Arizona Wildlife News www.azwildlife.org Official Publication of the Arizona Wildlife Federation- Conserving Arizona's Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Volume 50 - Issue 2 MILLER Spring

SPECIAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

Arizona Wildlife Federation Patti Ho Memorial Estate Auction April 26, 2008 2 to 7 P.M.

MEMORIAL ESTATE AUCTION WILL INCLUDE: Guns, Trophy Mounts and Hides, Saddles and Tack, Antique Furnishings, a Full Size Truck and Horse trailer, Fine Home Furnishings, Western Memorabilia, Unique Collectibles, and much, much more

SPECIAL AUCTION WILL FEATURE: One Javelina and One Bear Special Season Big-Game Tag

YOUR TICKET includes dinner, a number for bidding, and live entertainment from cowboy poets and western. singers. Drinks (including soft drinks and beer) will be available for an additional cost.

LOCATION: Bein Avery Shooting Facility Activity Center

AGENDA:

2:00—6:00 P.M. Dutch-Oven Meal by "Cowgirls Forever", Live Entertainment and Preview Auction items. 4:00-7:00 P.M. Estate Auction and Tag Auction

the event.

*We reserve the right to set minimum bids. Also, some estate items may be subject	to sale prior to t

Name	OHA
Guest's Names	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email Address	
Telephone	
Affiliate Name or Organization/Agency	
Saturday Luncheon/Auction @\$10.00 per adult, \$6 per child under 12. Number of tick ets Purchase Dinner Tick et and Bidder Number by mailing completed form and p	10 E
Arizona Wildlife Federation P.O. Box 51510 Mesa, AZ 85208	
Check EnclosedMasterCardVisa Card# Expiration Date/ Signature	
All checks payable to: A rizon a Wildlife Federation (Note: If paying by credit card you may fax this form to AWF at 480-644-0078)	
Online registration is available at www.azwildlife.org	

Other inquiriest a AWF Office (480) 644-0077 or email awf@azwildlife.org

ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS

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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 archieves of the *Arizona Wildlife Sportsman*. This one is from April, 1955. The piece is signed 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.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Arizona Wildlife Federation at the above address or phone number or by email editor@azwildlife.org. AWF does not assume any financial responsibility for errors in advertisements that appear in this publication. If notified promptly of an error, we will reprint the corrected ad.



Sportsmans Mail Pouch

John Underwood

Happy BOW Participant

Many thanks to you and everyone for a terrific weekend at Sahuaro Lake I enjoyed every aspect of your wonderful event. I am definitely planning to attend again and will be maintaining a membership in your amazing organization.

My husband was really pleased I got a copy of Amanda's amazing owl video and it was great to be able to share it with him.

Thanks again, Kathy

I am not a hunter or an outdoorsman. I am a person who, with my husband, moved to Sun City, Arizona for health reasons. We did not know, at the time of our move, about the 28 sand and gravel mines behind this highly touted retirement community.

Cemex was one of those plants along the Agua Fria Riverbed not far from us.

Together these mines openly spewed their particulates into the air, making us ill. Check out the Sun Cities health statistics from the Maricopa Public Health Department and witness the number of deaths due to lung cancer and other bronchial diseases. The

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: Sportsman's Mail Pouch Arizona Wildlife Federation P O Box 51510 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.

alarming extent of such deaths is not replicated in similar retirement communities across the country.

When I read about the proposed Cemex plant in your area I wrote to your Chamber of Commerce asking them to check out all information about rock crushing, cement making, particulates (PM-10 to 2.5 especially), the loss of the Route 66 corridor, impact on the Grand Canyon, on ground water - just a few negatives to be considered. I heard nothing back. The lure of jobs does not match the loss of wilderness, animal habitat and life, air quality, human life. . . the way of life you have known. Yes, get the word out!

Best wishes, Frances K. Thomas



WORK PROJECTS 2008

In conjunction with the Arizona Antelope Foundation.

Call or e-mail AWF if you can attend and for more information 480-644-0077 or editor@azwildlife.org

Unit 21 - March 15 & 16

Anderson Mesa - May 17 & 18

White Mountains - July 26 & 27

Unit 21 - October 18 and 19

AWF GEAR



From The President



Reflections on Friends and Foes

By Ryna Rock

fter my last article I found myself considering its rather "lofty" aspirations. We are just concerned citizens, who share a belief that we ought to give something back to the wildlife and habitat that we have been enjoying for years. The risks our Founders took in envisioning, then literally realizing a conservation ideal that was completely unwelcome to their societal time were far greater than most of us are called on to take.

Even more seems to be at stake now, yet the sense of urgency often seems lacking. My own inner conversation goes something like this, "If we "only" had to deal with long term drought, or with climate change, or with habitat loss due to residential development, or with mineral and energy development, or with loss of wetland protections, or with unregulated OHV use, or with loss of funding to wildlife management agencies, or with water and air pollution factors", and so on, "THEN we could get a handle on it". It is the intersection of these multiple factors that means we live in dangerous times for wildlife and habitat.

Representing the AWF Mission in our "World" takes courage and commitment to get beyond ourselves in order to develop non-traditional alliances when possible, communicate better and more often to as many as people as pos-

sible, have a governing board with diverse representation, lay aside our personal feelings for the broader good, be the source of accurate and reliable information, be a consensus builder, and try to avoid alienating large sectors of the wildlife and conservation advocacy community. I think this is when I have to bring out a disclaimer, "The views expressed herein by the writer are not necessarily the views of the membership at large", etc.!

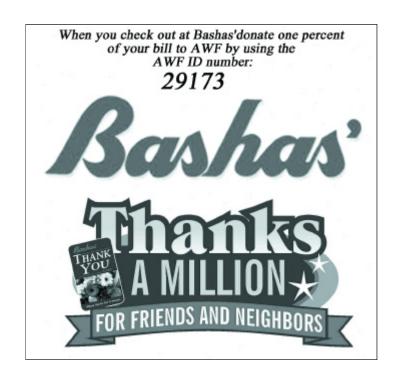
The divisions we create between us in the conservation, sportsmen, environmental and wildlife advocacy communities are the best "tools" of the powerful, and merciless special interests we are all up against. There is no shortage of real enemies out there. Those folks love to perpetuate and encourage rifts between "environmentalists" and "sportsmen" and "conservationists".

Two questions we all should consider are; "Do we want to fight them, or each other?" and, "It's okay to disagree, but is it okay to sacrifice vanishing habitat, fish and wildlife to make political statements?"

WHADDA' YA' KNOW?

- 1. Name the first boatwoman to work as a commercial guide on the Colorado River.
- 2. Where is Mile 0 on a Grand Canyon River Map?
- 3. What causes the beautiful colors of the Grand Canyon?
- 4. Who were the first women to float the entire Grand Canyon as commercial passengers?
- 5.Guess the age of the rock of the Grand Canyon's inner gorge.
- 6.What two rivers form the Colorado River?

 Answers on Page 11



Then

Historical Tales

"North American Wildlife Conference" taken from an article by the Arizona Game Protective Association

Printed in the HOOFS AND HORNS magazine of February 1936

Reproduced by Ryna Rock

By the time this issue is off the press, the North American Wildlife Conference at Washington, D.C. February 3-7 inclusive, called by President Roosevelt will be a matter of history. Those of you, who have been most interested in this, have probably gleaned from your local newspapers all the information of action taken there, that is available.

The need for such action is a matter of common knowledge to all who have kept informed on the continued and increasing shortages among our wildlife species.

In the belief that a concise picture of this need will be interesting to many of our readers, we quote below from the announcement of this Conference justifying the call thereof:

"A partial inventory of man's stewardship of Nature's bounty reveals our account deeply in the red, owing to the lack of foresight and an almost total absence of organized opposition to the ravages of waste and exploitation. A few major items of the profit and loss statement shows:

One hundred million (100,000,000) acres of original wildlife breeding grounds drained and water tables lowered, greatly aggravating the affect of droughts, dust storms, floods, and aiding in the general depletion of sustaining environment for either man or beast.

Eighty-five percent of our lakes and streams polluted by industrial and municipal wastes, resulting in an annual cost to the public for pure water supplies of approximately \$1,000,000,000 and entailing inestimable loss in recreation facilities, health and food resources.

One hundred seventy three million (173,000,000) acres of remaining public domain mostly overgrazed and partially denuded of vegetation.

