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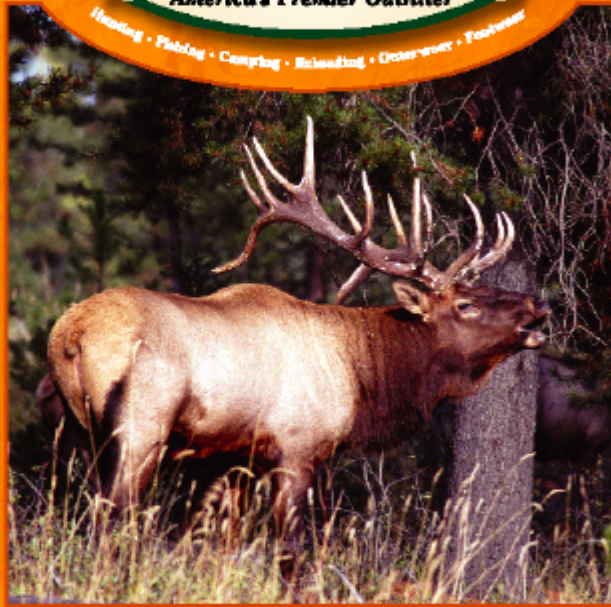


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AWF Mission Statement:

AWF is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating, inspiring and assisting individuals to value, conserve, enhance, manage and protect wildlife and wildlife habitat.

On the Cover: This issue of the Arizona Wildlife News we once again dig into the archives of the *Arizona Wildlife Sportsman*. This is from August, 1955. All that we know of the artist has the signature Miller.

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.

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The Arizona Wildlife Federation welcomes stories, art and photographic contributions. We will consider, but assume no responsibility for unsolicited proposals, manuscripts, art, photographs and transparencies. Contact the Federation office at 480-644-0077 for details.

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Sportsmans Mail Pouch

John Underwood

EDITOR SCRATCHINGS

Recreational Boating Safety Record Has Never Been Better

Contrary to what you may be hearing from U.S. Department of Homeland Security officials lately, recreational boating has never been safer.

According to the latest available statistics for 2004, more people died in bathtubs and swimming pools (847) than in recreational boats (676). Operating a boat is far safer than riding a bicycle, motorcycle or off-road vehicle. In fact, you have a much greater chance of perishing from a fall involving a bed, chair or furniture (838) or falling from a stairs or steps (1,588) than you do in falling from a boat.

Recent calls by Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Coast Guard officials that recreational boating would be safer if boaters were certified and required to show proof of identification is just not backed up by the facts, said Boat U.S. President Nancy Michelman.

The rate of recreational boating fatalities per 100,000 boats has been cut by 75 percent and the number of boating fatalities has been reduced by 58 percent since the implementation of the landmark Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971, Michelman noted.

Currently, Congress is considering Administration-backed legislation that could result in licensing boaters in the name of national security because the Coast Guard does not believe it has the authority to require a boat operator to produce identification absent probable cause.

Requiring millions of recreational boat owners to be licensed and tasking the already overburdened Coast Guard with implementing a duplicative system solely to identify those operating a boat will be costly to develop, take years to implement and will not result in a demonstrable improvement in national security, said Boat U.S. at a recent, summit meeting held under Homeland Security Department auspices.

Instead, Boat U.S. believes a comprehensive waterway security program

needs to be established. It would be far simpler and much less costly for the Coast Guard to ask Congress for the authority to require boat operators to produce the same identification now required to board a commercial airline flight. In addition, the Coast Guard should substantially expand its Waterway Watch program to enable thousands of recreational boaters to be the Coast Guards eyes and ears on the waterways and, it should clearly mark security zones both public and private to ensure that boaters know where they can and can not go.

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Larry Toschik

In our summer issue, we stated that we did not know the artist for the cover. Well after running into one of our members, Rick Erman, who knew who the artist was, I have researched and found that his name is Larry Toschik, who is a very prominent artist and last I heard retired to Pine, Arizona. The cover from the March, 1952 issue of Arizona Wildlife Sportsman is only one of the paintings/etchings supplied to the AWF. Mr. Toschik was very supportive of the AWF and its programs.

About Larry Toschik

Born in 1922, Larry Toschik has illustrated books on Native Americans since the 1950s. He is, however, probably best known for his illustrations published in Arizona Highways magazine.

While working part-time as a layout artist for the magazine, he showed some of his work to the Art Director, who asked him to work up illustrations and accompanying text for a 4-page spread. It developed into an 11-page feature in the March 1967 issue and assured much future work for the illustrator.

Toschik was doing his best work in the 1970s and was featured in Sunset Magazine. In addition, Toschik worked as Art Director for Arizona State University's Bureau of Publications.

David Gorsuch

On looking through my edition of 2005 Arizona Wildlife Trophies, I noticed entries in the Javalina pages by Gary Gorsuch, one of our members from Tucson and a long lost friend from many years ago when we grew up together. With the Quail season once again upon us in October the point I really want to make is his Dad, David Gorsuch, who in 1934 with the sponsoring of the Sporting Arms and Manufactures' Institute, did an extensive study of the Gambel Quail and published his results which are still highly regarded today.

SEE: *Life History of the Gambel Quail in Arizona*. By David Gorsuch. University of Arizona Bulletin, Vol. V, No. 4, Biological Science Bulletin, pp. 1-89, pls. I-V, figs. 1-4, tables 1-4, May 15, 1934.

In 2002 I had the opportunity to attend the Arizona Quail Management Symposium, sponsored by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The two day event resulted in a lot of excellent information. Mr. Gorsuch was named as a literature source due to his 1934 publication along with more recent researchers and their work, but as you can see Mr. Gorsuch's work has stood the test of time.

Until next time, Be Safe and Enjoy the Great Arizona 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 possible.

Send your 'snail mail' to:
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Mesa, AZ 85208

Send your email to:
Editor@azwildlife.org

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 Taking to the Woods

In a land that admittedly has allowed most of its citizens one of the highest living standards in the world – most of us have still desired some connection to nature and the out of doors, that is until fairly recently.

Present day reality is younger generations who no longer relate to the natural world. They have lost the desire to experience it, to treasure it and to understand our natural role in the balance of nature. This lack of awareness and curiosity has produced an apathy, which undercuts our commitment to preservation of open spaces and diversity of species and habitat, the very foundations of what we humans need to thrive and sustain life.

In my heart of hearts, I have come to a realization that it is up to me not only to battle the negative momentum this apathy gathers, but also to be a constant voice campaigning against it, and against the seductive urge to just give up. Not necessarily going to the “Dark Side”, but just giving up.

I know you’ve heard that voice in your head. The one that whispers you have given enough; someone else will do it; you have more important things to do with your time; “I” am way too busy to get involved; nobody appreciates it anyway; you can’t change it; etc. I have heard all these phrases in my head, and more. I am resolved; I can use my voice in countless ways, for the rest of my life, because giving up is not an option.

Why do any of us “take to the woods”, “head for the hills”, and seek out the “back o’beyond” anyway? What gifts do those places give us beyond the obvious ones that satisfy us personally? Do we remember and honor the link between our health, the environment and our quality of life?

Yes, we love to hike, hunt, fish, watch wildlife, camp, bike, horseback ride and whatever else in those special places, but what about all the more intrinsic gifts we receive while out there. What is it about spending a weekend in the wild that makes it bearable to go back into metropolitan Phoenix or Tucson or Yuma and the hundreds of suburbs we and our families reside in? The stress and busyness of everyday

life is more bearable because we know those wild places are there– we can go back for more, on another afternoon or weekend or vacation!

Now, more than ever, wildlife and wild places depend on your ongoing personal commitment to rally awareness and solutions for the impacts of human activity on our natural resources. We can’t afford to stop being the “Voice” for wildlife and wild places, for the interfacing of man and nature in ways that sustain our wild lands and our wildlife, for the spread of knowledge to our youth about our role in the balance of nature, for making sure new residents “get it” about Arizona’s wild lands. This “Voice” becomes even more powerful through organizations such as the Arizona Wildlife Federation because we represent the power and commitment of Arizonans from all walks of life, of all political and religious beliefs and of all ages.

