

INTO THE ABYSS: A TREK TO GRAND CANYON'S ROYAL ARCH
Where to Cut Christmas Trees | The Birth of a Snowflake *by Raymond Carlson*

ARIZONA

HIGHWAYS

NOVEMBER 2012

ESCAPE • EXPLORE • EXPERIENCE

THEN & NOW

A portfolio of historic black-and-whites and contemporary color photography



BRIGHT ANGEL LODGE, CIRCA 1955



BRIGHT ANGEL LODGE, 2012

Designed in 1935 by renowned architect Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter, Bright Angel Lodge & Cabins provides historic accommodations for visitors at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Lodge and cabin rooms are available. A family style restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and the Arizona Room serves all but breakfast. The National Historic Landmark was built just feet from the Rim's edge. | COVER, COURTESY NATIONAL PARK SERVICE; FOLDOUT, PAUL MARKOW



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People, places and things from around the state, including an underdog story on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon; rare turkeys and rare documents in Southeastern Arizona; and Wickenburg, our hometown of the month.

18 ARIZONA: THEN & NOW

Sometimes, it's OK when history repeats itself. Especially with things like road trips to the Grand Canyon, storms in the desert and the Suns beating the Lakers. We feel the same way about this month's portfolio. We first did a "Then & Now" feature back in November 2010, and the feedback was so enthusiastic that we decided to do it again.

A PORTFOLIO EDITED BY JEFF KIDA & KATHY RITCHIE

32 FOR LAND'S SAKE

There are many reasons why Scottsdale residents have overwhelmingly supported the McDowell Sonoran Preserve: It's ecologically diverse, it's an important wildlife corridor and it's adjacent to the Tonto National Forest. But more than anything, it's about the land itself, and the open space it provides for hiking, biking, picnics, photography, ecology ...

BY MOLLY J. SMITH
PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUZANNE MATHIA

40 ARCH RIVAL

Of all the backcountry hikes in the Grand Canyon, the Point Huitzil route to Royal Arch is among the most challenging — it was even a nemesis of the great Harvey Butchart. Although some people would say you'd have to be crazy to dangle from the edge of the South Rim to get there, others would say the payoff is worth a few dozen death-defying maneuvers. Our writer is one of the others.

BY ANNETTE MCGIVNEY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ELIAS BUTLER

46 HIGH WINTER

An excerpt from our December 1962 issue.
EDITED BY RAYMOND CARLSON
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID MUENCH

50 TAKE A BOUGH

'Tis the season (for some of you), which means it's time to start thinking about Christmas trees. Although urban parking lots and department stores offer plenty of options, there's nothing better than going into the woods and cutting your own.

BY KATHY RITCHIE
PHOTOGRAPH BY TOM BEAN

52 SCENIC DRIVE

The Route to Council Rocks: Once the stronghold of Cochise and the Chiricahua Apaches, the Dragoon Mountains are among the most rugged ranges in Arizona. This scenic drive cuts through the heart of it.

54 HIKE OF THE MONTH

Pine Mountain Trail: Of all the scenic wilderness areas in Arizona, Pine Mountain Wilderness might be the least visited, but only because it's hard to get to. The hiking there is spectacular.

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Photographic Prints Available
Prints of some photographs in this issue are available for purchase. To view options, visit www.arizonahighwaysprints.com. For more information, call 866-962-1191.

A long camera lens captures snow and fog in this eerie sunrise scene in Saguaro National Park West near Tucson. | JACK DYKINGA
BACK COVER Pine trees cling to a steep cliff over Parker Creek in the Sierra Ancha Wilderness of Tonto National Forest. | MOREY MILBRADT

Everybody Loved Raymond

Raymond Carlson was a pilgrim. Of sorts. His name wasn't on the manifest of the *Mayflower*, but for 33 years it was at the top of the masthead of this magazine, and like those Puritans who landed at Plymouth Rock, he wandered into a foreign place and stumbled upon something sacred.

When Mr. Carlson took over as editor in 1938, *Arizona Highways* was primarily an engineering journal, with lifeless stories such as *High Speed Has Changed Modern Road Requirements* and *Phoenix to Yuma Highway Now Completely Surfaced*, and full-page ads for things like Armco Corrugated Pipe, Caterpillar Diesels and Resiliflex Highway Guards — "It never shatters on impact; never endangers travelers' lives."

Presumably, somebody was reading those stories and responding to those ads, but Raymond (he would have objected to my use of "Mr. Carlson" in the last paragraph) envisioned something more. "He dropped the engineering," Editor Gary Avey eulogized in our April 1983 issue, "and let the scenic grandeur of Arizona spill across the magazine's pages. He told Arizona's story in his own easygoing style and gathered around him in this purpose some of the most creative talent of the era. The love of his land and its people permeated every page."

Lately, I've been revisiting some of those pages. It's a guilty pleasure to flip through the old issues, look at the layouts, compare the photographs and read the stories. One of those stories, published 50 years ago, almost to the day, illustrates the editorial prowess of Raymond Carlson. The story is titled *High Winter*, and it traces the life of a snowflake. It's just one example of what Raymond brought to the magazine, and it begins like this: "The cold winter wind blew in from the north. The wind came from beyond the Bering Sea, from across the harsh lands of Siberia, from any of a thousand places in the Arctic where winter winds begin. ... Here a snowflake, eventually to fall later in the high country of Arizona, was born."