Eight wildlife species extinct; others within the shadow of oblivion and all reduced far below the demands of the economic needs of the country.

The Great Lakes, once great reservoirs of sustain-

ing food and commercial fish resources, approaching exhaustion by over seining and lack of regulation.

Great stretches of coastal waters of the Atlantic and Pacific depleted almost to exhaustion of their former commercial and game fish resources.

Annual runs of Sturgeon, Salmon, and Shad, which once existed in seemingly inexhaustible numbers, gone entirely from many of our major waterways, or reduced to a shadow of their former numbers.

Fur-bearing animals and fur resources which once supplied the world markets, now supply less than half of our own needs.

Wild Turkeys, Sage Grouse, Mountain Sheep, Bison, Prairie Chickens, Migratory Waterfowl, Antelope, Moose, Caribou and Woodcock existing only through the agencies of rigid protection.

Game fish in most of our inland waters unstably dependent on artificial propagation and stocking.

No adequate existing public policy or official national program for the conservation or restoration of wildlife resources.

No single resource of the continent has suffered a more wanton and tragic depletion than our natural endowment of wildlife, and no great resource has been more consistently and wastefully ignored by official and unofficial agencies.

"Arizona Rates" taken from same issue

We can be justly proud, albeit a bit surprised, in the news that Arizona is one of eight states in the United States, where, according to J.J. Darling, recently resigned chief of U.S. Bureau of Biological Survey, there exists an intelligent interest in and an efficient organization working for the protection and propagation of wildlife as well as conservation in general. This might well be our spur toward additional activities, which will place us at the top of the list of those eight states.



Streams and Game Trails

By John Underwood



Rimfire Rifle League

Arizona Game and Fish sponsored another terrific opportunity for folks of all ages to participate in an outdoor shooting event. "The Ben Avery Winter Rimfire Rifle League".

The league started on Tuesday January 8th and continued every Tuesday night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with the exception of February 19th on the smallbore range, a great shooting facility with adequate shooting positions and a lighted field. The shooting was done at six targets, 25 yards and 50 yards. One target for practice and five for score at each yardage. A running total for each shooters score was kept and the shooter could check on his progress each week. On March 11th an Awards Banquet was held at the activities center to honor the shooters. My grandson Steven and I were fortunate to be a part of this program. Steven shot and I spotted for him. Great opportunity to introduce youngsters and those young at heart the joys of shooting and competition.

Special thanks go to the range safety officers for their making sure safety was paramount, helpfulness, and for being there every week. Thank You, Nancy Hays, Paul Bundy, Yoshi Sano, Rich Derrig, Christopher Dean, George Hester, for your efforts in making this event a success.

Check the Game and Fish web site www.azgfd.gov for more upcoming events.

Real Snow Birds

Arizona has a new winter visitor record of the feathered kind -- the Sulfur Springs Valley of southern Arizona has drawn an estimated 36,708 Sandhill Cranes this year, eclipsing the previous record of 31,443 birds set in 2004.

Arizona Game and Fish Department biologists said the Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area, which is operated by the department, also set a record this year with 22,367 Sandhill Cranes, versus the record set last year of 21,236 birds.

Mike Rabe, a migratory bird biologist with the department, said this year's high count is probably a combination of factors. "One reason for the increasing number of cranes in the Sulfur Springs Valley is the consistent habitat (meaning water) that the Game and Fish Department has provided the birds through pumping water at Willcox Playa and at the Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area. Because of those habitats, many cranes that used to continue south into Mexico now stop in Arizona."

Wildlife Fund Protected in Arizona! Friday, February 15, 2008

Thanks to the hard work of State Representatives Russell Pearce (R-18) and Jerry Weiers (R-10), the Arizona Game and Fish Conservation Development Fund has been protected. Some legislators were attempting to "poach" \$732,700 from this fund to make up budget shortfalls in the gener-The Conservation fund. Fund is generated Development through hunting & fishing license surcharges and is dedicated to wildlife conservation projects. Representatives Pearce and Weiers were able to beat back a legislative effort to balance the state budget by raiding the Arizona Game and Fish Wildlife Fund. By protecting the money from the proposed "sweeps" into the state general fund, the two legislators prevented the federal government from withholding \$15 million in Pittman-Robertson funding, as a penalty for the "sweeps". The \$15 million would have gone to shooting ranges and wildlife management efforts in Arizona and would have been withheld until the \$732,700 was paid

back to the Game and Fish fund by the state.

Please take the time to contact Representatives Pearce and Weiers to thank them for their diligence and commitment on behalf of Arizona 's sportsmen and gun owners.

Fishing Outlook Great

It is shaping up to be the best fishing year in Arizona in 25 years - this may indeed be the Year of the Pisces, says the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

According to Salt River Project (SRP), the projected runoff from the current snowpack is more than enough to fill Roosevelt Lake - for the first time since the dam was raised in 1996. The tremendous runoff in 2005 almost filled the lake, but was three feet shy at 96-percent full. "Our most recent runoff forecast is for inflow to exceed the amount necessary to bring Roosevelt Lake to 100 percent capacity," predicted Mark Hubble, the Senior Hydrologist with SRP.

Fisheries biologists with the Arizona Game and Fish Department see great things happening this year not just at Roosevelt, but most of the other fishing lakes as well. "This looks like an historic year in our fisheries, in large part because of the tremendous runoff in 2005 and resulting spawns, but also because of the widespread deep snowpack in the high country we haven't experienced since at least 1993," said Fisheries Branch Chief Kirk Young. "The Arizona fishing outlook is the best we've seen in 25 years or so."

Time to get the rods, reels and boat ready for a trip to your favorite fishing hole, and remember to take a kid fishing for the experience of a lifetime.

Until next time, Be Safe and Enjoy Arizona 's Great Outdoors.

The Poacher Chronicles_{TM}

by Jim Solomon

y taking a moment to read this overview you have determined that you are one of those that does not approve of the poaching practice. Did you know that according to the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Poaching is the 3rd largest crime in this country? And internationally this illegal practice generates about 10 billion dollars a year? (Please read on)



The Poacher ChroniclesTM is an in-depth monthly report about the serious (and occasionally humorous) illegal taking of wildlife. This report lasts one hour and broadcasts around the globe exclusively on Xplor the Outdoors radio show. The show Xplor the Outdoors, airs LIVE Sunday mornings, 7-9 PST, is hosted by Jim and Patti Solomon on AM 1060 The Fan in Phoenix, Arizona and broad-LIVE casts on xplortheoutdoors.com. and archived on myoutdoortv.com.

Twenty-six states, members of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact, including other non-member states and Canadian Provinces, members of the International Association of Natural Resource Crime Stoppers Organization, (ianrc.org), participate in The Poacher Chronicles™ radio program. During the course of the program, enforcement officers from three of these wildlife agencies will discuss up to three different wildlife offenses that have occurred in their state within the past two years and are no longer in

the court system. Each discussion lists the violators by name and city of residence, and includes a brief synopsis of the events leading to the arrest. Many of these violators are turned in to the agencies by law - abiding citizens who call a poaching hotline, available in each state. With the help of these concerned citizens, law enforcement officers piece together the evidence that eventually can lead to the arrest and conviction of those involved. In many cases, there is a reward for their assistance, who may remain confidential upon request. If someone is convicted of illegally taking wildlife in one of these member states, that person may not be able to hunt, fish or guide in any of the other member states.

It is the purpose of The Poacher Chronicles™ program to EXPOSE to the public the magnitude of poaching in this country and to encourage more citizens to get involved in turning in those who would steal wildlife from all Wildlife agencies across the United States and around the world work diligently to maintain sustainable populations of wildlife through proper game management techniques, allowing for the legal harvesting of wildlife, (hunting). Poachers do not fit into this equation. They are those greedy people who would take game out of season or take more than the allowable bag limit, for purposes of ego and/or monetary gain, and often cause the decline of a species.

The Poacher Chronicles™ program was started by Jim Solomon nine years ago in Arizona , through the cooperation of Rob Young the Operation Game Thief Director and the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

But it doesn't stop there. Jim Solomon has also developed a website, poacherchronicles.com. Poacherchronicles.com was developed by Jim to allow the different wildlife law enforcement agencies (at no cost to them) the opportunity to log on to and EXPOSE poachers on the site along with pictures, solved and

unsolved cases, website address, emails, and poacher hotline numbers.