And now a word from – not our sponsors – but from our hard-working Communications Committee. Here is how you can use your “Voice” to communicate with myself, your board of directors and staff. You can reach us at www.azwildlife.org, or for comments or articles for our quarterly magazine, the Arizona Wildlife News e-mail, editor@azwildlife.org. The website carries the latest information on calendar dates, position papers, interesting links, and volunteer information. Our magazine editor is always on the lookout for a good story, pictures, or letters to the editor.

Lastly, please send us an e-mail address, as we have an e-mail news bulletin service starting up this fall and you won’t want to miss out on that. This will be an ongoing news service to keep members and other interested folks up to date on AWF actions, issues and events. It allows you to let us know your thoughts and ideas. You can send your e-mail address through the addresses in the foregoing paragraph.

As your President this year, I want to hear from all parts of our great state about concerns, issues and ideas for solutions. Our former president, Mary Jo Miller, did such an outstanding job in bringing the Arizona Wildlife Federation back from the brink of “has been” and into the center of the conservation arena. Now that we have regained our “Voice”, we want to use it in the best ways we can find, to spread the AWF message and mission.

Thanks for listening!

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FOR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

WHADDA' YA' KNOW?

1. What famous author spoke out against the Colorado River Project, believing the multiple dams planned for Construction would ruin the river and damage wildlife?
2. What outdoor sport was this author's favorite activity?
3. What Big Game animals existed in Arizona 11,000 years ago?
4. How far back do archeologists believe people have inhabited the Verde Valley?
5. What are the percentages of land ownership in Arizona?
6. What territory was Arizona originally a part of?
(Answers on Page 22)



Historical Tales

REPRINTED FROM AGPA'S

ARIZONA WILDLIFE SPORTSMAN November 1956

ALL OUTDOORS. . . Diagnosis and Cure of That Old Wilderness Fever

Author - Unknown

by Ryna Rock

One of the serious illnesses which strikes nearly every camp of hunters or outdoorsmen is what I have termed "bush" or "wilderness" fever.

I am sure you will recognize it after I describe it.

This is it. After the first day of unsuccessful hunting, or if it storms and rains and you can't get out, you and your companions will be engulfed with an intense desire to move camp or to pull out for home.

Sometimes it doesn't hit you the first day. Maybe it comes the second, or even the third day. But, in almost every case, it will hit every camp.

One of the best antidotes for this poisoning of the mind is a good camp or cooking fire. Fire building in camp should be a sort of ritual to my way of thinking. And, you should have two fires; one for cooking and the other as a campfire.

One of the most memorable of all the experiences I have had occurred years ago on an elk hunt on Dane's Ridge. Rex Bowen and Fred Bussey, both of Prescott, were with me. And, Fred took over the cooking. Fred cut down a fair-sized green oak tree out of a clump of Canyon Live Oak. He then cut it into two five-foot lengths, and these he flattened on one side with his ax. The two pieces were then laid down to form a deep "V". At the narrow end of the logs were only six inches apart. At the butt end, they were separated by a good eighteen inches of space. The flat sides were, of course, turned up.

Fred then took a shovel and scooped out a fair sized depression between the butts and piled the dirt neatly to one side. We had many meals cooked from that fireplace, and good they were. Fred turned out anything we wanted. Here's how he did it.

He would start his cooking fire in the depression with any kind of wood that burned readily. As the fire and flames built up, he would add hardwoods. This wood burned down to live coals. Fred then pushed the burning coals back into the narrower space between the logs and under the utensils that were placed on the flat surface. The constant source of live coals from the bigger and main fire supplied him with any degree of heat he needed for cooking the various dishes.

Believe me, it was virtually a state show performance to watch Fred Bussey cook on that fire. But Fred was very selective about the woods he used. Nothing but good solid and dry oak was used in cooking. It burned with only a trace of smoke and down to a clean white ash.

I suppose you too have been on camping trips where

soft woods were used in the cooking fire. It leaves a heavy, black, residual soot deposit on everything that is placed above it. Pinyon pine is an offender. Pitch pine is another. While pine is fine for starting a fire, it gives off a heavy carbon-laden smoke that blacks your pots and pans. Better woods for cooking fires are Canyon live oak, Gambel oak, locust and serviceberry. In fact almost any narrow leafed tree wood will do. Cottonwood, aspen, and sycamore are poor cooking woods, but they do make fine campfire woods.

In fact, there is a saying "The best campfire wood is found closest to camp." Any of you who have been fortunate enough to have been in on any of the Goswicks' Fall Bear Hunt camps will know what I'm talking about when I say the Goswicks' system of camping is worth adapting.

Giles or George Goswick insists on having two piles of wood. One pile is any kind of wood that can be carried or dragged into camp. It is a deadfall that can be easily picked up and brought in. Also, a rule is usually imposed on all campers, and that is any time anyone goes out of camp he must bring back a piece of wood for the campfire when he comes back into the area. The other pile of wood is select wood used on the cooking fire only. This pile is carefully guarded, and woe unto the dude that picks up a piece of cooking fire wood and throws it on the campfire! The cooking fire wood is dead, and well seasoned, solid oak. It burns clean, gives off little smoke, and produces a lot of good, live coals.

Having two piles of wood for your camp has distinct advantages for the whole group. First, the person doing the cooking must have a place in which he can operate: to put down his pots and pans, to spread exposed food, and well damn it, he needs space in which to work without worrying about other campers tramping through his kitchen, scuffing up dirt and ashes and lousing up his operations.

Second, if you have a pile of scrap or "squaw" wood set aside to be used solely for the warming fire in the morning or the campfire in the evening. It will soon become apparent to the lazy campers that they must keep it stocked with fuel.

And so, if you have a good cooking fire and a separate campfire where conversation can be cooked, you will do much to allay "bush" or "wilderness" fever from reaching epidemic proportions in your camp. And, even if you do all your cooking on a gasoline pressure stove be certain to have a campfire..... because that is camping, and a tremendous morale builder.



By John Underwood



Streams and Game Trails

Hooray, the hunting season is finally here and kicks off with Dove season starting September 1 – 15 (shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until noon in the southern zone and ½ hour before sunrise until sunset in northern zone so check your regs for the proper zones) The season opens again statewide on November 23 through January 6, 2008. A few changes in the regulations this year are noted below.

The Eurasian collared-dove regulations have changed from last year. Beginning Sept. 1, the Eurasian collared-dove bag is unlimited and the season is open all year. Eurasian collared-doves are larger than both the native white-winged and mourning doves. They have a black collar on the top part of the neck, pale gray coloration, and dark primary feathers. These doves are an introduced species that have recently expanded their range into Arizona. Originally native on the Indian subcontinent, this bird was introduced to the Bahamas in the 1970s and quickly spread to Florida. Since then, they have moved westward into Arizona.

BAG LIMIT : Ten (10) Mourning and White-winged Doves per day in the aggregate, of which no more than six (6) may be White-winged Doves. **POSSESSION LIMIT :** Twenty (20) Mourning and White-winged Doves in the aggregate after opening day, of which no more than twelve (12) may be White-winged Doves. No more than ten (10) doves in the aggregate, of which no more than six (6) may be White-winged Doves, may be taken in any one day. **BAG LIMIT :** Ten (10) Mourning Doves per day. **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Twenty (20) Mourning Dove after opening day, of which no more than ten (10) may be taken in any one day.

EURASIAN Collared-dove BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT : Unlimited.

SHOOTING HOURS: One half-hour before sunrise until noon southern zone.

(restricted hunting hours apply to all methods of take).

QUAIL SEASON: Opens on October 12th for Gambel's, Scaled and California Quail and runs until February 11, 2008. Mearn's opens November 23 until February 11, 2008. Possession Limit: 15 Gambles, Scales, California . 8 Mearns. After opening day 30 Quail in aggregate of which no more than 15 Gambel's, Scaled, or California may be taken in one day. Avter Nov 18, the 30 in possession may include Mearn's which no more than 8 may be taken in one day.

All hunters 16 years of age and older must purchase an HIP stamp. These stamps are available at any Game & Fish office. The cost is \$4.50 and validates your hunting license. If you hunt ducks, coots, geese, brant, swans, doves, woodcock, rails, snipe, sandhill cranes, band-tailed pigeons, or gallinules, you are **REQUIRED** to participate in the HIP Program.

What is HIP?

The Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) is a method by which your state wildlife agency and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) are developing more reliable estimates of the number of all migratory birds harvested throughout the country. These estimates give biologists the information they need to make sound decisions concerning hunting seasons, bag limits, and population management.