It's a beautiful piece, and we're proud

to bring it back, five decades later. Although the nature of snowflakes hasn't changed much since that story was first published, so many other things have, and that's the gist of this month's cover story.

If you've been with us awhile, you might remember that we did a "Then & Now" portfolio two years ago. As we were putting that collection together, we marveled at how different things look today, compared to as little as 20 or 30 years ago. Turns out, you were intrigued, too, and that's why we're at it again.

Like last time, we marveled as we compiled the old black-and-whites and paired them with their present-day counterparts. All of the combos are interesting, but the one that stands out most is Washington Street in downtown Phoenix.

The cover combination is worth noting, as well. Not because of a drastic difference between then and now, but because the car in the "now" shot doesn't really belong there. What used to be a driveway up to the Bright Angel Lodge is now a sidewalk — the pavement and the cars are long gone. In spite of that, the National Park Service allowed us to sneak a Ford Mustang up there for our photo shoot. Hats off to Superintendent Dave Uberuaga and everyone on his staff who helped make that photograph possible. We're grateful.

Not far from the lodge is a place called Royal Arch. It's a place that looks a lot like it did when Raymond took the reins of *Arizona Highways* in 1938 — in fact, it probably hasn't changed at all in a million years. It's also a place that few people ever get to see. And for good reason.

"The Grand Canyon is not a landscape where hikers should just strike out in any direction," Annette McGivney writes in *Arch Rival*. "It's a relentlessly steep obstacle



KRISTIN HAYWARD, KBH PHOTOGRAPHY

course that descends 5,000 feet from rim to river, and in most places, the elevation drops like an elevator shaft — 300 feet or even 1,000 feet straight down."

The Point Huitzil route to Royal Arch epitomizes that commandment, and in her story, Annette illustrates why. As you'll see, it's not a hike for everyone — "Bipeds are gravitationally challenged ... make one slip and it could be curtains." That said, it's an ideal trek for intrepid adventurers, and this time of year is a good time to do it. You probably won't see a lot of snowflakes at the bottom, but if you do, think about *High Winter*, and the possibilities of where those snowflakes came from.



And then, on Thursday, November 22, think about and be thankful for a pilgrim named Raymond Carlson, without whom we might still be doing stories about blacktop and road graders.

ROBERT STIEVE, EDITOR

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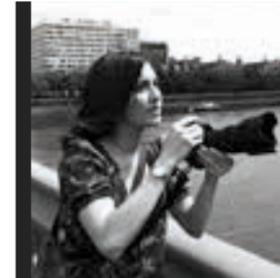
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ROBERT STIEVE

MOLLY J. SMITH

Writer-photographer Molly J. Smith learned quite a bit about Arizona's hidden treasures during her internship with *Arizona Highways*, but she says the McDowell Sonoran Preserve (see *For Land's Sake*, page 32) may be one of her favorites. "It's in an urban area so close to where I live," Smith says. "I enjoy road trips around the state, but it's always rewarding to find something like this almost in my backyard. From many of the trails, you get a beautiful view of metro Phoenix, and yet you still feel as though you're in a peaceful place away from

the hustle and bustle. It's impressive that there's been such a commitment to preserving these lands in an area where real estate is a precious commodity." Smith recently traveled to London to photograph the Summer Olympics as part of a program through Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

ELIAS BUTLER

Elias Butler has long been a fan of adventure photography, so when he was dispatched to the Grand Canyon to photograph Royal Arch (see *Arch Rival*, page 40), he knew he was in for a spectacular journey. "Royal Arch is not easy to reach," Butler says. "The first time I went, I went solo and had to cover the first 18 miles without any water sources. Carrying 2 gallons of water while descending the South Bass Trail led to tendonitis. This year I returned to Royal Arch with some friends. One of my buddies got badly dehydrated in the intense May heat and later got lost overnight while we were hiking out. The next morning, the National Park Service found him by helicopter." Butler's work has also appeared in *Backpacker*, *USA Today* and *Reader's Digest*. He is the co-author of *Grand Obsession: Harvey Butchart and the Exploration of Grand Canyon*.



SUZANNE MATHIA

Photographer Suzanne Mathia has always been curious about a swath of land near Happy Valley Road and 128th Street in Scottsdale. When she photographed the McDowell Sonoran Preserve (see page 32), she was delighted to learn that the land would become part of the preserve's expansion project. "My biggest surprise was the construction of the visitors centers and access points at the various trailheads," she says. "The sites and structures serve as a demonstration of sustainable design, solar power, recycled structural steel, local materials, rainwater and graywater harvesting. The structures and the parking facilities nestle unobtrusively into the environment." Mathia is a frequent contributor to *Arizona Highways*. Her images have also appeared in *National Geographic* and *Outdoor Photographer*.

— KELLY VAUGHN KRAMER



AN ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER

I'm writing to let you know that on July 2, 2012, Larry Toschik, a retired painter and writer, passed away. His work appeared in *Arizona Highways* in the 1970s and 1980s. Larry and I served in World War II (1942-1945) together. I was very fortunate to see his early work and watch his career evolve over the years.