Poacher ChroniclesTM outerwear can be purchased through two different stores, one located on the xplortheoutdoors.com site or the poacherchronicles.com site. A portion of the sales of the outerwear will go to purchasing body armor for wildlife law enforcement officers through the International Association of Natural Resource Crime Stopper's Organization or (ianrc.org)

If you would like to hear one of our past shows, simply log on to **poacher-chronicles.com** and click on the **archived shows link.**

We would like to thank the following corporations and organizations for their sponsorship support of the Poacher Chronicles: Trophy Blend, Foxy Huntress, Tiger Light, Otis, Diamond Cut Jeans, Feather Flage Camo, Sitka Gear, Gunzilla, The National Shooting Sports Foundation, The Boone and Crockett Club, and the Dallas Safari Club.

We encourage everyone to join the Poacher Chronicles Anti-Poaching Team with a sponsorship or through the purchase of our outerwear. You too can become a member of the Poacher Chronicles, Anti-Poaching Team by contacting Jim Solomon at:

(623)533-6820 or email at jim@xplortheoutdoors.com

Poacher Chronicles™ Outerwear Tee-shirts (\$10.95) Sweatshirts (\$26.95)



Conservation Districts

Conservation—A Dirty Word!

by Ty Rock

onservation: one of those words that in today's vernacular seems to be overused – similar to "organic", "green", "global", etc. However, if we don't stray too far from conservation's real meaning, it has a great deal of relevance in today's world. Conservation concerns the use of our natural environment that we rely on to sustain our modern way of life. Webster's New World Dictionary defines it as "a planned management of a natural resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect".

As one can plainly see, "conservation" is not to be confused with "preservation", which is a whole 'nother topic! Webster's definition is pretty simple and one that we all can understand, but do we know who or what organizations champion this explanation? After all, most of us have lives that are so busy we have little time to think of, much less devote time to, conservation.

Let's have a little history lesson and introduce ourselves to a few of the players and organizations that support Webster's definition. Toward the end of the $19^{\mbox{th}}$ century, concern was beginning to build about soil loss due to wind and water erosion. In 1898, the first soil survey of the United States was conducted. Bulletins were published and politicians dithered and acted like "politicians", much as they do today. Soil scientist Hugh Hammond Bennett was so concerned that he published a pamphlet, "Soil Erosion, A National Menace", and testified before Congress. His testimony resulted in some of the first funding to fight the deteriorating natural resource base and established soil erosion experiment stations in various locations around the United States; however, no national program was established. In 1930, Bennett wrote a paper for the American Society of Agronomy (a non profit agricultural group focused on field-crop production and soil management) in which a national program was outlined.

Federal land management agencies (i.e. National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, etc.) were well staffed with trained technicians to address resource management concerns on pubic lands. But, Congress continued to dither and act like "Congress", much as it does today on the need to address resource management concerns on private lands – until 1934. A national disaster, the great dust storms, moved millions of tons of soil across the Great Plains, destroying farms, ranches and many people's lives. The dramatic effects of the "Dust Bowl" gained national attention, partly fueled by the novel, "The Grapes of Wrath". All of this helped galvanize public interest in the plight of farmers and the food supply.

The indomitable Mr. Bennett lobbied Congress to pass the Soil Conservation Act (Public Law 46) in 1935, which created the Soil Conservation Service. Known today as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Although these were giant leaps in conservation, it quickly became apparent that in order for conservation practices to be effective on private lands, decisions needed to be made at the local level by concerned citizens and they had to be voluntary in nature. Each state was provided model language and encouraged to draft and pass enabling legislation that established and provided certain authorities to

local units of government known today as Natural Resource Conservation Districts.

In Arizona that law is Arizona Revised Statute 37 Article 2, which authorizes the State Land Commissioner to delegate certain authorities to Districts. Article 2 defines the District's authority to conduct research and investigations, demonstrate practices and projects, enter into governmental and private agreements, acquire property, conduct planning, employ staff and establish education centers. Perhaps the most significant authority is that, Districts may enter into cooperative agreements (a contract) with private landowners. These cooperative agreements are imperative as they provide the mechanism by which federal technical and financial assistance can be applied to private land resource concerns. Landowners within individual districts elect, from their peers, district board members who prioritize and direct various federal assistance. The USDA programs help individuals reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies and improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat and reduce damages caused by floods, as well as other natural dis-Public benefits also include enhanced natural resources, which helps sustain agricultural productivity and environmental quality, thereby supporting continued economic development, recreation, and scenic beauty.

Today, Arizona has 32 Natural Resource Conservation Districts (organized under separate, private non-profit (501 c 3) Association) administered by State Land Department NRCD Program and 10 Natural Resource Conservation Districts authorized under federal tribal law. The Arizona Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) was organized in 1944. Collaboration and understanding between conservation districts and other groups, with natural resource interests, is the mission of the AACD. These collaborative efforts create an influential presence in Arizona. Currently, the top five Arizona NRCD/AACD natural resource concerns identified through these efforts are water resources, land use and management, grazing lands, urban land conservation, and air quality.

In the months ahead we will attempt to highlight Conservation Districts in the State of Arizona, headlining past successes, on-going projects, future undertakings and maybe even – their failures!

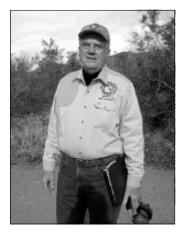
A list of the Conservation Districts we will be reporting on, starting with the extreme Northwest portion of the state, are as follows: Littlefield-Hurricane Valley; Fredonia; Navajo Mountain; Shiprock; Hualapai; Coconino; Little Colorado River; Fort Defiance; Moenkopi; Chinle; Big Sandy; Chino Winds; Verde; Navajo County; Apache; Triangle; Parker Valley; Wickenburg; Agua Fria; East Maricopa; Tonto; White Mountain Apache; Laguna; Buckeye Valley; Gila River; Florence-Coolidge; San Carlos Apache; Wellton-Mohawk Valley; Yuma; Gila Bend; West Pinal; Winkelman; Gila Valley; Tohono O'odham; Pima; Reddington; San Pedro; Willcox-San Simon; Santa Cruz; Hereford; Whitewater Draw.

So, until next time, keep your mind in the "dirt", and "Dig Conservation"!

Arizona Shooting Stars

by William H Barbee

Russ Gunderson



Russ is a shooting consultant and has been associated with the old facility (Ben Avery) and now with the new since the sixties. In 2006 this magazine published a formidable list of Russ's credentials. Since then Russ has been certified as a level 111 instructor. There are only 3 in the United States.

Youth is the future of shooting sports, and according to the National Sporting Clays Association, Russ had trained more NSCA Youth Coaches in 2005 than any other NSCA instructor in the nation, and continues to influence and interest kids to embrace Trap, Skeet and Sporting Clays. Russ was enthusiastic about night lighting at Ben Avery, "This gives young athletes the opportunity to practice".

Russ filled me in on his background, "I grew up in Wisconsin, worked on a farm as a youth, and on moving to Arizona picked up a couple of scholarships to New Mexico A&MA, where I majored in Engineering, was on the Rifle Team, played trombone in the and became Battalion Commander of the National Guard Unit. After graduating, I became a computer programmer in Pasadena and worked for a time in a windowless room by myself, but being people oriented. I decided this wasn't for me. I bought into a gun shop and ran it for a time, then moved to Banking, and now am a shooting sports consultant.

When asked how he got into shooting, Russ said, "When I was about eight years old a Red Ryder BB gun started the whole thing. Right after that, I bought a Bow and Arrow outfit that I still have. In College I was shooting a 16 Gauge shotgun with a 13 1/2 inch pull, there was no limit on doves, and with that gun I shot a box of ammo bagging 37 dove. Russ says his favorite gun is a Perazzi, "It shoots like butterfly and stings like a bee."

Russ is Chief Instructor for the Arizona Scholastic Clay Target Program (ASCTP) and over the past ten years has trained several thousand young shooters and beginning in 2005 extending through 2007, under Russ's leadership, Arizona's SCTP teams have been consistent winners. Russ and his crew train Boy Scouts at the Ben Avery facility. Russ set up the first YMCA camp for shooters here in Phoenix area. Arizona G&F Department sponsors, "Become an Outdoors Woman" (BOW), and Russ and his team are active in conducting Hunter Safety Courses, and shooting sports training at BOW camps. Women who have never touched a gun have the opportunity to shoot, and many of them take to the sport.



