography); Don Martin (guide and outfitter coordinator); Terry Herndon (public information officer); Chris Denham (field editor); Dick King (regulatory liaison); Carla Denham (medical liaison); and Debra Petko (secretary/treasurer).

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission recently voted to honor Petko and the Arizona chapter of Hunt Of A Lifetime with an Award of Excellence. The award will be presented at the annual Meet the Commission awards in January.

Petko feels the program has enriched the volunteers' lives in many ways. "When you see the amazing courage these kids have in dealing with adversity, it is truly inspirational," he says. "Seeing the smiles on those young faces when they go on their hunts touches everyone involved. We live for those smiles."

To find out more information about Hunt Of A Lifetime, visit [hoalarizona.org](http://hoalarizona.org) or contact Terry Petko at (602) 689-9524. If you have a big game tag you will be unable to use and wish to donate, you can do that through the Web site. The site also includes photos and stories from past hunts.



# AWF Round Up

## Buenos Aires National Refuge Work Project

We sure appreciated the turnout and got a lot of satisfaction for the fence removal at the October 14 project at the Buenos Aires NWR.

I personally want to say a big THANK YOU, as I so enjoy working with your members and others who come, all with such a CAN DO attitude. Even had 3 young folks from Pima Community College who said they'll try to bring more of their friends for the next projects, next Spring.

We had a great crew that completed the fence removal at two separate locations with a sum of 3,500 feet of 5 strand barbed wire fence on t-bar posts.

As well, we ran across a good sized Mohave rattler just for the day's show and tell performance. GREAT PEOPLE doing GREAT STUFF. Our Pronghorns no doubt will benefit and the Refuge does so appreciate the reduction of hazards to all the wildlife movement, across the Sonoran Savanna Grasslands and particularly so near water holes and other riparian habitats.

Already we're anxious to plan ahead, for the dates and the locations, and like the earliest notices to be posted for the people to make the AWF projects the first priority on their calendars.

Thanks again for all your efforts.

**Gary Fran and Gary Tuell**

*From AWF board member Larry Audsley:*

*The real thanks on this one goes to Don Farmer and Lee Kolhase. Don brought the equipment plus one volunteer, and Lee brought his wife and granddaughter who also provided invaluable help.*

## September Events

September 23 we set our information tables at the Cabela's new store in Glendale from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. to showcase the Federation. Our representatives were John Underwood, Mary Jo Miller (AWF President) and her husband Ken, Linda Dightmon, who also had the Arizona Outdoorsman (AZOD) table next to AWF and our favorite BOW participant, Susie Gaquin.

There were outdoors groups from all over with their tables and events represented. There was an estimated 10,000 folks that passed by and entered Cabela's. AWF is planning and will be represented in more events next year including the AZ Game & Fish Expo on March 31 & April 1, 2007. Check AWF web site [www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org) for events that may be scheduled in your area.

On Sept 30th AWF represented by, John & Shirley Underwood, Ryna Rock, Mary Jo Miller & Husband Ken, at the Verde River Days in Cottonwood at Dead Horse State Park. The event started at 9:00 a.m. and finished at 3:00 p.m. There were approx 40 clubs represented and lots of folks. We had our table set with our information and what the AWF is all about. This is a great annual event to showcase our Federation.



## SUNRISE/SUNSET 2006/2007

Times shown are for central Arizona. Figure up to nine minutes earlier for eastern areas, nine minutes later for western areas.