How does HIP work?

HIP is based on a voluntary survey of selected migratory bird hunters in the United States. In simplest terms, the state wildlife agencies collect the name, address, and some additional information from each migratory bird hunter in their state, and send that information to the Service. The Service then randomly

selects a sample of those hunters and asks them to provide information on the kind and number of migratory birds they harvest during the hunting season. Those hunters' reports are then used to develop reliable estimates of the total harvest of all migratory birds throughout the country.

What does HIP require of hunters?

To comply with HIP, first you must identify yourself as a migratory bird hunter and provide your name, address, and date of birth at the time you purchase your license—something most hunters do already. You must do this in every state in which you hunt migratory game birds.

Second, you must have proof of your participation in HIP with you whenever you hunt migratory birds in that state. The state wildlife agency will provide you with a card, stamp, or other proof of participation when you sign up.

In addition, when you sign up for HIP, you will be asked to voluntarily answer several questions about your hunting experience during last year's season. Your answers to these questions are not used to compile harvest estimates, but are simply used to identify what types of birds you usually hunt. This allows the Service to mail its surveys to the appropriate hunters. For example, most surveys about dove harvest are sent to hunters who usually hunt doves, while most waterfowl harvest surveys are sent to hunters who usually hunt ducks and/or geese.

If your name is one of the few selected for the national harvest survey, you'll be asked to voluntarily complete a detailed survey about your harvest during this year's hunting season. You will receive a hunting record form and will be asked to keep a record of the number of migratory birds you harvest during the season. You will also be given an

(Continued on Page 21)

Xplor the Southwest Expands to Xplor the Outdoors

Jim Solomon, owner and host of the popular international outdoor radio show Xplor the Southwest, announced today that the show's name will change to Xplor the Outdoors with

Jim and Patti beginning mid-August of this year. The show currently airs live around the globe on xplorsw.com Sunday mornings from 7-9 and locally in the Phoenix valley on AM 1060 the Fan.

Solomon explains, "It's the same great show with all of the up-to-the-minute outdoor information. Due to the overwhelming response to the show and requests to participate in global outdoor adventures, we needed to expand our horizons - so to speak. Xplor the Outdoors leaves no outdoor adventure around the globe untouched.

To celebrate the name change, The Poacher Chronicles™, one of the exclusive hour-long segments of the show, will have its "anti-poaching team" outerwear available on line at xplortheoutdoors.com in late August of this year. A portion of the profits will benefit an international wildlife law enforcement association.



Along with that Jim is expanding the "Go Take a Hike" series to a one-hour program as well. "There is just too much information and as soon as we get started it's over", explains Solomon.

"All of our loyal listeners around the globe will soon have the choice to hear us live on either xplorsw.com OR xplortheoutdoors.com. They say 'a rose by any other name will smell as sweet' - well you can't get much sweeter than this," Solomon chuckled.

Xplor the Southwest an international outdoor radio show is owned and operated by Jim Solomon. Jim's passion for the outdoors growing up as a child of a single parent inspired him to get more families involved in outdoor activities and their community through his show. It is through this venue he can reach out to inform, promote and encourage a new generation outdoors men and women.

Patti, comes in fresh, as a new person that wants to learn all there is to know about the outdoors. While like many, Patti learned of the outdoors in her younger years when she was just out of high school. She has the desire and ambition to learn all that she can and is not afraid to ask the questions of the guests that Jim sometimes takes for granted and many listeners are too intimidated to ask. Patti has a background in marketing and the film industry and has a lot to add to this show.

Media Contact
Jim Solomon
(623)533-6820

WAFWA AWARDS KOLESZAR

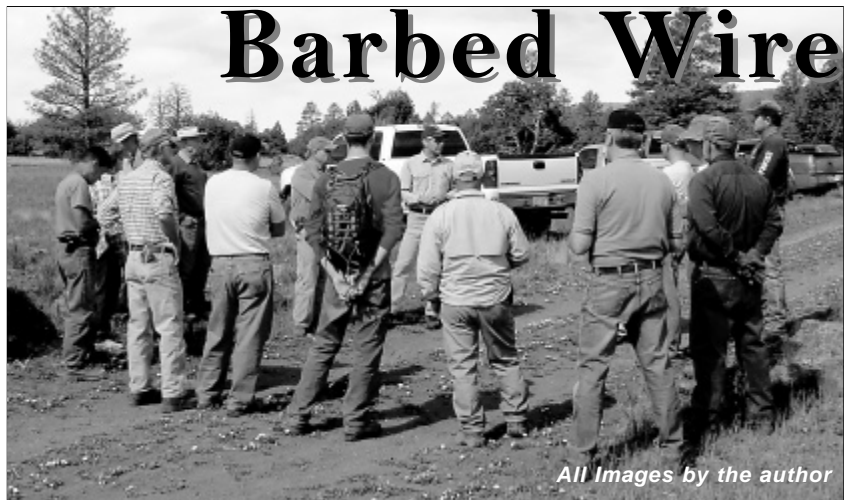
AWF VP of Conservation, John Koleszar has earned another award. This time it is the Outstanding Citizen Wildlife Contributor Award from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

This award recognizes individuals who have substantive and distinguished contributions to wildlife conservation and management that are also beneficial to association member agencies.





by Ken Alexander



Henry Provincio from Coconino NF gathers the troops

This past Friday June 8th started like most of my Fridays, up at five and running off to open the shop and start my day. I had plans to leave early and make my way to Anderson Mesa to work as a volunteer and remove some old barbed wire fence. As usual, there were some minor problems that would put me behind schedule. My plan was to leave work by noon, be on the road by 1 and find camp and get set up. Here I am now at almost 3 pm heading north to Flagstaff, a map to follow and not sure what I'm in for. Take down barbed wire fence to help benefit wildlife. I have never done this type of thing before and find myself a bit worried about what lies ahead.

It still amazes me, the affect pine trees have on my attitude. Two hours ago, I was running around, barking out orders to make sure no detail was overlooked and everything was covered. The smell of fresh air, the greenery around me, and now, the last thing on mind was more than 100 miles to the south. But there was still more than a mile of barbed wire to worry about. I have always been told, never volunteer for anything. I was told there would be others there to help, but no one knew exactly how many, or exactly who would be there. As I followed the map, I found camp with no problems and pulled in to find a place for me and the trailer.

As I stepped from the truck, there were several friendly faces walking up to greet me and make me feel welcome. Some of the faces I recognized from past conservation events at retail stores and expo events. Most of the faces were new to me. So many names, you can't remember them all. The good news, all of them were very friendly and offers of help came from all. After a few minutes of formal introductions, the trailer was set up and the time to relax is upon me. But there is still the barbed wire. I asked several questions about the chore that waited for all of us the following morning. Almost everyone in camp had done this before, and they all said "don't worry, it will be fun. You will enjoy it, its not like work at all".

Many of the campers offered samples of their camp cooking, grilled salmon and halibut to steak on the grill. A circle of chairs and tales of past hunting and fishing trips and talk of family and friends and where you work. As darkness fell, we shared a couple of cold drinks, and welcomed a few more late arrivals to camp. All were happy to see them, but there was still that barbed wire.

I was told we would leave camp at 0800 hours to meet

with folks from the Forest Service and Game and Fish near where we were to remove the fence. We left camp in a mini caravan with most choosing to carpool out to the worksite. We could not have ordered a better day for any project. The weather was perfect, a slight breeze and near twenty people to attack that barbed wire fence. After a short meeting to organize and talk about why we were there and what benefits from this kind of project, we started to attack the fence by about 0900 and I was amazed by how quickly progress was made. My task was to pull fence posts as those ahead of me removed the ties holding the wire to posts and stringers. Only a few of the posts put up a fight, but I soon realized this was not work at all, this was fun!

The organizations that organized this work project were the Arizona Wildlife Federation and Arizona Antelope Foundation. Two great organizations, that work hard for the benefit of habitat and the animals that live there. These groups have also made investments in equipment that made the work go easy. Post pullers and more types of pliers and wire cutters than most of us have ever seen. My favorite however is the wire roller. This machine will roll a mile of barbed wire in just mere minutes. By 1 pm we were done and back at the trucks for cold drinks and a sandwich. The rancher who also had a few hands helping thanked us all for efforts and drove off with two truck loads of fence posts and wire to be recycled at another location on the ranch.