When asked about the future of Ben Avery and shooting sports, Russ said, "The future depends on getting more folks, particularly youth and women into our sport. They will spread the word to friends, relatives and acquaintances who will then enlist others. We have a generational gap between the ages of 14 and 40. As kids get into high school, become involved with other sports, and

with time and money constraints, we lose many of them. Then in the 40's they have children and get back into the sport. Game and Fish departments are working on hunter retention programs

In teaching, Russ emphasizes safety above all, then positive reinforcement rather than negative advice, and presentation rather than specific target instruction, thus equipping the student to deal with any problem. For beginners, Russ stresses the importance of good instruction by certified instructors and says, "Check to be sure they have liability insurance, the good ones do".



When asked," what's the best or worst experience you have ever had", Russ replied, "I don't recall any really worst experience, but meeting and marrying my wife, Dorothy was the best".

Just for fun, we thought that we should list Russ' credentials again. -ed-

Chief Instructor, Volunteer Arizona Game and Fish Department, Hunter Education Arizona Game and Fish Department, SCTP Program NRA/CMP/USA Shooting Coach-Shotgun NRA Certified Instructor, Shotshell and Metallic Reloading Chief Range Safety Officer, NRA Certified Level III Instructor/Coach Nation Sporting Clays Association President, Arizona Shooting Sports Education Foundation

Stories



Ben Avery Shooting Facility

by William H Barbee

Marty Herrera, Ben Avery Range Manager, claims Ben Avery has the finest, most modern, up to date, shooting facility in the United States with a budget for 2008 of 2.4 million dollars. Marty and Bill Kelsey,

Range Master, at a recent meeting, discussed the changes in place and taking place, since the Arizona Game & Fish Department took over Ben Avery and these changes are outlined below.

There is now at the Clay Target Range, an Executive



Sporting Clays Course, and an advanced 15-field Sporting Clays Course (Gold Course). Planned installation of two Sporting Clay Course's will allow hosting national events. All machines are new, there are 16 overlay trap/skeet houses, and 8 new trap/skeet fields are planned. There are two additional trap houses, one wobble field and an ADA approved concrete trap/skeet field. Also planned are international bunker and skeet trap fields, a duck tower, and a five stand course. Refurbishing the Club House, including a restaurant, should be completed by the end of March 2008. Golf carts for rent, a business center, and fishing ponds are in the works. Shotgun ammo is for sale, and loaner shotguns are available. The winter 2007 league included 26 teams composed of trap, skeet, sporting clays and combination teams.

The Main Range, including rifle, pistol, silhouette and archery ranges, is being upgraded and expanded. There are 101 RV Hookups, as well as dry camps available and

more planned.

There are thirty-two volunteer camp hosts, each putting in twenty hours monthly on range maintenance. All volunteer range officers are certified instructors.

Partnering with groups who provide services and money make possible the upcoming expansion at an earlier date. The increased range usage has been overwhelming, and at present they are unable to accommodate all comers.





'WHADDA YA' KNOW Answers

(from page 5)

- 1.Georgia White in 1952
- 2.Lee's Ferry, Arizona provides the last road access for 225 miles downstream
- 3.Most are from iron oxides-the minerals hematite and limonite
- 4.Elzada Clover and Lois Jotter with pioneer riverrunner Norm Nevills in 1938
- 5. 2 billion-year-old rock known as Vishnu and Brahma Schist

fessions of a Desert Rat

by Linda Dightmon & Kim Kreuzer



t was a challenge. A double dog dare ya kinda thing. "I'll go if you go," I teased Kim. Eyebrows raised, mocking, knowing...just knowing that there was no way she was going to follow through. Kim takes three down blankets to the Prescott spring BOW. She wears artic grade long underwear in 40-degree temperatures. I have never seen her in anything less than jeans and long sleeve tee shirts even during our 100+ degree desert summers. The woman simply does not like to be cold. There was no way she was going to participate in a winter BOW in north central Wisconsin. But she did, and so did I.

Ten days out and the weather forecast looked promising: sunny with a high of 29 degrees. (I simply refused to think about the lows.) No problem. I have been on big game hunts colder than that. Piece of cake! By the time our plane left Sky Harbor for Minneapolis and then to Wausau, the forecast had changed. Friday and Saturday looked doable but a forecast high of 5 and windy conditions had me well...sweating. It wasn't until we were in the air that I realized that ALL four of Kim's classes were INDOORS! I had chosen 3 outside classes with Dog Sledding slated for that suspect Sunday morning. I should mention that Kim was born and raised in Western Pennsylvania and was feeling pretty darn smug at this point.

Peggy Farrell, the Wisconsin BOW coordinator, picked us up at Wausau airport. We stepped outside the tiny facility to single digit temperatures. It was cold. Luckily, my hunting boots would not fit in the suitcase so my feet were happy and I was wearing a good coat but my legs, clad only in denim, screamed foul. Kim, of course, was wearing artic grade long underwear. She just smiled and waggled her eyebrows at me. Did I mention that it was cold? The 15-passenger van was stuffed with the paraphernalia needed to execute a workshop for 87 women. We jammed our suitcases on top of the heap (Yes, Kim brought her down blankets.) and settled in for the hour and a half ride to Treehaven.

The venue for the Wisconsin February workshop was truly a winter wonderland. The landscape looked fresh and pristine in a thick blanket of white. It seemed like Whitetail deer were everywhere. We spotted a dozen or so on the ride in. Treehaven is situated on 1400 acres of forest and wetlands crisscrossed with cross country ski and hiking/snowshoe trails. University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students attend summer sessions here. BOW participants are housed in these dorms.

Friday morning dawned gray with a light snow falling. Classes didn't begin until afternoon so we had a fun morning snapping pictures of icicles and snowy landscapes. My legs were now satisfied because they were wrapped in long johns



Kim and Linda in the Quincy shelter

named "Hot Chile Pepper Wool" (Or something like that.) We discovered that we could get from our room to the main building by going outside for only a short distance. We were two buildings away, so we only needed to be exposed for 30 feet or so twice on the way.

My afternoon class was Ice Fishing. Kim's class was Winter Camping. I have to correct an earlier statement. The winter camping class did go outside...for about an hour. In the ice fishing class, we geared up, drove to a frozen lake and spent the entire afternoon on the ice. And that is exactly how it should be done. I had a lot of fun in this class. It did seem kinda creepy that we were walking and DRIVING on a lake. Soon, the initial weirdness wore off and I settled down to find out about ice fishing. Prior to this, my knowledge of the sport was limited to watching a movie about grouchy old geezers. The temperature was a balmy 21 and the sun tried to peek through the clouds. Our instructors, Jared Pamperin and Barb Carey, told us many times that it was a beautiful day, perfect for ice fishing. It really was. No one wanted to go in the shack, as it was very comfortable outside.

Technology has infiltrated the ice fishing world. We watched 3-foot muskies cruise around via a fish TV. Jared fed a camera lens shaped like a fish through the ice hole and it sent signals to a little monitor that sits on the ice. In the meantime we jigged for pan fish through holes that we drilled into the ice. We set tip-ups for bigger fish. We didn't catch any big fish but there was some excitement when the bait tripped the flag.

Back at Treehaven, I found Kim (gasp) outside digging a hole in a snow bank. She explained that they were making Quincy shelters. Some of her classmates were going to SLEEP in there tonight! I was gonna do a double dog dare but wisely backed off. I would have HAD to do it too and the warm dorm rooms sounded pretty good right now.

After a wonderful meal of walleye filets about 80 participants walked out onto a frozen field with Pat Arndt, a local wolf biologist. There is a timber wolf pack near the property. It was

Member

Stories

snowing big fat dry flakes that you see at the end of those sappy Christmas movies. To me, the whole scene was surreal. It was absolute silence. Imagine, all those women and not one conversation. We stood for about fifteen minutes while our guide howled like a wolf. It was easy to image that you were hearing the real thing on this magical snowy night.