Peder E. Andersen, Livermore, California



March 1967

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you for sharing the news, Mr. Andersen. On behalf of everyone at *Arizona Highways*, I'd like to express our deepest sympathies to Mr. Toschik's wife, his family and his friends. Earlier this year, I was looking at some of his beautiful illustrations — in my opinion, they're among the best we've ever run — and made a decision to rerun them as a portfolio in 2013. I regret not doing it sooner.

THE FACTS OF "LIFE"

As a photographer for 40 years and a longtime subscriber, I really enjoyed *It's a Handful* [September 2012], which included the exposures of the images. It reminded me of the *Life* magazine of years ago, when it showed the film type and exposure. With so many photographers receiving your magazine, I think it's still worthwhile. By the way, I plan on entering your next photo contest.

Don Price, Sun City West, Arizona

JUST ONE MAN'S OPINION

I received my new issue today and was looking forward to viewing the grand-prize winning photo [*Best Picture*, September 2012]. When I did it was a major disappointment! It was like an [unprintable epithet] took the photo. Sorry, my opinion. The second-place photo deserved to be No. 1. Then the black-and-white photos by Dawn Kish [*When in Jerome*] ... when I was 10 years old I took better photos with my Instamatic camera. She is no more a professional photographer than I am. Actually, I'm much better than she is.

Ed Parr, Dunellen, New Jersey

FOR NAME SAKE

I was happy to see the white-nosed coati (*Nasua narica*) featured in your September 2012 issue (*Nosy by Nature*), but had to laugh when I saw the name. The term coati mundi actually refers to the solitary male of the species, but males and females alike are called coati. There's an insider joke that coatis were once thought to be two separate species —

one larger and solitary, the other smaller and gregarious — until someone noticed that there never seemed to be any female coati mundi. They really are nosy by nature ... when coati search for insects in leaf litter, they blow air through their noses to disturb the ground, creating perfect half-circle shapes, like a child drawing rainbows in the dirt. Wildlife tracking volunteers trained by Sky Island Alliance, a nonprofit conservation organization based in Tucson, have documented coati tracks and "nose circles" throughout Southern Arizona and northern Mexico in an effort to protect the corridors that coati and other species use to travel between mountain ranges. The organization's wildlife cameras have photographed and captured video of young coati wrestling together and large troops playfully racing up canyons. Coati are one of the many fascinating native species that make Arizona uniquely special.

Jessica Lamberton-Moreno, Tucson

EGRET REGRET

I'm a longtime subscriber, and I'm not a nitpicky person by nature, but I am sort of a bird-nerd. I just wanted to point out that in the September 2012 issue (page 39), the bird is incorrectly identified as a "crane." This bird is a "great egret." Egrets and herons are abundant at the Gilbert Water Ranch Riparian Preserve.

Randy Forrest, Phoenix

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to the dozens of others who pointed this out, including my father. We appreciate your keeping us on our toes.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Thank you so much for your article and picture of the one-room schoolhouse in Strawberry in your August 2012 issue [*Old School*]. I moved to Strawberry in 1995 and became a volunteer at the schoolhouse, telling visitors the history and stories of some of the students and teachers. Even after moving to Payson eight years ago, I still continue to open up the schoolhouse on Saturdays during the summer months. We've had many visitors from all over the world, and someone donated an American flag that's 123 years old — it has only 42 stars. Arizona wasn't even a state then.

Sandy McClary, Payson, Arizona

TRIPLE A MEMBER

I, too, have a Model A pickup truck [*Truckin'*, August 2012], but mine is a 1928 — the first Model A's were built in 1928. I took some offense at the term "Often broken-down Model A Ford," when, in over 5,000 miles with my 1928 Model A Ford pickup, I have yet to experience any breakdowns. I laughed as the story unfolded, but I still will defend my old Ford. I think that after 82 years of great service, Ford had a better idea: simplicity. I hope my old Fords last another 82 years — I have three 1928 Model A Fords, one I've driven 65,000 miles.

Richard J. Fischbach, Shelbyville, Illinois

contact us If you have thoughts or comments about anything in *Arizona Highways*, we'd love to hear from you. We can be reached at editor@arizonahighways.com, or by mail at 2039 W. Lewis Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009. For more information, visit www.arizonahighways.com.

THE JOURNAL 11.12

people > local favorites > odd jobs > lodging > photography > history
hometowns > dining > nature > things to do



KERRICK JAMES

Rock, Stars

Before there was digital photography, there was film, hope and a prayer, as evidenced by Kerrick James' predawn shot of The Mittens in Monument Valley. Using a Pentax LX camera with Fuji Velvia 100 film, James made the exposure over roughly nine hours, covered the lens, then restarted the exposure by uncovering the lens, thus allowing the moon and Venus to register on the image. *Information: Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park, www.navajonationparks.org*

SPOKES MEN

Opening a bike-rental shop in most places wouldn't make headlines, but doing so on the rim of the most famous canyon in the world is a big deal. Especially when the shop owners — two young men from Flagstaff — out-dueled some of the nation's largest concessionaires to get the contract.

Most people love a good underdog story. Nolan Ryan might still talk about the '69 Mets. Al Michaels believed in the miracle that was the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team. Any boxing fan relishes the story of Buster Douglas. And up at the Grand Canyon, people are starting to talk about Wes Neal and Kyle George.