Date	Rise	Set
DEC 5	7:18	5:20
DEC 10	7:22	5:21
DEC 15	7:25	5:22
DEC 20	7:28	5:24
DEC 25	7:30	5:27
DEC 30	7:32	5:30
JAN 1	7:33	5:31
JAN 5	7:33	5:34
JAN 10	7:33	5:39
JAN 15	7:33	5:43
JAN 20	7:31	5:48
JAN 25	7:29	5:53
JAN 30	7:26	5:58
FEB 5	7:22	6:03
FEB 10	7:17	6:07
FEB 15	7:13	6:11
FEB 20	7:08	6:16
FEB 25	7:02	6:20
FEB 28	6:58	6:23



GUN CLEANING KITS  
BLACK POWDER KITS  
HUNTING, OUTDOOR  
AND PERSONAL  
SAFETY ACCESSORIES





by Ryna Rock



## Virginia Corn Cakes

2 eggs  
¾ cup of milk  
½ Tablespoon sugar  
¾ cup of canned corn  
1 Tablespoon baking powder  
1 cup of flour ½ teaspoon salt  
14-16 inch dutch oven


Beat eggs, add milk and sugar, and stir in canned corn. Sift flour, baking powder, and salt together and stir into corn mixture. Bake in a hot dutch oven, or in muffin tins if at home. Cook hot and fast at 450 degrees. This makes only enough for a few.

## Shepherd's Scalloped Potatoes


5 or 6 pork chops, lamb chops, or thick ham slices  
1 med. onion  
salt and pepper to taste  
6 medium potatoes  
small amount of oil or fat  
small amount of flour/milk  
10-12 inch dutch oven

Melt a little fat in the bottom of the oven and place meat in oven, browning lightly on both sides. Remove and place to one side. Slice enough potatoes in a bowl to half fill the oven. Slice an onion and mix with potatoes. Leave the pork grease in bottom of oven and put in layers of potato/onion mix and sprinkle with salt, pepper, and flour. Place all the pork chops on top and cover with milk (canned, powdered, or carton).

Dig hole large enough to hold about six inches of good hardwood coals. Place oven in hole and cover with hot coals. Foil placed on top of oven before adding coals will aid in removing later when done. Cover all with at least six inches of dirt. Meat and potatoes will be done in four hours but can be left in for eight-10 hours if necessary. Do not remove until ready to eat.



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# Membership



By John Underwood

## Every Sportsman/Sportswoman in Arizona Should Belong To The ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

The AWF is a statewide organization that was organized as the Arizona Game Protective Association in 1923 to safe guard our privileges of hunting and fishing by insisting on sane administration of the states natural resources, thus avoiding repetition of the almost total extinction of game experienced in many eastern states. There, organized sportsmen have brought back wildlife through organized action; here, Arizona's organized sportsmen have been responsible for the maintenance, and in some cases, the increase, of the state's wildlife. Thus the A.G.P.A. and AWF's results have not been so spectacular, but have been effective.

The AWF can rightfully be a little proud of its accomplishments. But leaders in conservation are agreed that the battle is not yet won, that it will probably never be won until every person recognizes that only through the proper use of our natural resources can we maintain prosperity.

AWF is so concerned with the broad aspects of conservation, because it recognizes that only with the highest type of land and water use can game and fish supplies be maintained. When land begins to go downhill, game and fish are the first to follow.

The Arizona Wildlife Federation is:

1. Representing Arizona's Sportsmen/Sportswomen before the Game and Fish Commission, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Sportsmen's Organizations, Etc.
2. Maintaining a permanent state office in the Phoenix metro area, with six Regional Directors through out the state, keep abreast of factors affecting hunting, fishing, conservation issues and available for action when crises arise.
3. Disseminating information regarding hunting and fishing and conservation through press, radio, and it's own quarterly publication, Arizona Wildlife News, which goes to each Federation and Affiliate member, and selected sporting establishments.
4. Conducting frequent Executive Committee/Board meetings, and Annual Meeting/Convention, taking action on current developments affecting Hunters, Fishermen and Conservation.
5. Attempting to insure that every young Arizonan gets proper education in conservation problems and practices, through the Arizona Wildlife Foundation and the Arizona Wildlife Federation.
6. Informing state and national legislative bodies of problems and needs of Arizona sportsmen and women.

These and other AWF activities, require funds, of course. The only source of funds are, private individuals, corporate sponsors, affiliate organizations, fundraisers and membership. If you enjoy the outdoors, even if hunting and fishing are only secondary in your enjoyment, you'll want to help maintain our natural resources, for ourselves and our children. **YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BY SUPPORTING THE ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION.** By filling the following application for membership and sending it, with the dues, yearly, life, or benefactor, you will become a member of a worthwhile organization. If you are already one of our supporting members, get a friend to join up. If each member signed up just one new member, AWF would double our membership. So lets get out and get those new members and make a difference!