For those who wanted, there was a tour of past project sites to see the successes of efforts just like this one today. Others chose to head back to camp for a quick nap, or enjoy just sitting under the tall cool pines. The folks from AAF headed back to start preparing the reward of the day for all who participated. A rib-eye steak dinner complete with corn-on-the-cob, beans, and potato salad. All prepared right there in camp. This goes back to the investments these groups have made in equipment to allow this type of treatment in the wild. Large gas grills and stoves, pots and pans, and the volunteers to make it all happen. I can't remember having a better steak anywhere, and the company was second to none. No one complained, no one bragged, and every one of us had fun.

Soon the conversation turned to hunting stories, past projects, family and friends. I must admit, the thought of all that barbed wire was very intimidating, but after all is said and done, it was fun and something I plan to do again. I found it very

rewarding and felt energized when everyone started to talk about the next project scheduled. I plan to be there. As I lay in my sleeping bag that night, I wondered why I had never participated in a work project like this before. After all, I attend banquets, donate money buying raffle tickets, and belong to several conservation organizations. I think maybe I always thought it would be too much like work, so I stayed away. The truth is, this was not work, this was fun. I met several new people, made new hunting contacts, and took home new memories that are every bit as good as those you take home from any hunting trip.

If you're like me, out hunting and fishing as many days as possible each year, or just out sightseeing looking for whatever critter you can find to watch. You've taken plenty from the land over the years, and like me, maybe it's time to give a little back. Don't be like me and wait too long to start giving a bit back. Get involved, volunteer and go have some fun.



Brain George, Ken Stephens and two others roll up some old wire



Travis Removes Old Wire



This wire roller can roll up wire faster than you can run



Rick Miller Rolls up Some Wire



Ken Langford Grills the Steaks



This Is Why We Do It!



Manzanita Standoff

by John Koleszar



The Valley of the Sun was beginning to live up to its name, and the cool mountains beckoned for me to begin my annual search for antlers. That annual pilgrimage had been delayed for over 2 months because of knee surgery. My doctor had been very specific when he directed that there would be no walking on uneven terrain for two solid months.... Unless I wanted to visit him again for another scoping job. I had fulfilled the two month sabbatical, but enough was enough. I had already forsaken a prime turkey tag a month earlier and was not about to miss all of the elk shed hunts, even at this late date. I had committed to being on a work project with the Arizona Elk Society and the Arizona Game & Fish Department to roll up over 8 miles of used hot wire that had long ago outlived its usefulness after our 1991 Dude fire. I took off for the mountains a day early, and enjoyed the relative peaceful quiet that always seems to be in the high country before the week-end warriors and visitors come rolling in. I had long ago found what I refer to as “honey holes” for antlers, and wanted to spend an afternoon searching for them before the big work project began.

I had searched the area with Denise early in the morning, and she had come out with a dandy left side of an antler that if I could find a match, promised to be a fine bull that probably scored in the high 320's. Each of has had our dogs, and the walk had been pretty demanding on all of us. To find antlers in May, you have to go where quads and people can't or won't... that means rugged hiking, and remote location. We had hiked in the morning, and it took over an hour of hiking just to reach the area to begin to search. For the afternoon hike, we all started out, but after just a few minutes of hiking, I knew that the dogs and my partner were just a little too pooped to go on further. I suggested that she lead the dogs back to the vehicle, and I would hike and search for a couple of hours by myself. I

promised not to be too long, as I knew that my knee would not tolerate a whole lot more work. With a nod and a peck on the cheek, I was headed up the mountain, and they headed back down. The afternoon sun was just beginning its descent as I walked up the trail to where I would break off and go higher. The winter had been kind to Arizona, and there had been a decent amount of snow, followed by some substantial spring rains. As I walked up the trail, I took pains to be quiet, looking for feeding bulls that I suspected had been hanging out in the area. My work was rewarded within 20 minutes, as I saw two bulls grazing in a tiny meadow just under a waterfall area. The sound of the running water, and the sun beginning to drop on the horizon left the scene with that portrait like quality. I silently watched the bulls feeding, knowing that the light breeze was perfectly positioned for me to go undetected. They had growth of over 24 inches on each side, and I suspected that they would be beautiful by the time the end of summer growing season came. After drinking in my fill of this delightful scene, I began the task of hiking further up to where I thought more antlers might be waiting.

As I struggled up the steep incline, I was reminded of what laying off of physical conditioning can do. I finally crested the rise, and started searching along the top ridge for antlers. I was in a beautiful area of old growth manzanita, a bush / tree that grows at very distinct elevations in Arizona. The Berries from the bush are a delicacy to bears and have beautiful flowers in the late spring. Almost immediately, I spotted a unique raghorn antler lying under one of the manzanita bushes. As I leaned over to pick it up, I heard a strange sound... HUFF...HUFF... and then quiet. I suspected that I had surprised some javalena in the area, and I looked around the bush to see where the noise had come from. I will always remember the sight that came next. There, only 50 yards away, was a very large black bear. The bear was staring in my direction, but seemed unprovoked. I quickly did a mental scramble on what to do in this type of

situation, and recalled very quickly... no running away, no sudden movements, and no loud noises. I knew from the spot where we both were that I had been winded. Very quietly I unsnapped the holster to my 38 caliber Ruger pistol. "Hello Mr. bear, I am up here with you." I managed to say as quietly as possible. The words were hardly out of my mouth when the bear abruptly began to charge me. Having seen bears ambling along in the woods in the past, the freight train speed that this animal reached astounded me. In the time it took to draw my weapon, pull the hammer back and fire, there was only 20 yards separating us. The shot had the effect of stopping the bear up short, and it began to bawl in that eerie way that they have. It was breaking branches, and continually bawling, and I knew that my hunt for antlers was over, and I wanted to be in the next county thirty seconds ago. I looked behind me, and saw that there was no easy way out of where I was. I began retreating by walking backwards, holding the pistol pointed at the bear as I departed. I backed up as far as I could, only to find that I had backed myself to a steep drop off. Hearing the bear bawling as loudly as ever, I slid the thirty yards to the bottom of the drop-off, crashed across the stream and scrambled up the embankment on the other side. I could still hear the bear bawling, and I began a double time to get to the trail, moving as fast as my surgically repaired knee would permit. The lush greenery that had seemed so beautiful only minutes ago now seemed like perfect cover for a highly agitated black bear with an attitude. I made fabulous time getting off the mountain, thinking the whole way about what had happened, not knowing what had gone

on, nor why the bear had charged.

As I finally got to the bottom of the mountain, I looked at both my hands. The left hand still held the raghorn antler I had found (my priorities were in order there). And the right hand held my pistol. As I walked down the road to the pick up spot, I must admit, I got the shakes in my hands. I realized that if that bear had wanted to do damage to me, there was no way I was going to stop it. The 38 caliber hollow point had only served to be a stinger, but it was my good fortune that it proved to be enough to stop the charge. I immediately put in a call to the Arizona Game & Fish department to file an incident occurrence, and was eventually met by the Wildlife manager for the area, Henry Apfel. Henry explained that it was probably a big old sow with cubs, and that the huffing sound I had heard had been her way of warning her cubs to get up a tree. They had been foraging for berries in the manzanita grove, and I had been an unfortunate interloper. I was grateful that the dogs were not with me, as both were just over a year old, and would have taken a beating from the sow. The next day, we went back up to the area to make sure that a wounded bear was not in the

area. There was no blood trail, and no sign of the bear or her cubs. Henry assured me that they were probably miles away, and that each of us would be just fine. I thanked Mr. Ruger, and contemplated getting a bigger weapon. The image of any bear's non retractable claws is hard to shrug off. For spring shed hunts, I was just put on notice that even though they aren't grizzlies, black bear mammas can sure get your attention.