The next day Kim stayed inside and made a fox hat while I went snowshoeing. There was a light snow falling when we started but patches of blue prevailed as the morning progressed. This class really surprised me. I was expecting a lot of hard work trying to stay vertical on giant tennis rackets. What I got was modern plastic snowshoes with a pivoting metal cleat. There is no trick. All you have to do was walk. Our instructor, John Heusinkveld is the assistant director at Treehaven. He took us to some of his favorite places and talked of the different habitats and pointed out the animal tracks. His enthusiasm for his job and this place made the morning interesting and enjoyable.

That afternoon Kim and I had a class together. Yep, indoors. The class was titled Fur-bearing Ecology. It was all about trapping. I was pleased to see a possibly controversial subject and I wanted to see how it would be handled. One of the rules at BOW workshops is no politics. As it turned out, our instructors did a great job. There was a big pile of pelts on one table and some traps on another. There was also a selection of practical fur garments like hats and mittens in the room.

They talked about the furbearers that they trapped. Some of which I had never heard of. There is a critter named a fisher. It looks like a giant weasel and has a mouthful of vicious looking teeth. They explained how the traps worked, how they dispatch or release the animals in their traps and what happens when they trap something unintentionally. They talked a little of the fur market and how it is possible to make a little money trapping. At the end of the class, we skinned a muskrat and a raccoon and put it on a board getting it ready for market. Questions were answered honesty and directly. It always comes down to the instructor to make a BOW class successful. Mark Wolf and Craig Woken did a great job with a difficult subject and it was an afternoon well spent.

That evening the skies were clear and the stars icy bright. It was deemed too cold to venture out. The air temperature was well below minus ridiculous, with a wind chill of you've-got- to-be-kidding. And I have Dog Sledding tomorrow? I accidentally touched a metal door with a damp finger while scooting through the outside breezeways. It was like grabbing dry ice! Kim suggested that I put gloves on, while she waved her gloved fingers at me. Geez, we were only outside for all of 10 seconds. We stayed up late, visiting and giggling with our roommates while sharing a nice bottle of Cabernet.

Sunday morning was gorgeous. The skies were Arizona cobalt and the land was...well...snow white. The wind was due to pick up that afternoon but for now there was still some snow bombs sitting in the trees. The thermometer read –17!!! Determined to experience the extreme conditions, I put on my borrowed ski clothes and ventured outside. The first thing I noticed was that the snow being crushed under my boots was making a most irritating sound, like fingernails on a chalkboard. I quickly forgot about that because there was an odd sensation coming from my nose. Was it something disgusting? I felt around and finally determined that my nostril hairs were frozen! Later, Kim says, "Oh yeah, I should have told you about that."

The Dog Sledding class was great fun! Our instructors were Corky and Steve Severson. We learned a little about the dogs themselves and about their breeding program. They use Alaskan sled dogs. Not the big huskies that I had expected. Corky talked about the construction of the sled and the items that they carried for their winter camping excursions. The musher stands on the runners at the rear of the sled. There is a patch of rubber between the runners and a bar with cleats. These are your brakes. Other than that, and voice commands, the musher has no control over the dogs. With this knowledge, we all went outside to try our hands at mushing.

First we went around a circle with two dogs so that we could get the idea of what to expect. Then a third dog was added and finally a forth. With four dogs, it was a pretty fast ride around the snow track and lots of fun. It was pretty easy to forget about the cold if you didn't look at the icicles growing on Steve's mustache. After a while, I noticed that there was a marked numbness in my cheeks. It was time for me to head inside. Kim had spent a nice warm morning cleaning game birds and informed me while stroking a handful of pheasant tail feathers that my nose was purple. She was worried I might have gotten frostbite.

The key for fun in the freeze is making sure that you are wearing the right things. Modern fabrics make it easy. My hunting gear and borrowed ski clothes worked great. Layering is essential, a wicking layer next to the skin, then a warm layer and finally a waterproof outer layer. I wasn't trying to make a fashion statement so my Danner insulated boots with a silk sock under a heavy wool sock was perfect. My feet stayed warm, dry and happy. Unhappy feet will always make you miserable

The Wisconsin winter BOW was a great experience. My only regret was that I didn't make a fox hat. But, which class to give up? So, come on all you desert rats. Spend a winter weekend in the North woods. I double triple infinity dog dare ya! And now a word from, you guessed it... Kim!

I would like to say that the whole preceding story is true. After growing up in the snow country and leaving the day after graduation for warm country, I never thought that I would want to go to the snow & cold. BOW is about getting out of your comfort zone. Going to the snow was way out of my comfort zone, but I wanted to know if there was something that I missed when I was a kid. Everyone remembers the movie A Christmas Story. I'm thinking of the part where the little boy falls down and cannot get up because of all of the clothing! (I'm sure a lot of you can relate.) My whole childhood was spent falling down and struggling to get back up. That is definitely not the case in this day & age. My husband sent me off shopping to get gear that would keep me warm. (He wants me to go to Alaska....) I bought some Smartwool undergarments that felt like silk and they were unbelievably warm. Being warm and comfortable definitely changed my view of the cold weather.

It was very enjoyable to have taken this trip with the "Desert Rat", Linda. I watched her excitement as each new winter adventure came her way. Every night I would sit and listen about her day. Now that I have been a participant, I know how each woman at the BOW feels when they are sitting in their cabin or at the dining hall, telling stories of what they had experienced for the day. BOW is a great program; I hope that if you will pass along information about this program to all the women you meet. They will thank you for it!

Corn On The Cob

An Editorial by John Underwood



I really like corn on the cob. Have you priced sweet corn on the cob at the supermarket lately? Outrageous! .69 cents for an ear! Sometimes more, and all because the government came up with the idea that bio-fuels (mainly corn) would be good for the environment. Well now some studies have shown that it costs more and does more harm to the environment and conservation issues surrounding us than it does good.

The real problem with ethanol from corn is that it requires fuel to make the corn. David Pimentel a professor from Cornell has done the analysis. An acre of U.S. corn can be processed into about 328 gallons of ethanol. But planting, growing and harvesting that much corn requires about 140 gallons of fossil fuels and costs \$347 per acre, according to Pimentel. That is \$1.05 per gallon of ethanol before the corn even moves off the farm.

Pimentel states that the energy economics get worse at the processing plants, where the grain is crushed and fermented. As many as three distillation steps and other treatments are needed to separate the ethanol from the water. All these need energy.

Pimentel says, "about 29 percent more energy is required to produce a gallon of ethanol than the energy that actually is in the gallon of ethanol produced." Every time you make 1 gallon of ethanol, there is a net energy loss of 54,000 BTU."

Overall ethanol from corn costs about \$1.74 per gallon to produce compared with about 95 cents to produce a gallon of petrol. "That helps explain why fossil fuels -- not ethanol -- are used to produce ethanol" Pimentel says. "The growers and processors can't afford to burn ethanol to make ethanol. Drivers couldn't afford it, either, if it weren't for government subsidies to artificially lower the price."

Now the real kicker, record-high or near-record crop prices do not bode well for the near future of the **Conservation Reserve Program** (CRP) and the wildlife that depends on the habitat that CRP provides, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. Driven by the recent and significant increase in ethanol production, plus substantially increased foreign demand, corn prices are now hovering at record levels despite record production last year.

Even with record production last year, USDA projects that corn supplies will dwindle to just a five-week supply by late summer 2008. The high demand for crops apparently is going to result in a substantial decline in the number of acres enrolled in CRP. Kevin Kading of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department reported that just fewer than 420,000 acres of CRP were lost between August 31 and November 30, 2007, in North Dakota alone. This represents a CRP enrollment loss of more than 12 percent in the state lost in a three-month period. Corresponding declines in grassland-dependent wildlife are inevitable.

Along with major negative impacts to wildlife, increased soil erosion and reduced water quality and carbon sequestration are expected as a result of a loss of CRP acres. Because CRP targets lands prone to erosion, sediment losses from

lands withdrawn from CRP and put back into crop production tend to be higher than losses from croplands not eligible for CRP because of their low erosion potential.

CRP subsidy rate payments to landowners often are not competitive with the prices for crops grown on the same ground. A spike in crop prices aggravates the situation because subsidy rates are based on a formula that does not account for such rapid price escalations. CRP rates are always a little behind and below crop cash rental rates when crop prices increase.