## Welcome New Members

### New Life Member

Terry Schupp Tempe, AZ

### New Members

Russell Applegate	Queen Creek, AZ
Janet Dunker	Phoenix, AZ
Joe Gordon	Chandler, AZ
Fred Kolar	Flagstaff AZ
Mike McAlister	Mesa, AZ
Clay Moser	Mesa, AZ
Harold Niesen	Phoenix, AZ
Tom Rockholt	Queen Creek AZ
Gary Rusche	Mesa, AZ
Tom Saraukas	Phoenix, AZ
Steven Tusa	Phoenix, AZ
Jon Waggoner	Scottsdale, AZ
Jon Waggoner Jr.,	Scottsdale, AZ
John Albin	Gilbert, AZ
Ed Berger	Chandler, AZ
Sylvia Clark	Page, AZ
Stan Cluff	Mesa, AZ
Kirk Griffin	Gilbert, AZ
Randall Jorgensen	Queen Creek, AZ
Barbara Kennedy	Desert Hills, AZ
James Tucker	Mesa, AZ
Bob Baird	Bullhead City, AZ
Craig Borsheim	Mesa, AZ
Jason Cappelletty	Apache Junction, AZ
Justin Jensen	Queen Creek, AZ
Bruce Pedersen	Sun Lakes, AZ
William Sheridan	Mesa, AZ
Jack Walker	Tempe, AZ
Jim Walkington	New River, AZ
Ted & April Brittain	Phoenix, AZ
Meghan Cook	Tucson, AZ
Bob Allen	Mesa, AZ
Gordon Dolley	Apache Junction, AZ
Mark Allen	Mesa, AZ
David Sherwood	Mesa, AZ
Todd Sherwood	Gilbert, AZ
Bob Lewis	Apache Junction, AZ
Mark Plowman	Queen Creek, AZ
Gary Allred	Mesa, AZ
George Buethe	Mesa, AZ
Devan Vowell	Gilbert, AZ

## Answers to 'WHADDA YA' KNOW

(from page 5)

1. Hickory, Ironwood, White Elm, Ash, and Mulberry
2. Buffalo or Deer
3. Person who uses a Muzzle Loader
4. Antelope Jackrabbit
5. Tularemia
6. Wear rubber gloves, and make sure you have no cuts or scratches on your hands when field dressing.



# AWF members

By Kim Kreuzer



Please take a moment to review the list of Life Members and past Benefactors to make sure we have not missed anyone.

If you want to add someone to the list or upgrade your own membership status, please use the membership form provided below.

## AWF Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed!

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\_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date:  /

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\$30 Individual

\$45 Family

\$100 Patron

\$500 Life Member

\$500 Benefactor

\$75 Small Business

\$500 Corporate

All Membership fees are tax-deductible.

Mail to:  
Arizona Wildlife Federation  
644 N Country Club Dr., Suite E  
Mesa, AZ 85201