For two years, Neal and George ran Bright Angel Bicycles, the only bike-rental and bike-tour company on the South Rim, under a Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) permit, a temporary license issued by the National Park Service. Earlier this year, the business partners submitted 400 pages worth of material to the NPS in hopes that they'd win a 10-year contract for the bike rental operation, as well as the go-ahead to operate an accompanying coffeeshop.

Their competitors, 14 in all, were among the nation's largest concessionaires. Some of them were park incumbents, like Xanterra, Delaware North and Forever Resorts, but, in the end, Neal and George came out on top.

"It was really hard to out-Grand-Canyon us," says George, a former river-runner who grew up in Flagstaff. "Wes and I both spent years in the Canyon."

In fact, that's where they became friends. Neal spent eight years as a guide on the Colorado River. As his family grew, life away from home became less appealing, but, still, he wanted a way to stay connected to the Canyon.

"This is a fairytale for us," Neal says. "We're stoked to be part of a whole new era at the park. This is a brand-new concession, and it's an honor to be part of the new program and usher in a new intermodal option on the Rim."

George's story runs parallel. He ran the river, as well, then joined his friend in con-

ceptualizing a bicycle operation on the rim. Today, he divides his time between the South Rim, Flagstaff and Salt Lake City, where his wife attends graduate school.

Despite their deep connections to the park, Neal and George were stunned when they learned that the long-shot contract was theirs.

"It was good that the news came on April 2, instead of April 1," George says. "We wouldn't have believed it had it

come a day earlier."

But believe it they did. Then they had to scramble.

Though bike operations continued, Neal and George had to hire enough people to staff the café. They worked with a Flagstaff-based caterer to plan a menu and partnered with yet another Flagstaff company, Late for the Train, for coffee service. The café opened on July 10.

In the months since, the café has sold

as many as 2,500 sandwiches, burritos and snacks per week. As the only food and drink option at the South Rim's visitor center, it's primed to receive plenty of foot traffic — millions of people funnel through the center each year.

"It seems like the right attitude in the Park Service for us right now," George says. "They're interested in trying to move to smaller operators, where possible. What Xanterra runs up there would be really hard for a mom-and-pop shop to run, but for something smaller [like the bike shop], they're looking for local folks who are connected to the area. We felt like we just needed to show them that we were competent to deal with all of the regulatory issues that can arise at a place like the Grand Canyon."

Turns out, Neal and George got that opportunity, and they made the most of

it. Park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga is a strong supporter of their mission.

"For me, it was two young men from the area, and for them to put together a very competitive, winning proposal ... it was a formidable task," Uberuaga says. "They were aggressive with their vision and were clear about wanting to carry on their connection to the Canyon, to the river. They nailed it. They're great young men, and I'm excited to see them succeed. There are lines of people being served at the café. It's a great opportunity, and we hope that they'll be very successful. It's already blowing away everybody's projections."

— KELLY VAUGHN KRAMER

Bright Angel Bicycles and Café at Mather Point are located at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center on the South Rim. For more information, call 928-638-3055 or visit www.bikegrandcanyon.com.

Local favorites



CERRETA'S Glendale

"If your sweet tooth says candy, your wisdom tooth says Cerreta's." That's the motto at Cerreta's Fine Chocolates, which has been an Arizona institution since 1968. Though the chocolate factory originated in Phoenix, it moved to its current location in Old Town Glendale 23 years ago. Jennifer Cerreta explains the secrets behind the sweets.

Is there one item that flies off the shelves?

Our French mint is our signature piece. We produce around 3,000 pounds a day. It's so popular, we can't even inventory it. We're also known for other chocolates and some of our brittles.

What product speaks to Cerreta's Arizona heritage?

We offer a beautiful box that has assorted chocolates in it. The pieces are shaped like cowboy boots and cactuses. The packaging is also Western-themed, so when you pair it with the little chocolates, it makes for a nice souvenir gift. It's also popular as a gift for convention guests.

Factory tours are popular among families. How is your family working to ensure that Cerreta's remains an iconic Arizona brand?

Right now, there are three generations of Cerretas working at the factory, and as many as four generations have been here at once. Everything is made right here in Glendale, and that's how we'll keep it.

— KELLY VAUGHN KRAMER

Cerreta's is located at 5345 W. Glendale Avenue in Glendale. For more information, call 623-930-1000 or visit www.cerreta.com.



Wes Neal (left) and Kyle George

DAWN KISH



FOOD-TRUCKERS

Brad and Kat Moore, Phoenix

You really have to love what you do if you're willing to work in a 10-by-8-foot space that reaches 140 degrees in the summer. Good thing Brad and Kat Moore like to sweat. Since 2010, the pair has been serving up gourmet hotdogs as the duo behind Short Leash Hot Dogs, and despite the temps, they clearly love their gig. "We meet some incredible people," Brad says about their customers and fellow food-truckers. "It's a neat community that's been cultivated." Indeed, the food-truck phenomenon has taken Phoenix by storm, and the Moores are part of a trend that has helped revitalize downtown Phoenix. "People really root for local businesses," Kat says. "We'll be driving down the street, and people are honking and giving thumbs up." Next time you spot the Short Leash truck, stop by and try the 7th Inning Stretch — a Schreiner's hotdog covered in peanut butter, bacon, barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and Cracker Jack, wrapped in naan. Kat swears it's phenomenal.

— KATHY RITCHIE

For more information, call 480-620-8479 or visit www.shortleashhotdogs.com.