Photo: Courtesy AZ Game and Fish



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



The Rattlesnake Diet



by Jim Walkington

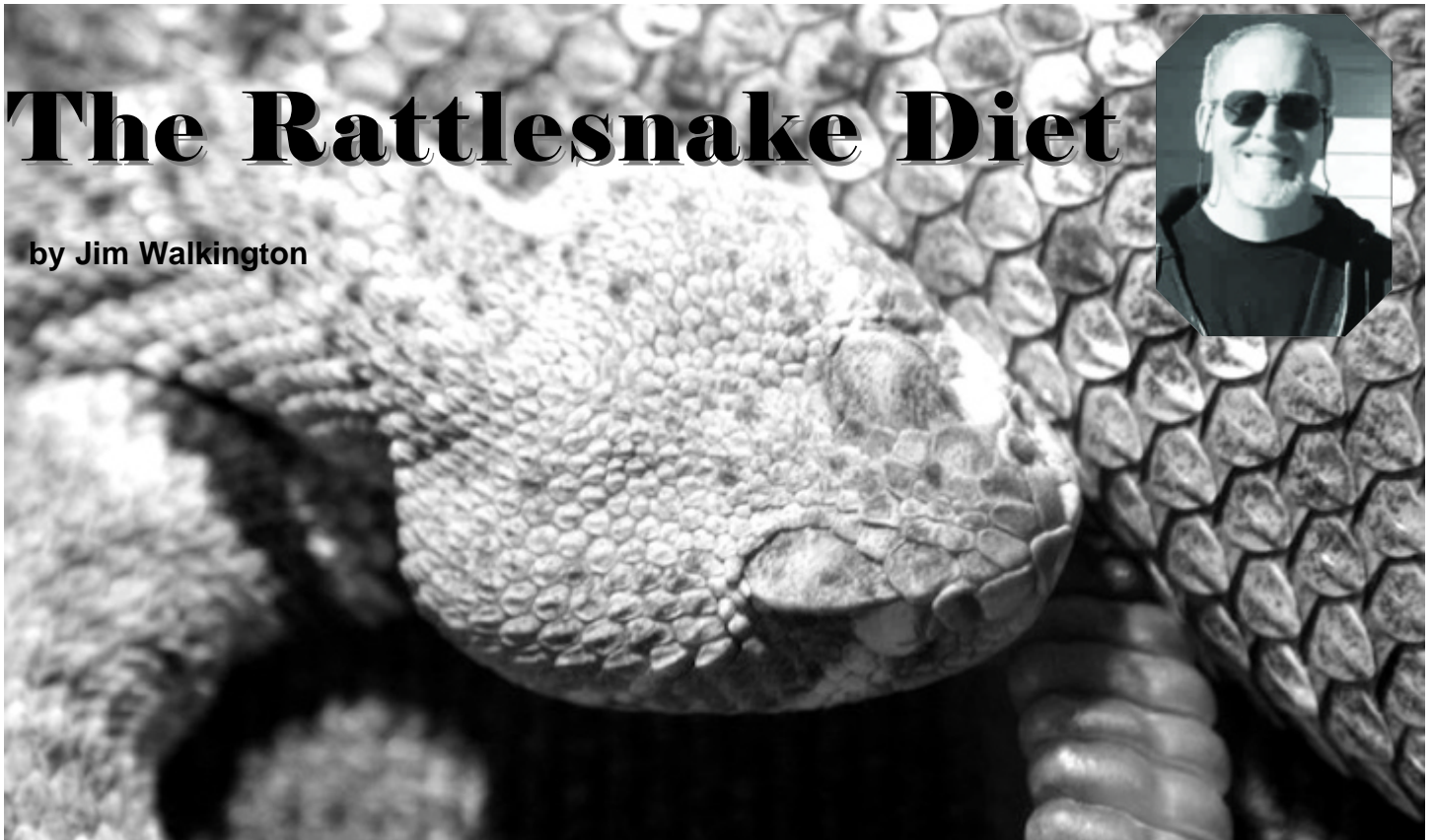


Image by Kristina Hall

Ingredient: One large rattlesnake.

Directions: Combine the following.

1. Take caged rattlesnakes kept in the laundry room, and forget to close the cage door after feeding.
2. Return later to find a single snake in the cage when there should be two.
3. Run and put on your snake boots and grab the snake tongs.
4. Look everywhere for the damn snake.
5. Call the fire department to help look for the snake.
6. Spend an hour explaining to the fire fighters why there are venomous snakes in the house.
7. Board your three small dogs with a friend.
8. Come home and look everywhere again.
9. Block all the vents in the floor in case the snake got into the ductwork.
10. Awaken several times in the night screaming—all elbows, teeth, and eyeballs because the sheet brushed your face.
11. Wake up early, very early, and look everywhere again.
12. Take the washer and dryer apart in case the snake is lurking in a major appliance.
13. Continue to look.
14. Look some more.
15. After ten hours, decide the snake is in the ductwork and will either die there or come slithering out at the most inopportune moment possible.
16. Move the snake cages to the garage and begin cleaning up the laundry room.
17. Pick up a small Petco box on the counter that you've brought mice home in to feed the snakes and have your brain say: *An empty box is HEAVY?*
18. Drop the box in the sink, say the following: @#\$%^&*#@#\$!!!, and grab the snake tongs.
19. Put the snake back into her cage and thank God she didn't strike from the box.
20. Call a repair man to get the washer and dryer working again.

Please notice that nowhere in the recipe is there any mention about eating. That's because none will take place. This is an absolutely foolproof diet. If you're a refrigerator grazer because you're bored and can't think of anything to do, this diet will work. Of course, I know that competition for the diet dollar being what it is; this method will soon be copied. There will be a plethora of diets with names such as: "The hidden bomb with the random timer diet" and the "Contaminated needle in the refrigerator diet," not to mention the "Rabid Rottweiler in the plain wrapper diet." However, because this will be the first of the super-stress diets, I intend to milk it for all it's worth.

Getting back to the diet's key ingredient—I discovered later that the snake never touched the floor. She crawled out of her cage, up onto a counter which holds a deep sink, and into a tiny Petco box that I had brought mice home in to feed the snakes. She was tightly coiled in the container waiting for the return of the rodents that her keen sense of smell told her once

were there.

I have a mentor who has told me that we can pray for the lesson without the pain. In this case, my prayers were answered. I got the lesson without the pain of a rattlesnake bite. What was the lesson—don't keep live rattlesnakes in the house? Actually no, they still stay in the laundry room most of the year.

The lesson was to use this experience as a filter through which to sift future situations. I'm amazed at how quickly I can now put a calamity into perspective by asking myself, "Is this worse than having a live rattlesnake missing in the house for ten hours?" So far, most "crisis situations" in my life have hardly budged the needle on my rattlesnake-o-meter.

Jim Walkington is the owner operator of Viper Voidance, a service in New River, Arizona that trains dogs to stay from rattlesnakes. When Jim is not training dogs he's writing—novels, screenplays, magazine and newspaper articles. Jim can be reached at his web-site www.vipervoidance.com or 480-215-1776



Mission Statement:

The Arizona Wildlife Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public about wildlife and wildlife habitat.

The Arizona Wildlife Foundation was formed in 1967 by conservationists of the Arizona Wildlife Federation. It is a tax-exempt non-profit foundation and is operated by an all-volunteer Board of Trustees. (On file with the Arizona Wildlife Federation). The foundation was on hold for the past 12 years and is now back in operation.

The Foundation has taken a bold new approach providing information to the public about Arizona's rich heritage through development and production of books and related art. The Foundation is active in providing outings to youth and family groups to experience the wonders of nature and the outdoors.

The Foundation relies solely on donations to build and sustain our education and conservation programs. You can contribute to our efforts with donations, bequests, gifts in trust, annuities and life insurance policies

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*

BOW Happenings

Coordinators Conference

by Linda Dightmon



Last month I traveled to the north woods of Wisconsin to meet with other Becoming an Outdoors-Woman coordinators from across the country. Christine Thomas, BOW founder, was there as were two hard working International BOW staffers, Diane Lueck and Peggy Farrell. Christine has a PhD in biology while Diane carries a PhD in adult education. Peggy is the youngest but has earned a master's degree in Environmental Communication. You can read the impressive biographies of these inspirational women at <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/bow/thomas.htm>.

There were coordinators from coast to coast. Alaska sent two, Massachusetts sent two, as did North Carolina and Minnesota. Lucy from Newfoundland had to jump through customs hoops to join us. (Did you know that 4 Canadian provinces have BOW workshops?) There were about 30 coordinators at the conference. It was great that all of the "A" states were represented. It was really fun to hear the accents and watch Alabama and Massachusetts try to communicate. Most are women, but a few states have men coordinators. All are professionals who work for their state's agency.