The Center for Agriculture and Rural Development at Iowa State University estimated that, if corn prices were at \$3.00 per bushel, half of CRP acres would likely be put back into production. Using current March corn futures that are hovering in the \$4.50 per bushel range, their projections would be for a 65-percent reduction in CRP lands. A good analysis of the impact high corn prices has on CRP can be found in the Iowa Ag Review (vol. 13. no. 2) at www.card.iastate.edu/iowa_ag_review. As of this writing corn was at \$5.37 per bushel. Nearly double from 2006.

Not all agree, http://www.transportation.anl.gov states that the production of ethanol which is derived from corn, not only meets the government requirement for oxygenated fuel, but also raises the price for corn enabling the farmer to reap a greater reward thus lowering farm subsidies. The elimination of MTBE could increase the demand for ethanol significantly. I always wonder about the validity of a government report when it deals with a government mandate. However that said there are some good rebuttals included.

My main concern with the ethanol production is that it contributes to the reduction of land that was before dedicated to the CRP. This reduction affects the wildlife of the regions and in some respects affects our state and yes, we do have CRP lands in Arizona , though we are not considered corn growing state. "The scientific evidence is mounting - biofuels are often more damaging to the climate than the fossil fuels they are designed to replace."

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IN MEMORIAM

Jerome Joseph Pratt

(Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, retired)

by Steve Gallizioli

Nov. 11, 1910 - April 18, 2007

Jerome Joseph Pratt, (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, retired), 96, of Sierra Vista, AZ, passed away Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at his residence Jerome was born Nov. 11, 1910, in La Crosse, Wis., to Edward F. and Annie Marie (Heinkel) Pratt. He worked at the La Crosse Rubber Mills and was a partner in a commercial game farm and taxidermy business. He was the youngest member on the French Island School Board at 19 years of age and received a Poultry Judges License by The American Poultry Association and Wisconsin Department of Agriculture in 1940.

He married Evelyn (Sederholm) Osuna on March 20, 1944, in Salem, Ore. She died April 3, 1984, in Landstuhl, Germany, after becoming ill during a Safari in Africa. Always interested in aviculture as a small boy, Jerome enlisted in the Army after Pearl Harbor hoping to get into the pigeon service. He went to OCS and was commissioned a second lieutenant. He served with the 3rd Army during World War II as Commander of the 285th Signal Pigeon Company in Europe. After the war he served as a military government officer and control of the Munich Zoo and Circus Krone. He also served at the Pentagon and in Korea, as well as several posts in the states.

After retiring, he became the first wildlife manager for the Department of Defense at Fort Huachuca, AZ. He worked for the National Park Service at Coronado National Memorial, AZ, and Haleakala National Park, Hawaii. He was interested in wildlife conservation all his life, serving Secretary-Treasurer of the Whooping

Conservation Association for almost 40 years and editor of the newsletter for 40 years.

He was the founding member of The Friends of the San Pedro River and several other organizations in Sierra Vista. He was a proud recipient of about 100 trophies, plaques and certificates of achievement and appreciation and was also an author of books and pamphlets related to nature and natural resources.

He is survived by his niece, Carol, and her husband, Bob Haas of Sierra Vista; a step-child, Beverly Benge; two step-daughters-in-law, Jeannette and Pat Osuna; several step-grandchildren and eight nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; three brothers, George, Edward, Cyrus; a sister, Helen; and two stepchildren, Richard and Raymond Osuna. He was a long time member of the Arizona Wildlife Federation, serving as a board member representing the AWF in many conservation activities in southern Arizona. When poor health and advancing age made it virtually impossible for him to attend board meetings in Phoenix, the AWF board appointed him Director Emeritus. He continued to represent the AWF and to report regularly on his conservation activities in and around the Sierra Vista area.

In recognition of his many contributions to wildlife conservation, the Federation awarded Jerry the McCullough award in 1979. Jerry was the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award created in 1999 and was presented to him in that year. Only members of the AWF are eligible to receive this award. Only four others have been awarded as 2007.





BOW Happenings



Photo by Donna Walkuski

The 2008 BOW Deluxe almost didn't happen. We had only a handful of participants one month out when our good friend John Stanley, of the Arizona Republic did a story on Saguaro Lake Ranch. Our press release was inserted as a sidebar and the next day the phones were ringing. I hereby dedicate the 2008 BOW Deluxe to Mr. Stanley and his timely article.

I send out a hearty welcome to our newest instructor, Ken Stevens. It takes a special person to allow a beginner to drive their boat. Ken did an excellent job and I hope that he comes back next year. Just so you all know, his boat survived unscathed! The boating class had a great time and as an extra treat found a herd of bighorn sheep along the banks of the lake.

The big story of this BOW was the weather. You can plan an outdoor event until the cows come home but you can't do a darn thing about the weather! Friday and Saturday it was chamber of commerce perfect but that front just would not hold out until noon Sunday. We woke up to a steady rain and it only got steadier as the day progressed. The following are excerpts of emails that I received or sent out immediately after our event. I hope that they will give you an idea of the camaraderie and the special moments that make this program so positive.

> From Linda to the BOW participants: Good Morning Ladies!

Despite the iffy weather everyone stayed in good spirits and I was especially proud when almost everyone went out in the rain on Sunday morning. Pat yourself on the back for putting on the rain gear and "just doing it."

A special thanks goes out to Tracy Unmacht, who filled in for me on Bingo night and Kathy Greene, who helped cook the Saturday night meal. Lets not forget all of the volunteer instructors who came out in the rain to teach a class.

From Ryna to the board,

What an outstanding workshop we had last weekend! Every instructor and "worker-bee" involved should get resounding applause for the accomplishment of our 3rd Saguaro Lake BOW Deluxe Workshop! I can't say enough good things about all those who helped us throughout the weekend.

Many thanks to our site hosts, Steve and Susanne, at Saguaro Lake Ranch. . They and their staff go well beyond the bounds of providing us what is needed into the realm of spoiling us as much as they can through their cooperation and concern to help us have a successful event and give the ladies a great weekend!

Photo by Donna Walkuski



Tracy Unmachts "Catch of the Day" From Kim to everyone,

Great job on being that fearless 'Outdoor Woman'! As we all remember, Tracy fought the elements of the Sunday rainstorm and took her fairly new fly rod with the pink line and caught herself a Bass during the Fly Fishing class! Way to go Tracy!!!!

From Donna Walkuski, Instructor

All of us fly fishing instructors had a blast on the river Sunday. I really didn't want to come with all the rain, but once we were on the river, the class participants' enthusiasm was infectious. Some of them were ill prepared for the rain, oth-

ers discovered their rain gear wasn't really all that waterproof, but we had to tear them off the water at noon. Very impressive bunch of women!

Thanks for inviting us to be a part of such a wonderful group.



Paulette, Sandy and Sara

And finally a note from a participant to instructor Amanda Moors

Hi Amanda!

Just a guick note to say thanks for all of your help and info for both the AZ Animals session and the Geocaching class. The class was great fun. I have logged on and gotten ourselves a log in. Suzi and I have already been out to find our first three! Yippee!!

Thanks again for everything and hope to see you in April!

Cherie



The geocaching class

AWF Round Up

Arizona Game and Fish Commissioners Award Banquet

On January 19th, 2008, the AGFD Commission Awards Banquet was held at the Crown Plaza hotel. Six AWF representatives were in attendance to celebrate not only the awardees but AWF's own: Linda Dightmon award for Outdoor Woman of the Year, Don Farmer and Jimmy Unmacht for Award of Excellence. Our congratulations to Linda, Don, Jimmy and all of the awardees for their hard work in making a difference in Arizona 's wildlife and youngsters.



Linda Dightmon and the Commissioners

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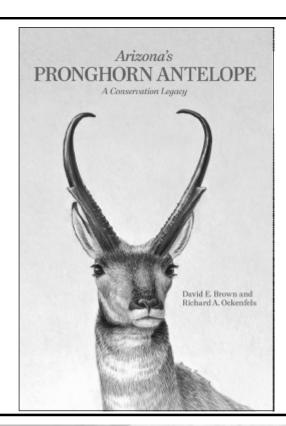
by David Brown & Richard Ockenfels Cover art by Bonnie Swarbrick

"Arizona 's Pronghorn Antelope is a masterful weave of current biology and management information within an historical context. It is an excellent source of valuable information for anyone interested in this incredible animal. This book is long overdue and will remain a critical reference for years to come."