Southern Hospitality

Hacienda Corona de Guevavi sits on a hill overlooking the verdant Santa Cruz Valley in Southern Arizona. It's remote, it's peaceful and it's one of the loveliest B&Bs in the state.

When Wendy Stover stumbled upon the 36-acre Guevavi Ranch 11 years ago, she fell in love with the elegant bones of the 1930s-era house (a true hacienda with an interior courtyard), as well as its fabulous folk-art murals painted by Mexican-American artist

nogales

Salvador Corona in the 1940s and '50s.

The formerly hard-driving career woman promptly bought the place and created several themed suites, including one for John Wayne, who had visited the ranch often, and another (the elegant La Patrona) for the wealthy ranch wife who once lived there.

Stover transformed the historic property into a lush oasis that pays homage to the Hohokam and Pima people who settled around the *guevavi*, or "big spring,"

hundreds of years before Father Eusebio Francisco Kino built his first mission nearby. Every patio offers its own vignette of graceful trees, primroses, lavender and cactuses, while the swimming pool and its outdoor kitchen/cabana invite swimming, noshing and indiscriminate lolling about.

Two resident chickens cluck and peck around the property, undisturbed by a menagerie of friendly dogs and cats, who can teach you all about relaxation if you've forgotten. Stover converted both ends of the old ranch barn to casitas, furnishing them with kitchens, TVs and laundry facilities for the families and groups of gal pals she imagined staying for days, or even weeks, at a time. But for avid readers, her splendid library — stocked with Dickens and Dostoevsky, as well as books on art, interior design, horses, birds and Arizona — makes TV irrelevant. A stack of board games and jigsaw puzzles encourages

good old-fashioned social interaction, but, of course, the omnipresent Internet is available for those who just can't shake the everyday world — even in an otherworldly place where spectacular Arizona sunsets and a velvety night sky strewn with stars are an everyday occurrence.

At 5:30 p.m., Stover and her daughter, Nisa, invite guests to share a glass of wine and an appetizer, offering up fascinating stories about the area's rich history, as well as suggestions for supper in nearby Tubac, Tumacacori or Patagonia. The place is so homey, the women so warm and welcoming, you'll feel as if you're visiting old friends — friends who just happen to be great breakfast cooks and witty conversationalists. — NIKKI BUCHANAN

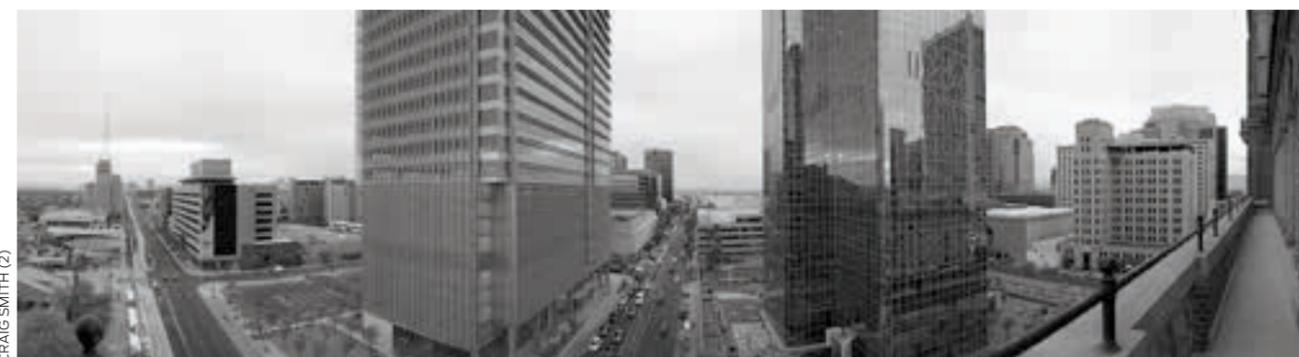
Hacienda Corona de Guevavi is located at 348 S. River Road, approximately 8 miles from Nogales. For more information, call 520-287-6503 or visit www.haciendacorona.com.



TIM FULLER



Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, photographed from the Luhrs Building



CRAIG SMITH (2)

Central Avenue and Van Buren Street, photographed from the Security Building

In Stitches

CRAIG SMITH HAS BEEN INTERESTED in making panoramic photographs since his days in college. As a graduate student, he saved his money and bought a Fuji 6x17 camera that accepted medium-format roll film. The final image size was 2.25 by 7 inches wide, which allowed Smith to create compositions that, in his words, felt "cinematic."

The city of Phoenix must have agreed. In 2010, it contracted Smith to make a series of panoramic images that revisited the work of photographers 100 years earlier. The photos above are excerpts from the *Phoenix 360* series. Unlike his early wide-view photography, Smith shot this entire collection digitally. With an ability to previsualize, and with technology on his side, Smith now shoots a number of overlapping images and stitches them together in Photoshop.

Often working from the rooftops of high-rise buildings, Smith makes sure his tripod is absolutely level. It's also outfitted with a special head for making panoramic photos. Interestingly, he shoots with his camera oriented in a vertical position. By doing this, he says he has to stitch together more photos — but with less image distortion. Depending on what he's looking for in the finished photograph, the number of composited frames can vary anywhere from two to 11.