With all of these brains and degrees running around I was pretty much out-classed. One would think that I might also be uncomfortable, but not the case. I was made to feel welcome and was

always treated as an equal. Our task was to update the Instructor Manual and brainstorm the program. (Example: *Does BOW need a "facelift"?*) I am happy to report that my input was appreciated and will be used in the updated materials.

One of the most informative sessions was the round table discussion. A representative from each state would explain their program and what worked and even what didn't work. I got several great ideas to streamline our program and to make it more meaningful to our participants. Ideas for new classes and nighttime activities were tossed around. Everything from logistics to price points was discussed.

On Saturday afternoon I canoed the Namekagon River with Bee Bee from North Carolina and Peggy of Wisconsin. This is a pristine river with minks running along the banks and huge Muskies cruising its waters. It flows slow and wide through a massive forest of hardwoods sprinkled with pines. There were no buildings until we reached the end of our trip.

On Saturday night there was a very interesting and hilarious "auction" with New York and Alaska coordinators as "auctioneers". We raised \$1,500.00 for the scholarship fund. I left for Phoenix early on Sunday morning.

For four days I was able to hang out with like-minded women. There was a spirited conversation on hunting boots and how difficult it was and still is to find that perfect pair. These ladies bear hunt with bows, run trap lines in the winter, go on African Safaris, and deep-sea fish for Marlins. This is not your mama's bridge club! For me, it was like a breath of fresh air. I have never been able to identify as well with any group of women. As advertised, the conference was a valuable experience and did help me get rejuvenated and energized.

The 2008 BOW Conference will be held July 24-27th at the Celtic Rendezvous in Bauline East, Newfoundland, Canada. I sure hope I can attend!



With a Lotta Help From my Friends!

BOW 2007 Report

The Arizona Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program is going strong and growing. The second "BOW Deluxe" was held February at Saguaro Lake Ranch. This is wonderful opportunity and season to showcase our Sonoran Desert. We once again had BOW alumni from cold weather states attend. On August 19th, 2007 we completed our 13th year and the 26th workshop at Friendly Pines camp. This family owned venue is perfect with a staff that has not forgotten old-fashioned customer service.

The April camp had 80 participants and the August event boasted the maximum number at an even 100. A four-page spread in Arizona Highways was a major factor for the sellout. Getting the word out for a non-profit outdoor event is always a challenge and I want to thank Paul Wolterbeek for his pro bono marketing efforts. He is the one responsible for putting writer Lori Baker and BOW together.

The instructors, as always, came through with flying colors. Here is a partial list of these dedicated volunteers: Kathy and Don Greene of PSE, Joy and Jeff Sorensen, Tice Supplee, Andree Tarby and Daniela Yellan from the Sonoran Audubon. Brian Mazoyer and his group of fly fishing anglers. I also want to thank Amanda Moors, Beth Pugh, Shirley Ward, Don Farmer and his canoe/kayak team. There is the Deshaw family, Mark Hullinger and Lisa Sedacca. Colleen Miniuk-Sperry and Jon Shadowen are two new faces. We had Walt Oxley from AZ G & F and Russ Gunderson and his posse of AZ G & F hunter education instructors. We couldn't do it without you.

Last but certainly not least, I want to personally thank the two people that hold me together during the camps. They are my left and right arms! Kimberlee Kreuzer and Crystal Hirsch, who happen to be my cousin and my daughter.



1872 Mining Law Hunting & Angling Opportunities at Risk

by Sarah Luna, AZ Conservation Partnership

Hunters and anglers have reason to be very concerned about the continuing loss of hunting and fishing opportunity on public lands due to hard rock mining. Important legislation is pending in the U.S. Congress to reform the 135 year old law still governing mining today.

Signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant, the 1872 Mining Law was intended to attract settlers and prospectors to the West. The 1872 law allows mining companies to take valuable hard rock minerals from federal lands without making any royalty payments. That costs the U.S. Treasury - all of us - an estimated \$100 million a year and that tab keeps getting bigger.

The 1872 Mining Law contains no requirements for protection of natural resources, such as water quality and wildlife habitat. According to the EPA, 12,000 miles of streams and 180,000 acres of lakes and reservoirs have been polluted by mine waste and at least 40 percent of the headwaters of western rivers and streams are degraded from mineral activities. There are more than 500,000 abandoned hard rock mines in the U.S. Taxpayers are left with the tab for an estimated \$50 billion in cleanup costs while our water, land and wildlife suffer the consequences.

Mining for gold, uranium and other metals on U.S. public lands has risen nearly 50% in the last five years and a mining claim rush is now underway in the West. Many new claims have been staked near the Grand Canyon and other Arizona treasures, near highly populated urban areas and tribal lands. Our national forests, critical watersheds, wildlife corridors and local communities are seriously threatened by the massive increase in claim filings.

135 years ago metal mining may have been "the highest and best use of public lands" but times have changed. Mining law needs to reflect today's priorities and the time is way past due for Congress to act to address the impact of hard rock mining on our nation's fish and wildlife and other natural resources. H.R. 2262 has been introduced in Congress to

do just that.

The legislation brings mining companies under environmental and cleanup standards like the Clean Water Act and toxic substances laws and it sets up a royalty system for the companies to pay the clean up costs related to mining and abandoned mines.

H.R. 2262 requires hard rock mining to be conducted in a manner that recognizes the value of lands for other uses including recreation, wildlife habitat and water supply. It

requires the Bureau of Land Management to balance competing resource values to ensure that the public lands are properly managed. And, the bill requires that "special places" are protected including Wilderness lands, Inventoried Roadless Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Refuges, Wild and Scenic Rivers and other areas where some of the best hunting and fishing opportunities in the U.S. can be found.

Previous efforts to update the General Mining Law of 1872 have failed and it won't be easy to enact legislation this year. The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Trout Unlimited and the National Wildlife Federation recently launched "Sportsmen United for Sensible Mining" to underscore the importance of mining law reform to protecting quality hunting and angling opportunities. Please join them in this effort.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Join the mining reform effort today. Call Representative Rick Renzi and ask him to co-sponsor H.R. 2262. Tell him you're a sportsman and you want the 1872 Mining Act overhauled to protect fish and wildlife habitats and insure that mining companies pay their fair share of royalties for our public resources.

Call Representative Renzi today:

Washington, D.C.	202-225-2315
Flagstaff	928-213-3434
Prescott	928-708-9120
Casa Grande	520-876-0929

The Arizona Conservation Partnership promotes greater local awareness of federal conservation policies. ACP recently partnered with Trout Unlimited, the Navajo Nation and NWF's Regional Representative for Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah to support the passage of national energy legislation. That legislation included key elements of the Sportsmen's Responsible Energy Agenda. Sarah Luna can be contacted at llsarah@msn.com

"Dwindling access to quality hunting and angling opportunities is a trend that slowly is pulling apart the American sporting tradition," Theodore Roosevelt Conservation

Keep Public Lands in Public Hands

"One of the most important reasons to reform the Mining Law of 1872 is to 'Keep Public Lands in Public Hands.' Public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service harbor some of the most important fish and wildlife habitat and provide some of the finest hunting and angling opportunities in the country. For example, public lands contain well more than 50 percent of the nation's blue-ribbon trout streams and are strongholds for imperiled trout and salmon in the western United States. More than 80 percent of the most critical habitat for elk is found on lands managed by the Forest Service and the BLM, alone. Antelope, sage grouse, mule deer, salmon, steelhead, and countless other fish and wildlife species, as well as the nation's hunters and anglers, are similarly dependent on public lands.

Trout Unlimited

www.tu.org

HB 2443 Fails In Senate

by John Koleszar

HB 2443, sponsored by Representative Jerry Weiers and approved and endorsed by a whole lot of organizations and user groups failed in the Arizona State Senate after passing in the House by a vote of 51-4. Particularly galling to most folks was the way this bill was defeated and the fact that there were NO organized groups or parties that were in opposition to the bill. The demise of the bill can be traced directly to politics, misinformation and a few senators who refused to acknowledge that this was a user fee that was being sought by the user groups, and instead was painted as a new tax.