Jim Heffelfinger, Arizona Game & Fish Department and author of Deer of the Southwest

"This book is indeed a major contribution to the pronghorn literature. Because of its easy reading style and abundant photos, many people will quickly read and learn much about antelope - a great goal and accomplishment for wildlife and wildlife management.

Jim Yoakum, author of Pronghorn Ecology and Management



Traditional BOW: April 4-6 & August 15-17

\$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

Arizona Wildlife Federation P O Box 51510 Mesa, AZ 85208 480-644-0077 Email:awf@azwildlife.org



Discover Arizona

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.

Discover You!

Agency News

Larry Voyles Named New Director

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission announced it has hired Larry Voyles as the new director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, effective when current director Duane Shroufe retires in March.

Voyles has been with Game and Fish for nearly 35 years and is currently supervisor for the department's Yuma region, which handles field operations in southwestern Arizona .

He brings more than three decades of experience in wildlife management to the director's position, as well as the respect of colleagues and the public.

Voyles joined the department in 1974 as a wildlife manager (game ranger), serving over the next 10 years in the Wellton, Wickenburg and Prescott districts. He subsequently served as the Wildlife Enforcement Pprogram Coordinator and as the department's Training Coordinator before being promoted to Supervisor of the Yuma region in 1988.

Voyles, of Yuma, will lead an agency that employs more than 600 employees and is funded at more than \$80 million per year from multiple funding sources, primarily the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, federal assistance from an excise tax on hunting and fishing gear, and several other sources such as the Heritage Fund (lottery proceeds), Wildlife Conservation Fund (tribal gaming revenue), watercraft licensing, and state wildlife

He will work side-by-side with Shroufe until the latter's retirement in order to ensure a smooth transition and will fill out the remainder of Shroufe's original five-year contract through January 2009. In December, Shroufe requested, and was granted, commission approval to retire early this coming March after serving as director for nearly 20 years.

"You don't just replace a Duane Shroufe," said Voyles. "He led the agency through an amazing period of growth, quality improvement and accomplishment. He set the bar high, and I'm looking forward to the opportunity to continue that legacy."

Voyles holds a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Arizona State University.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department director is appointed by and reports to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. The director serves as the department's chief administrative officer and is responsible for the general supervision and control of all activities, functions and employees of the department.

Arizona Game and Fish EXPO!

FREE ADMISSION and PARKING!

Friday, March 28 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (youth/school day only)

Saturday, March 29 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 30 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Ben Avery Shooting Facility 4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd Phoenix, Arizona 85086

For more information e-mail tbickford@azgfd.gov



Arizona's State Route 260 Wildlife Protection Project Wins **National Environmental Award**

Nearly ten years ago, a multi-agency project began in Arizona to incorporate wildlife-friendly components in the expansion plans for State Route 260, in a stretch east of Payson. Now the project is being recognized for its revolutionary concept and design with the 2008 National Environmental Excellence Award for Environmental Stewardship from the National Association of Environmental Professionals.

A complex system of underpasses, wildlife fencing and a cutting-edge electric "wildlife crosswalk" were incorporated in roadway improvement design. The components aimed to reduce wildlife collisions along the increasingly busy stretch of road between Payson and Heber, by allowing wildlife populations to safely cross the roadway, reducing population isolation.

"The State Route 260 project represents a truly groundbreaking collaborative effort of multiple partners over many years. It really was a labor of love, so national recognition from the environmental community is a great reward," says Norris Dodd, the Arizona Game and Fish Department's lead biologist on the project. "Even better, the wildlife components we incorporated into the design are proving very effective for motorists and wildlife."

Population growth and the ever-expanding network of highways in Arizona have led to increasing wildlife-vehicle encounters on some of the state's most traveled routes. These collisions pose a risk to drivers and cost millions in property damage each

Since activating the crosswalk component two years ago, the wildlife-vehicle collision rate has dropped 92 percent along the affected stretch of highway. The crosswalk was the first-ofits-kind in Arizona . It uses thermal infrared cameras that send images to sophisticated software normally used by the military to find targets. The software determines if the object is large enough-such as an elk or deer-to be a risk to motorists. Once an animal is detected, the software sends signals to electronic warning signs placed in advance of the crosswalk in either direction, and to flashing warning signs at the crosswalk.

A 3-mile stretch of elk-proof fencing near the highway will funnel animals either to the crosswalk on the west end of the fence, or to the east, where there are underpasses.

In addition to Arizona Game and Fish, several partners -Arizona Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Tonto National Forest, and contractors ElectroBraid Fence, Inc. and AZTEC Engineering, Inc. - developed the crosswalk system to work in conjunction with previously constructed underpasses and bridges being used as part of the Arizona Department of Transportation's award-winning State Route 260 reconstruction project.

The award will be presented in March at the 2008 National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) conference to be held in California. The NAEP is a non-profit organization comprised of scientists and planning experts dedicated to the advancement of ethical environmental practices worldwide.

Foundation News

www.arizonawildlifefoundation.org

Over the weekend of October 25th-27th, I had the opportunity to attend an informative, well-planned and well-attended conference on sustainability at the University of Arizona . The weather was perfect. the numerous workshops were on differing topics relating a wide variety of sustainability issues and presented by experts in their fields; many of whom are professors and researchers at the U of A. They geared their workshops to assisting others who want to share the knowledge gained with students and colleagues alike. The "Farmer's Market" was delightful, with vendors sharing their expertise as well as their products. Can't wait to try my heritage bean "collection". All in all, it was a most worthwhile trip to Tucson!



The conference was the outcome of a project put together by a young woman, Jessi Williams, who is a trustee of the Arizona Wildlife Foundation. Our AWF President, Ryna Rock, met Jessi at the NWF Conference in Washington, D.C. last year and after getting to know her, invited Jessi to join the Foundation. Jessi's interest in wildlife and habitat was very apparent, and she possesses the dedication, intellect and enthusiasm the Foundation seeks in it's trustees.

The following is Jessi Williams' summary of the events that took place on that lovely Fall weekend. Chris Fonoti, President

Arizona Wildlife Foundation

Educating for Sustainability: 2007 Fall Conference

by Jessi Williams

The Arizona Association for Environmental Education hosted the Educating for Sustainability Conference at the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ from October 25th to October 27th. Because of contributions from the Arizona Wildlife Foundation and Councilman Steve Leal, we were able to provide 45 teachers and students with full scholarships to attend the confer-

The basis of the conference was the idea of making environmental sustainability more concrete in the minds of Arizona educators. We invited educators from all walks, and in attendance we had K-12 teachers, college professors, environmental educators, park rangers, and an entire class of 8th grade students. We had each workshop and field trip correlated to National Academic Standards for science and offered teachers professional development credit hours for their attendance. Although we definitely wanted to focus on K-12 teachers, we did not in any way want to make the conference feel exclusive to non-formal educators. so we marketed it as being appropriate for anyone wishing to gain knowledge and teaching tools in the realm of environmental sustainability.

The conference began on Thursday evening, October 25th, with a keynote address by Dr. Jonathan Overpeck. Dr. Overpeck is the Director of the Institute for the Study of Planet Earth at the University of Arizona and was a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report that was recently included in the Nobel Peace Prize award given to Al Gore.

Friday, October 26th, was all day

workshops and field trips pertaining to environmental sustainability. I received great feedback from all Friday participants. The quality of the presentations and field trips was said to be very high and all were very informative. I have had two people tell me that they found their calling in life to be environmental educators because of their participation in this conference. The class of 8th grade students participated in a morning long workshop that covered bicycle maintenance, repair, and the connection to global climate change and carbon emissions. The kids then came to the U of A campus where I gave them a tour of the farmers' market and talked to them about local food production and reducing how much food travels to reach the consumer in order to reduce carbon emissions. This was one of my favorite parts- the kids were so much fun! The teacher with the kids. Kobe Biederman, said that the class got a lot of good information from their participation and hands-on experiences.

Friday evening we had an address by Dr. Gary Paul Nabhan, Director of the Sustainability program at Northern Arizona University and renowned ethnobotanist and author. Dr. Nabhan spoke about the challenges of educating for sustainability while living in Arizona, which is currently having trouble supporting the population growth that is occurrina.