— JEFF KIDA, photo editor

PHOTO TIP

Natural Supplement

Natural light can be a photographer's best friend, but sometimes it needs an assist. A set of reflectors can help enhance natural

light, particularly from the sun. Many reflector sets are inexpensive and fold up small enough to carry into the field. White and silver reflectors will light up a subject with a cool glow,

while gold-toned reflectors add warmth. They're particularly helpful during portrait sessions, when the sun casts harsh shadows across the face of the person being photographed.

Enter our monthly caption contest by scanning this QR code or visiting <http://bit.ly/ahmcaptioncontest>.



ADDITIONAL READING

Look for our book *Arizona Highways Photography Guide*, available at bookstores and www.arizonahighways.com/books.



Dusty Pages

When Bonnie Cook and Michelle Garcia were cleaning out an old jail storage space, they probably figured it was just another day at work. That is, until they came across an envelope that read “Keep.” It was dated 1881.

“The Earps had just passed down the street with their guns. I passed down their [sic] down to my house ... and I was their [sic] when the shooting commenced.”



ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY / TUCSON

It took about a month to complete the meticulous process of scanning the hand-written documents into the computer system and painstakingly make them more readable for researchers and curiosity seekers.

There also was a typed transcript available. “It was important that we get them online, because the documents could not have withstood any handling,” Sturgeon says. “People now have the opportunity to see them as they were all those years ago.”

For now, online visits are the only way people can view the fragile documents. Sturgeon estimates that it would take thousands of hours to restore the material.

— DAVID SCHWARTZ

To view the O.K. Corral documents online, visit <http://azmemory.azlibrary.gov>.

Sitting in her office at the Cochise County Courthouse, Denise Lundin paged through the handwritten account by miner C.H. Light and others that she found in the manila envelope. It was as if the Holy Grail itself had been plunked down on her desk.

Sixteen double-sided, amber-colored pages, held together with dark tape as brittle as a potato chip, chronicled the 1881 coroner’s inquest into arguably the most famous shoot-out in the history of the Wild West — the gunfight at the O.K. Corral.

“It was almost like time had stopped; it was very, very moving,” says Lundin, the former superior court clerk. “It was like touching time gone by.”

The documents, offering eyewitness accounts of the 30-second burst of vio-

lence between the Earp brothers and Doc Holliday on one side, and the Clantons and McLaurys on the other, had not been seen since the 1960s, when they were photocopied. Some feared they were gone forever. That is, until clerks Bonnie Cook and Michelle Garcia were cleaning out a jail storage space at the Bisbee courthouse on March 31, 2010. Amid the dusty boxes, they came across one envelope that read “Keep.” It was dated 1881.

In short order, the documents were whisked to Lundin, who would lock them in a small safe and put it into a thick-walled

this month in history

■ On November 1, 1863, Henry Wickenburg discovers what would eventually become the famous Vulture Mine.

■ *The Arizona Republic* announces that it will convert its typeface to Helvetica on November 5, 1979.

■ City of Phoenix of-

ficials commemorate the end of World War I with the blasting of the fire whistle at the city’s waterworks on November 10, 1918.

■ On November 23, 1927, Arizona stages its last buffalo hunt at House Rock Valley.

■ Arizona’s oldest pio-

neer, Richard J. Holmes Sr., dies at the age of 94 on November 24, 1922.

■ The Salt River overflows on November 28, 1919, threatening to flood downtown Phoenix, while an overburdened Agua Fria River threatens Glendale.

ARIZONA HIGHWAYS 50 Years Ago



The Old West was the theme of our November 1962 issue. It featured Read Mullen’s Western Art Gallery in Phoenix and a story on Charleston, a Cochise County ghost town made famous in the 1880s.



MARK LIPCZYNSKI

WICKENBURG

AS FAR AS BURG GO, WICKENBURG IS ONE OF ARIZONA’S BEST KNOWN. Named for Austrian prospector Henry Wickenburg and built along the Hassayampa River, the town endured a great deal of hardship during its early days, from Indian raids and floods to mine closures and the collapse of the Walnut Creek Dam.

Wickenburg survived, thanks in large part to the railroad, and now it’s a destination for dude-ranchers and history buffs.

“People want to experience authenticity in the West, and Wickenburg still has that,” says Julie Brooks, executive director of the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce. “They can ride a horse, they can go on a Jeep ride. They can go to a real Western museum. They can attend longstanding heritage festivals throughout the year, or just take a walk through our downtown — that gives them a sense of Wickenburg’s history.”

— KELLY VAUGHN KRAMER

| FOUNDED | AREA | ELEVATION | COUNTY |
|---------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1863 | 11.5 square miles | 2,050 feet | Maricopa & Yavapai |

INFORMATION: Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce, 928-684-5479 or www.outwickenburgway.com

Small Wonder

Located in a building that dates back to 1913, the Flatiron Café is one of the most popular hangouts in Jerome. It's almost always packed. Of course, there are only three tables, plus a few seats at the bar.

VLADIMIR COSTA STANDS AT THE FRONT DOOR of 15.quince Grill & Cantina. He takes names and adds them to an already very long waiting list. It's around 8 p.m. "Robinson," he finally shouts. "I've got two seats at the bar, is that OK?" It's perfect.

Less than six hours later, Costa is at it again. This time he's standing in the tiny kitchen of the Flatiron Café, making breakfast.