What the bill would have done for those individuals who currently register and plate their vehicles each year was to reduce their costs by an average of \$100.00 per year. For those individuals who have paid nothing over the years it would have represented a \$20.00 user fee each year. I know many families that spend \$20.00 at McDonald's when they pull through the drive thru, and that figure was debated long and hard by many people. The bill covered many more items than just a plate charge. Included in the bill were provisions for fines and penalties for habitat destruction. Currently the written laws are so vague and misstated that most law enforcement agencies are reluctant to attempt to issue citations, as they are routinely thrown out of court. The Arizona Game & Fish Department would have had funding for 7 new OHV Rangers as we liked to call them. Their responsibilities would have been solely for the purposes of education, safety training, meet & greets for events, and patrolling heavy abuse areas during critical seasons.

The Off Highway Vehicle Advisory Group, which was formed to be the board where organizations and individuals could apply for grant monies for related projects, would have received a needed shot in the arm financially. That Board works with the Arizona State Parks Board, and each year, the Arizona State Parks Board administers the fund that was established almost 15 years ago. Each year, .55 of 1% of the gasoline taxes is attributed to off highway vehicle use. The dollars raised through this tax is what the OHV user groups have had to rely on over the years for their projects. Each year, the total monies raised through the taxes amounted to about 1.25 million dollars. For their work in administering the Off Highway Vehicle Advisory Group funding, the Arizona State Parks Board takes an 18% fee. In rough terms, that represents about \$200,000. Not a bad fee, but one that the users groups had agreed upon. In theory, that would leave about \$1 million dollars that the groups could use for their projects and grants. Sadly, our esteemed legislature for the past 5 years has swept \$692,000 from that fund for the purpose of paying for Arizona State Parks employees and overhead. Please bear in mind that OHV's are not allowed in state parks, and there is not a single mile of trail

in any state park that an OHV could ride on. That leaves a paltry figure of about \$350,000 that is available for grants and projects out of the original \$1.25 million. Certainly once the legislature finds a source of funding, they show as much remorse as a pack of sharks in a feeding frenzy. The OHV community has been shafted badly by the legislature and this year they received a double dose. The session bill that went through with the budget took not only \$692,000 for 2007/2008, they also took \$692,000 from 2008/2009.

A few of the professional politicians in the Senate used the "new tax" excuse to vote the bill down. That came as a surprise to many people, particularly Republicans who wanted to see the bill passed. When the Republicans were voted into office, they were asked and most did sign a pledge that stated that they would not vote for any new taxes. Barry Aarons of the Aarons Company, Senior Fellow Americans for Tax Reform, was the originator of the pledge, and was consulted by Representative Weiers after the bill was roughed up in its first pass through the Senate. Mr. Aarons sent an e-mail to Senators Gould, Gray, Vershooor, Huppenthal, Leff, Burns, Johnson, Tibshraeny and Bee, and told them that the HB2443 was NOT a new tax, did not violate their pledge, and encouraged them to call if they had any questions. Of course logic and reality are hard to come by down in the Senate. Those senators that wanted to kill the bill used the same rhetoric even on the final day. Senator Blendu and Senator Gould specifically should be held accountable for their actions. On the democratic side of the floor, there was even more consternation. The Democratic party has long been tooting their horn as being the "environmentally conscious" party. Sadly, several democratic senators also voted no. Senator Rios of Florence would not give a reason for her "No" vote, and her district is one of the hardest hit by OHV vandalism. A front page piece in the East Valley Tribune just two weeks prior to the vote showed some incredible damage to the BLM and grazing lands of ranchers in her district. Her "No" vote should be noted by everyone in her district.

So we have another year of no viable laws, no funding for enforcement, no monies for trail markings, no funding for reparation, and each month another 6,000 off highway vehicles are purchased in Arizona. To those individuals who worked hard to support and pass this bill, sportsmen should extend a great big thank you. Representative Weiers spent countless hours putting together a coalition of so many different parties. He absolutely was responsible for getting this bill as far as it went. For those that killed the bill as Senator Blendu is fond of saying..... elections are coming and we know who to target. See you all next year at the legislature!

Arizona Game and Fish Department offers new "introductory" hunter education course



Can be taken in classroom or online with field day

Prospective hunters now have another option for taking hunter education training in Arizona.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has rolled out its new "introductory" hunter education course. The new program can be taken either in a classroom setting or by independent study online over the Internet. Both the classroom and online formats require students to demonstrate proficiency and pass an exam during a field day with certified instructors to complete the course.

"The new course was developed as a convenient alternative for beginning hunters who either don't have the time to take the traditional 20-hour basic class, or who can't find a class or an opening in their area," says Michael Golightly, chairman of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. "The curriculum includes the most important elements of the basic class that beginning hunters need to know.

Content was developed over the past year through collaboration between Game and Fish education staff, wildlife managers and biologists, and volunteer hunter education instructors throughout the state. The course meets International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) national standards but is also tailored to Arizona's specific needs.

This new offering now gives people three primary alternatives for hunter education training in Arizona:

The new "introductory" course, which can be taken through 7-10 hours of classroom study or through self-paced, independent study online. Both options also require a 4- to 5-hour field day.

The traditional "basic" course, which encompasses about 20 hours, including a 4-hour field day.

The expanded "basic plus bowhunting" course, a 28-hour course that includes the basic class and the National Bowhunter Education Foundation (NBEF)/International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP) bowhunter education class, and a 5- to 6-hour field day.

Non-residents who have completed hunter education training in another state have an additional option: a "supplemental" course that educates them on Arizona hunting

issues.

One of the cornerstones of all the courses is the development of a new, state-of-the-art hunter education manual. It covers firearms safety, ethics, hunting skills, hunting laws, survival skills and wildlife conservation, among other topics.

"The manual includes updated information on new technology and biology, as well as educational information on the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation," says Ed Huntsman, acting education branch chief for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Arizona's current hunter education program graduates about 4,000 students annually. Courses are taught by about 460 volunteer instructors who are certified by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. It is anticipated that more students, particularly young people, will take hunter education now that the new course is offered.

Huntsman says the new course isn't meant to replace the existing basic course.

"It's offered as a convenient alternative for people who might otherwise be deterred from taking a hunter education class due to time constraints," he says. "But we encourage people to get as much education as they can, and the classroom format offers a chance to ask questions of the instructor and interact with peers."

Huntsman encourages people to take advantage of other educational opportunities offered by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and sportsmen's groups. "Programs such as small game camps, clinics and watchable wildlife programs are available to give people the chance to learn more about hunting and wildlife and get reconnected with the outdoors. Keep checking the department's Web site at www.azgfd.gov for information on these activities," he says.

The cost to take the new introductory hunter education course is nominal, typically under \$10 for the classroom option or \$15 for the online course. To learn more about the course and to see when classes are offered, visit www.azgfd.gov/education and click on the "hunter education" link.

AWF Round Up

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors met on August 4th at Cabela's in Glendale. Jim Warnecke of Game and Fish gave an excellent presentation covering the department and his involvement in establishing fish habitat (condos) in Apache Lake when the lake was lowered for maintenance. It is unbelievable the effort in obtaining the materials, scheduling the volunteers, and the work in placing the condos along the lake bed at specific areas. Another effort is planned for Canyon Lake this fall. Stay tuned for further details.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tom Mackin of Flagstaff as AWF Regional Director for Region 2. Chris Fonoti will take over the Regional Director for Region 3.

Terry Herndon has been appointed to the board as "Director at Large" to coincide with his chairmanship of the Trophy Book Committee. Welcome Terry.

Your AWF board with much discussion has decided to keep the membership fees at their present level even with everything else going up. AWF members and supporters are our greatest asset. Your loyalty and support over the years has been unwavering. Arizona's wildlife thanks you!

The minutes of the August board meeting are available on the AWF web site, www.azwildlife.org

Be sure to check the web site www.azwildlife.org for Position Papers, Calendar of Events, and more information.

All Ladies Hunter Education Class Indication of Interest

We are looking for women or girls interested in taking the Arizona Game and Fish Hunter education course. This class would be all female.

Please contact Linda Dightmon at azodlady@yahoo.com

Big Game Tags for 2008 Trophy Banquet

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has released to AWF, a Javalina and Bear tag to be raffled or auctioned off at AWF's 2008 Trophy Banquet. The banquet is in discussion to be held the 2nd or 3rd weekend of June 2008. Stay tuned for further information.