Saturday, October 27th, we had field trips again in the morning as well as a North American Association for Environmental Education (NAEE) Guidelines Excellence for Environmental Education workshop. I

coordinated the field trips and heard all good things when the participants returned. The Guidelines workshop was attended by 35 people and although I was not there, I have heard great feedback from that as well.

I would say that this conference was a definite success. It ran smoothly, and most importantly, participants left feeling like they had really gained substantial tools and knowledge to educate about environmental sustainability.

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 taxexempt 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

SPECIAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

Arizona Wildlife Federation Patti Ho Memorial Estate Auction April 26, 2008 2 to 7 P.M.

MEMORIAL ESTATE AUCTION WILL INCLUDE: Guns, Trophy Mounts and Hides, Saddles and Tack, Antique Furnishings, a Full Size Truck and Horse trailer, Fine Home Furnishings, Western Memorabilia, Unique Collectibles, and much, much more

SPECIAL AUCTION WILL FEATURE: One Javelina and One Bear Special Season Big-Game Tag

YOUR TICKET includes dinner, a number for bidding, and live entertainment from cowboy poets and western singers. Drinks (including soft drinks and beer) will be available for an additional cost.

LOCATION: Bein Avery Shooting Facility Activity Center

Online registration is available at <u>www.azwildlife.org</u>

Other inquiriestα AWF Office (480) 644-0077 or email awf@azwildlife.org

AGENDA:

2:00—6:00 P.M. Dutch-Oven Meal by "Cowgirls Forever", Live Entertainment and Preview Auction items 4:00—7:00 P.M. Estate Auction and Tag Auction

*We reserve the right to set minimum bids. Also, some estate items may be subject to sale prior to the event.

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Saturday Luncheon/Auction @\$10.00 per adult, \$6 per child under 12. Number of tickets=\$
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SPAM (YES, I SAID SPAM) CASSEROLE

1 (15 oz.) can new sliced potatoes (drained) 1 medium to large onion, chopped 1 (16 oz.) bag frozen peas 1 (12 oz.) can Spam brand canned meat ½ to 1 lb. Cheddar cheese, grated ½ c. margarine or butter ½ c. flour ½ tsp. salt ½ tsp. pepper 2 c. milk Temp. – equivalent of 325 to 350

In a medium (10 inch) Dutch oven, combine potatoes, onion, and frozen peas. Slice Spam into 1/4-inch slices and cover the entire top of the mixture. In a separate Dutch oven, make a white sauce as follows: Melt margarine/butter in a small (8inch) Dutch oven. Blend in flour, salt, and pepper. Cook until smooth and bubbly (being careful not to burn it). Gradually add milk, while attempting to keep white sauce as thick as possible. Heat until mixture boils and thickens, stirring constantly. Pour the white sauce over the Spam in the medium Dutch oven. Cover and bake (top and bottom) for 45 minutes. Sprinkle grated cheese over the top during the last 5 minutes of cooking.

Camp Cook

Recipes discovered by Ryna Rock

GRILLED SQUASH

1 medium zucchini squash 2 small yellow squash Butter garlic powder salt and pepper

Wash and prepare squash to cook on grill, cutting out any bad spots. Cut squash in long spears rather than slices. Place in the center of a piece of aluminum foil large enough to roll shut around the squash. Sprinkle with a small amount of salt, pepper, and garlic powder. Cut 2-3 slices of butter from a stick of butter and place on top of squash. Roll aluminum foil shut in the center and then on the ends. Place on grill or on the hot coals in your campfire and cook for approximately 10-15 minutes, or until tender. This will cook faster on the hot coals.

TASTY CAMPFIRE APPLES IN TIN FOIL

3-4 apples 1 cube butter 1 c. chopped walnuts ½ c. maple syrup

Peel and cut apples into slices taking out the core. Combine the melted butter, maple syrup, and nuts in a bowl. Place a small handful of apples onto a piece of aluminum foil. Top the apples with a large spoonful of the nut mixture. Fold the foil, leaving an opening for ventilation. Place on the campfire and cook 30-40 minutes, or until the apples are soft but not mushy.

Leave No Trace Program--Firepans

By Jodi Allen Verde NRCD Supervisor

Building a fire when you're out camping is one of the most satisfying parts of being out of doors. The smell of the burning wood. The warmth it gives out. You can turn yourself like you're on a vertical spit. Just turning and turning, until you're done on each side. The conversation of good friends. The crackle, pop and other sounds of the wood turning into ash.

It's the ash. That's what the problem is all about. Ash is the very fine residue, lift behind after a fire. This fine residue gets on everything. Year after year of this residue, in the same place makes your favorite spot a mess. It's like trying to play in the fire place. So, what are you going to do? Build another fire ring? Well that'll help nothing. You'll just have two piles of dirty ash. Have you ever been to a camp sight with 4 or 5 rick fire rings? It's not pretty.

There is a way to still enjoy an outdoor fire without leaving all the mess behind. It's easy. We start with a metal oil pan, that's never had oil in it. Make your wood smaller, you can even burn a piece in half if need be. Then try to make sure that all the fire and coals, stays within the ring. We add a pair of tongs, to help tend to the fire. Keep a close watch on it and enjoy. Take along two fire pans, and a Webber grill and magic, you've got a barbeque to use your coals for, just move over the burning wood to the other pan. This isn't rocket science, just some helpful hints on starting a 'leave no trace 'ethics practice. Now bring some hot mittens, and when you're done with your fire, add some water to it, swirl, make sure its cool, then carefully dump it in your garbage bag, and pack it out with the rest of your trash. You may want to add water again, swirl, then store your whole fire pan unit in a heavy bag (large dry bags are good). Keep practicing, you'll get better at it.

Have you ever been to a beautiful place out in the wilderness and it seemed like you were the first person to ever lay eyes on it? Everything is clean crisp and beautiful. There are people out there breaking down and destroying these old rock fire rings, to improve the appearance of environment.

Just learn how to do it, and make' leave no trace' part of your legacy.

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

Have you seen the urban habitat? We have green grass water protection and what does rural have? Drought, dieing plants, no protection. So how do we cope with this as wildlife representatives? Look at the bird, (Quail) population in the urban areas. They are numerous! Why? Golf courses, watering of the urban desert areas; this promotes food and nutriments for reproduction. Anyone who lives by a wash, park or golf course can see the results. You may also see coyotes that, because of the drought, come down to prey on the animals/birds that inhabit these areas. Not too many years ago we even had a bear at the Princess Hotel. So what is the answer?

Your Arizona Wildlife Federation, Arizona Antelope Foundation, Arizona Elk Society, Arizona Deer Association, Arizona Bowhunters Association, Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, and the AZ Game & Fish, to name few, dedicate their time and efforts to maintaining, for everyones benefit the natural resources of conservation and habitat for the out of town wildlife. Water holes, clear cutting, fence restoration, water riparian for habitat. And on it goes. Join a conservation organization and be part of the solution.

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. 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

Fred Anderson III Cherie Barker Suzanne Barker Jason Barkley **Brent Cope** Kathy Davis John Dupnik Lee Ann Faust Kimberly Faust Jon Francschini John Fritz Katherine Halpin Carlos Hermandez Regina Jackson Linda Jorgenson Stacy Little Clint Martin Barbara Meek Bonnie Meyer Mary Elizabeth Murphy Chris N Parish Ann Pollack L E Pulvermacher Ann Rauer Paulette Roth Sarah Ruhlen Efren G Ruiz Cvndi Rusin Daniel Schmidtika Patsy Stephens Freda Sterling David & Marguerite Smith Natasha Thompson Sandra Thomson

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NEW LIFE MEMBER!

Arizona Wildlife Federation takes great pleasure in welcoming the following Life Member. Your Life Membership helps us sustain our programs for wildlife and your commitment to this endeavor.

We thank you and wildlife thanks you.

John E. Dupnik Phoenix AZ

AWF Members wanting full copy of Board Minutes, contact Kim at 480-644-0077 A summary is available at www.azwildlife.org

AWF Members



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	\$30 Individual \$45 Family
Name	\$100 Patron \$500 Life Member
City State Zip Phone Email	\$500 Benefactor \$75 Small Business
Check Enclosed!	\$500 Corporate
Please bill my Mastercard Visa Discover	All Membership fees are tax-deductible
Expiration Date: /	Mail To: Arizona Wildlife Federation P. O. Box 51510 Mesa AZ 85208
Signature	

Arizona Wildlife Federation Life Members

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