Costa has his hands full. And as the owner of both 15.quince and his recently acquired Flatiron Café, he isn't afraid to get those hands dirty. On this particular morning, the café is buzzing. It's a full house, which isn't especially surprising, considering the place is a landmark — the building was built in 1913 — and seating is limited. There are only three tables, plus a few seats at the bar, which adds to the charm.

Despite the cramped quarters, the place still retains much of its original look. Pressed-tin tiles line the ceiling, and rustic wood planks from another era cover the floor. Even the kitchen has been left mostly untouched. There are no fancy stoves or refrigerators. Costa, like his predecessor, is keeping it simple. "Right now, the only things it has are a toaster oven and a panini grill," he says. And it's that philosophy of simplicity that keeps customers coming back for more.

The food — which Costa describes as "American, French and Italian" — is fresh and made to order, and best of all, there are just enough offerings on the menu to satisfy even Goldilocks. Before peeking at the menu, order a cappuccino. The coffee is strong, and there's a perfect amount of foam. Once you're ready to get down to business, Costa suggests trying "The Gulch." The Flatiron's famous

smoked-salmon quesadilla has been on the menu for the past 20 years and is a favorite with locals and visitors. "The Geezer," a breakfast burro filled with scrambled eggs, *nopalitos* and Mexican cheeses, will keep you full for hours.

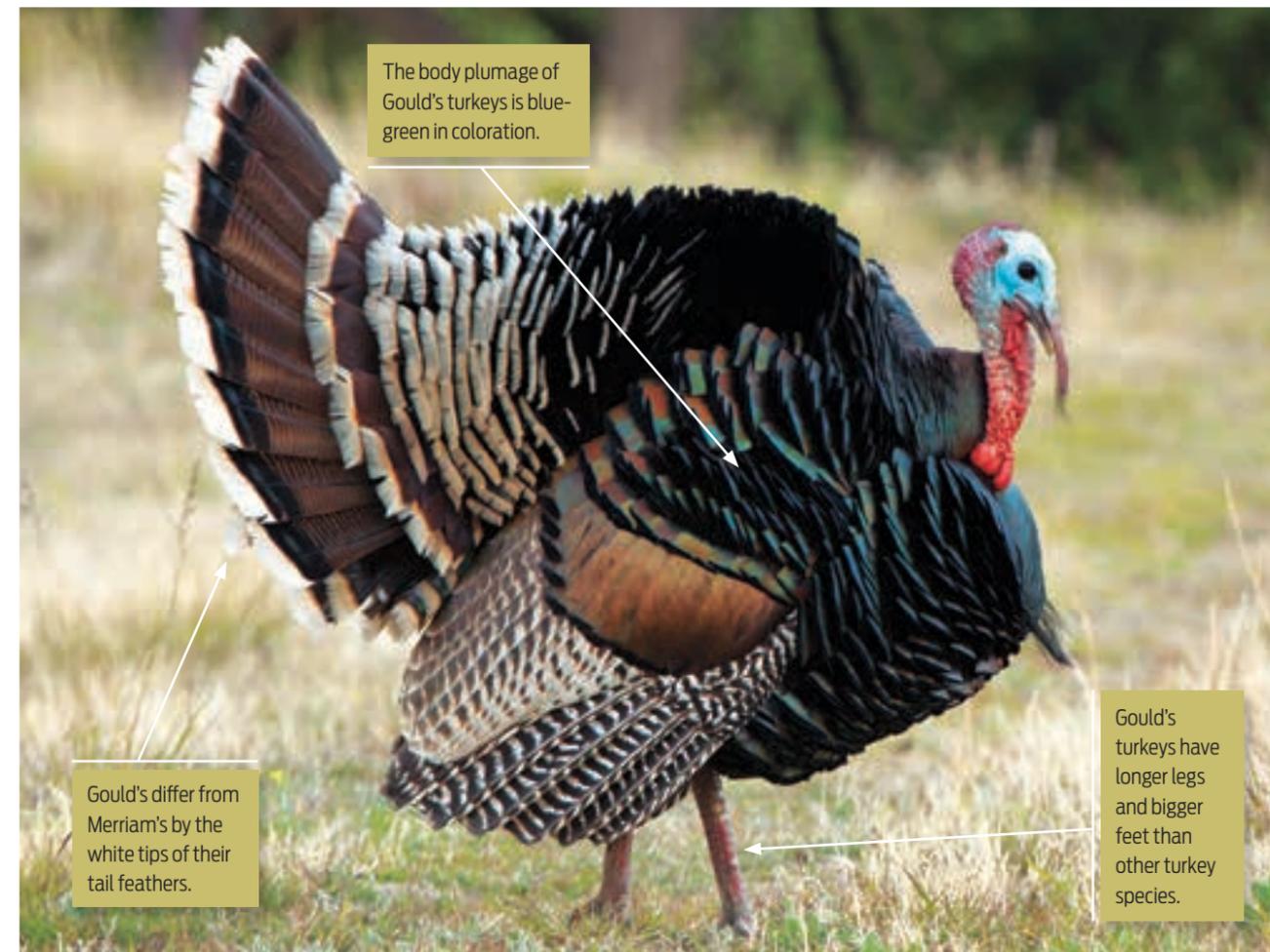
If you have room, or you're looking for something to-go, try one of Costa's fresh beverages. His latest concoctions include watermelon water with habañero and lime, and cantaloupe and basil water.