Kids Corner

AWF through its publications would like to feature a Kids Corner. In order to establish this we need your help in supplying the information about kids, camping, hunting, fishing, etc.. So send them in and we will set up a page dedicated to our future.

editor@azwildlife.org

E-News

Your AWF will be establishing a monthly newsletter through e-mail to all members. If you do not have an e-mail on file with AWF office and wish to receive the AWF e-news, go to our web site and enter your information in the box provided on the home page. Your address will not be given out to any other organization. The e-news will be available starting this fall as soon as the protocols are in place. This is another benefit to keep you informed of any important happenings between the Arizona Wildlife News publications each quarter. www.azwildlife.org



Welcome new BOW Members

All participants and instructors attending the August workshop (Group photo above) have received a complimentary one year membership to the Arizona Wildlife Federation."



by Ryna Rock



Grilled Parmesan Potatoes

Medium potatoes, unpeeled, 1 per person
Dash of salt, pepper, and garlic powder
Butter or margarine
Parmesan cheese

Wash and slice potatoes. Place potatoes on a piece of foil with 3-4 slices of butter, salt, pepper, garlic powder, and generous amount of Parmesan cheese. Fold foil at top and end to seal contents. Cook on grill or in campfire for 20-30 minutes, or until tender. They cook faster on the hot coals of a campfire.

Zesty Italian Chicken

4-6 skinless and boneless chicken breasts
1 (16 oz) bottle zesty Italian salad dressing

Wash chicken breasts and place flat in a sealable container (can use Ziploc bag) and pour ½ of the dressing over them; pierce the chicken breasts with a fork. Turn the chicken breasts over and repeat this on the other side. Place in the refrigerator and allow to sit overnight. Turn the chicken 3 or 4 times before cooking. Grill on each side for approximately 10 minutes until done.

Basque Green Beans

4 ½ cups fresh green beans, or 2 (14 ½ oz) cans of drained green beans
2 Tbsp olive oil
¼ cup snipped fresh parsley-or-toss in ½ tsp dried parsley leaves
1 medium onion, chopped fine
1 clove garlic
1 tsp sugar
2 (14 ½ oz) cans diced tomatoes, or 3 medium tomatoes, peeled and chopped
1 tsp salt
½ tsp dried basil leaves
1/8 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/8 tsp pepper

Put olive oil in 12-inch Dutch oven and place on 10-12 charcoal briquettes (or live camp fire coals). Cook and stir onion and garlic in oil; add remaining ingredients except cheese. Remove some of the charcoal (coals) and simmer over low heat 15-20 min. Must bring to a boil, but do not overcook. Remove from heat, sprinkle with small amount of cheese and let sit with lid on for 5 min. before serving. Do not stir after putting cheese on top. Serves 6-8 people.

(From Page 6)

addressed, postage-paid envelope to return your hunting form at the end of the season. Responses from hunters who choose to participate will be kept strictly confidential and will not be used for any other purpose. As soon as the survey is completed, the Service will destroy all hunter names and address records. This survey provides the information used to develop nationwide harvest estimates. Basically, that's all that HIP requires.

What do hunters gain from HIP?

Hunters were concerned about wildlife conservation long before it was trendy to do so. They have a long history of taxing themselves, paying license fees, buying stamps—all to ensure the health and vigor of wildlife populations—hunted and non-hunted alike. HIP is just another page in that history. It is simply

good conservation. Lonnie Williamson, professional conservationist and writer for *Outdoor Life* and *American Hunter* magazines has this to say about the Program: "There is no question that the new harvest survey program is absolutely essential, not only to conserve the migratory bird resource, but also to answer possible future challenges to hunting programs. It will take hunters only a few moments to give wildlife managers the information they need. Those few moments could make a world of difference for the future of migratory bird hunting."

As the threat to and concern for migratory bird populations continue to mount, it is essential to gather the best information possible about the factors affecting these populations. It is in the hunter's best interest to have wildlife management decisions based on scien-

tific evidence, not on opinions, philosophies, or politics. The Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program, through the cooperation of hunters, will provide wildlife biologists with the facts they need to ensure that migratory bird resources—and hunting tradition—will be around for future generations to enjoy.

Until next time, Have a Safe and Enjoyable hunting season and enjoy the Great Arizona Outdoors.



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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 and Sportswomen before state and federal Organizations.

2. Maintaining a permanent state office in the Phoenix metro area, with six Regional Directors through out the state.

3. Disseminating information regarding hunting and fishing and conservation through press, radio, and it's own quarterly publication, Arizona Wildlife News.

4. Conducting frequent Executive Committee/Board meetings, and Annual Meeting/Convention.

5. Attempting to insure that every young Arizonan gets proper education in conservation problems and practices.

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.

Welcome New Members

Scott Anderson	Scottsdale
Loyd O Barnett Jr	Sedona
Brenda Beal	Kingman
Stan Bembenek	Oracle
Ray Blanchard	Oracle
Arthur L Boswell	Glendale
Sharon Brady	Tucson
Ellen Brown	Oracle
Melanie Brungard	Tucson
Danette Buffalo	Phoenix
Kim Buffalo	Glendale
Louise Cash DC	Glendale
Katherine Casteneda	Mimbres, NM
Laura Chavez	Phoenix
Mike Chelpa	Phoenix
Alice Chesworth	Flagstaff
Beckie Copeland	Phoenix
Jill E Crofoot	Tucson
Michela Davidson	Lake Havasu
Martha Davis	Phoenix
Tracy Delgado	Tucson
Cynthia Dilegame	Phoenix
Mary Dunn	Prescott Valley
Paula Ellis	Phoenix
Kate Emery	Phoenix
Catherine Fillmore	Catalina
Sally Flanders	Mesa
Crystal Frost	Mesa
Jill Gernetzke	Prescott
Hillary Gonzales	Kingman
John Goodwin	Cottonwood
Luz Gowan	Flagstaff
Henrietta Grosz	Lake Havasu
Nadine Gruhn	Yardley, PA
Jerry Guevin	Tucson
Kristina Hall	Scottsdale
Alice Harris	Sedona
Jan Heineman	Mesa
Cathy Huntress	Wickenburg
Peggy Hutchison	Prescott,
Mona Kean	Phoenix,
Bill Keebler	Cresson, TX
Marcia Koehl	Happy Jack
Chiron Kolter	Scottsdale
Lorraine Kuerner	Tucson
Sharon Landay	Lake Havasu
Paul Langford	Scottsdale
	Queen Creek

Mark LaScala	Mesa
Tarver Laub	Apache Junction
Amey L Law	Lake Havasu
Silvia Liberson	Phoenix
Angela Limb	Paradise Valley
Tom Mackin	Flagstaff
Matt Massey	Gilbert
Lisa McKenzie	Phoenix
Michele Meyer	Mesa
Melissa Miller	<i>Desert Flycasters</i>
	Tucson
	<i>AZGFD</i>
Rick Miller	Flagstaff
	Kingman
Billie Montalvo	Glendale
Janah Morehart	Phoenix
Lance Morris	Phoenix
Mary Nessel	Paradise Valley
Diana L O'Brien	Maricopa
Kiersten Peterson	
Joe Bill Pickrell	Phoenix
Ken Porter	Saddelbrook
Eleanor Powell	Lake Havasu City
Corinne Purtill	Tempe
Lisa Richmond	Tempe
Jeanette Rodriguez	Phoenix
Michael & Beth Rosselle	Cave Creek
Cecile Scharfenberger	Kingman
Ellen Schoenbeck	Fountain Hills
Alisa Scholtz	Tucson
Debbie Schultz	Phoenix
Beth Sedlet	Phoenix
Ross Shores	Queen Creek
Sharon Skoworn	Chandler
Joan Sullivan Garrett	Phoenix
Mary Sutton	Lake Havasu
Jan Tatum	Cottonwood
Christine Thomas	Humboldt
Cheryl Toth	Scottsdale
Connie Waddell	Morenci
Angela Walton	Lake Havasu
Ambika Wauters	Tucson
Jary Welker	<i>Mutual of Omaha</i>
	Phoenix
Michelle White	Wickenburg
Jessica Williams	Tucson
Gale Williams	Tempe
Susan Williams	Tempe
Marie Woertz	Chandler



'WHADDA YA' KNOW Answers

(from page 5)

1. Zane Grey
2. Fishing
3. Mammoths, Mastodons, giant Beavers, Grizzly Bears, Camels, Horses and large Bisons
4. 600 A.D.
5. 17.5% private; 26.7% Indian; 12.2% state and the rest is federal land
6. New Mexico Territory



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