## Arizona Wildlife Federation Life Members

Alan Abel	Tucson	George Flener	Mesa	Heather Litton	Phoenix	Jack H. Simon	Phoenix
William Acheson	Flagstaff	James E. Frye	Mesa	Long Valley Service	Happy Jack	Jim A. Slingluff	Tucson
Patsy Apple	Phoenix	Steve Gallizioli	Fountain Hills	Don Luke	Phoenix	Dale Slocum	Phoenix
Jeff Augustine	Scottsdale	John Gannaway	Phoenix	Jerry Marquis	Page	Randy Sosin	Sedona
James Baldree	Phoenix	Gilbert F. Gehant	Mesa	Christina Mathew-Bowers	Phoenix	Wendell G. Swank	Cottonwood
John Bauermeister	Scottsdale	Fred Gerhauser	Peoria	Patricia A. McNeil	Payson	George L. Sypherd	Sun City West
David Beaty	Mesa	Donald Gerould	Sun City	Duke Mertz	Chandler	Lewis N. Tenney Jr.	Heber
John R. Beck	Peoria	J. David Gibeault	Tucson	David & Victoria Morgan	Anthem	Larry Thowe	Page
Donald Billick	Phoenix	Rene G Gilbert	Anthem	Allen Nailla	Flagstaff	Robert D. Tucker	Buckeye
Bruce H. Bishop	Tempe	Hank Gonzales	Tucson	Mike Neilson	Queen Crk	Charles W. Tyree	Tucson
Clarence Bowe Jr.	Scottsdale	Kim Graber	Phoenix	Fred Nobbe	Phoenix	John B. Underwood	Scottsdale
M.J. Bramley Jr.	Mesa	Timm J. Haas	Willcox	Daniel & Annalee Norton	Scottsdale	Mark T. Vitt	Scottsdale
Jay Brandon	Apache Jtn	Donna J Hallman	Queen Creek	Donald J. Parks Jr.	Peoria	Stephen T. White	Scottsdale
Jonathan Brooks	Anthem	Western Hardwoods	Phoenix	Ace H. Peterson	Prescott	Brian H. Williams	Scottsdale
Wade Brooksby	Phoenix	Miles C. Hauter S	edona	Price Phillips	Somerton	Pat Willis	Payson
Roger J Carroll	Sierra Vista	Jeffery L. Hinkley	Phoenix	Jim Pierce	Scottsdale	Robert A. Witzeman	Phoenix
Gary S. Christensen	Flagstaff	Mark Hullinger	Chandler	Jerome Pratt	Sierra Vista	Larry M. Wolfe Sr.	Phoenix
Louise Coan	Tucson	Richard Humphrey	Tucson	Paul Pristo	Scottsdale	L.V. Yates	Phoenix
Clifton E. Cox	Tucson	Bunny Huntress	Tempe	Robert & Marilyn Recker	Sun City	Chuck Youngker	Buckeye
Don Cox	Peoria	Mike Johns	Phoenix	Judith Riddle	Phoenix	George Boutonnet	Salinas, CA
Al Crossman	Tempe	Henry Johnson	Lake Havasu	Bryant & Marsha Ridgway	Casa Grnde	Terry Johnson Costa	Mesa, CA
Donald D Dalglish	Scottsdale	Thomas Kalos	Paradise Vly	Ryna Rock	Camp Verde	Roy G. Jones	San Jose, CA
Howard Darland	Mesa	Peter S. Klocki	Dewey	Kent M. Rogers	Mesa	Glenn Napierskie	San Diego, CA
Anthony Diana	Phoenix	Lee A. Kohlhase	Mesa	Robert C. Schatke	Chandler	Robert Stragnell	Hanover, NH
Linda Erman	Phoenix	Roy Kommeyer	Kingman	William H. Schmidt DDS	Tucson	Diana Beatty	Laughlin, NV
Rick Erman	Phoenix	William Lacy	Mesa	Lary & Betty Lou Scott	Scottsdale	Jim Breck	Alexandria, SD
Robb Evans	Flagstaff	Harvey J. Lawrence	Scottsdale	Walter Scrimgeour	Prescott	Jaren Vanderlinden	Amarillo, TX
Donald Farmer	Scottsdale	Nancy L. Lewis	Phoenix	David Seamans	Scottsdale	Terry Schupp	Tempe, AZ

## Arizona Wildlife Federation Benefactors

Honoring the memory of sportsmen and sportswomen through a \$500 Benefactor Membership

Louise Coen	Tucson	Don Gerould	Sun City	Frank Murphy	Mesa	Gene Tolle	Phoenix
Doug Baker	Tucson	Ivy Hanson	Carefree	Emmett Reyman	Mesa	John C. Underwood	Tempe
Milton G Evans	Flagstaff	Frank H Moore	Phoenix	Donald G Roberts	Flagstaff		



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