Costa wants to keep the place cozy, and he's not interested in serving grumps: "If you've got a bad attitude, don't bother coming in," he warns. "Because it's such a small place, I want the vibe to be peaceful and happy and joyful. I want to give people a moment of rest when they're in Jerome." — KATHY RITCHIE

For more information, call 928-634-2733 or visit www.flatironcafejerome.com.



PAUL MARKOW



The body plumage of Gould's turkeys is blue-green in coloration.

Gould's differ from Merriam's by the white tips of their tail feathers.

Gould's turkeys have longer legs and bigger feet than other turkey species.

BRUCE D. TAUBERT

A Rare Bird

You won't find many Gould's turkeys in Arizona. You won't find many of them anywhere, really. The rare birds are found in small numbers in the mountain ranges of Arizona and New Mexico, and several agencies, including the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service, the Centro Ecológico de Sonora and the National Wild Turkey Federation, are working to reintroduce a stronger population in the Southwestern United States.

The largest of the five turkey subspecies, Gould's gobblers most closely resemble Merriam's turkeys, though they have bigger feet and longer legs and tail feathers. As with most turkeys, Gould's are omnivorous, munching on acorns, seeds, berries and insects.

And when the males aren't busy foraging, they're often mating — toms are polygamous. They strut for females by puffing their feathers — which, in Gould's turkeys, are copper and greenish gold — spreading their wings and dragging their tails. After mating, hens search for nest sites and lay clutches of 10 to 14 eggs. The eggs incubate for approximately 28 days before babies, or poults, are born. Poults leave the nest within 24 hours.

— KELLY VAUGHN KRAMER

nature factoid



MICHAEL DURHAM

PINYON MOUSE

Pinyon mice can be found foraging for food on the ground or in trees in rocky areas of Arizona. Like most mice, they're nocturnal and active year-round. Their diet includes nuts, berries and insects.

The small rodents are known for their ears, which are larger than the ears of most mice and stand out from their medium-sized bodies. Their colors vary from pale, yellowish-brown to brownish-black. — RACHEL STIEVE

~ things to do ~

november



SUZANNE MATHIA

Winterscapes at the Grand Canyon

January 12-14, Grand Canyon

Join former *Arizona Highways* Director of Photography Peter Ensenberger as he leads this spectacular workshop at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. Winter is one of the best times to experience and photograph this natural wonder. With opportunities to capture both landscape and wildlife photos, attendees will also participate in critique sessions before heading back out into the cool, crisp air to capture another majestic sunset from one of the many overlooks. *Information: 888-790-7042 or www.friendsofhighways.com*



JAY DUSARD

Made in Arizona

November 1-25, Tucson

This exhibit, presented by the Center for Creative Photography, features a selection of photographs made in Arizona during the 20th century and highlights the diversity of work from visiting and resident photographers. The exhibit embraces the unexpected and presents the rich breadth and scope of the center's fine-print collection. *Information: 520-621-7968 or www.creativephotography.org*

Grassland Fair

November 17, Arivaca

The Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge will host a day of entertainment and learning during this event. Expect wildlife presentations by experts, arts and crafts, live bird and reptile demonstrations, as well as food and live entertainment. *Information: 520-823-4251*

Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show

November 3-4, Phoenix

Prepare to be dazzled — and, perhaps, bedazzled — as vendors sell jewelry, unset gemstones, copper, minerals, fossils, beads, lapidary equipment and supplies. *Information: 480-215-9101 or 602-350-2756*

Holiday Walking Tour

November 24-25, Patagonia

Nearly all of the town's shops, studios, galleries and restaurants will participate by featuring local art, artists and refreshments at this 11th annual event. Look for painters, potters, weavers, toy-makers, gourd-crafters, watercolorists, quilters and more. *Information: 888-794-0060*

Fall Festival

November 10, Phoenix

This family friendly street fair offers a chance for local businesses to show off their goods and services. In addition to plenty of events, there will also be a beer-and-wine garden with only Arizona-made products. And don't forget to sample the tasty eats that will be available. *Information: 602-956-0909 or www.localfirstaz.com*

Date Festival

November 17, Yuma

This inaugural date festival promises two things: lots of fruit and plenty of entertainment. During this event, which celebrates the city's agricultural heritage, visitors can learn just how important dates are to Yuma's economy. *Information: 928-373-5028*

Thanksgiving on the Farm

November 26-27, Dewey

Get a jump-start on your holiday shopping at this festive event. Enjoy free hayrides and live entertainment, and keep warm with campfires and s'mores. Besides getting into the spirit of things, visitors can buy their Christmas tree, garlands, fresh wreaths and more. *Information: 928-830-1116 or www.mortimerfamilyfarms.com*

DESERT BELLE

Come and enjoy a 90 minute narrated public Cruise. Relax and see exotic wildlife, towering canyon walls and dramatic vistas. Experience the magnificence of both desert beauty and natural wildlife on one of the valley's hidden treasures, spectacular Saguaro Lake. Located within the Tonto National Forest, just 20 minutes from Mesa, Arizona. Daily departures vary with the season. The boat is handicap accessible with bathrooms on board.



TO RESERVE TICKETS, CALL OR VISIT US ONLINE

480-984-2425 OR 877-749-2848

WWW.DESERTBELLE.COM



Under Permit From USDA Tonto National Forest.





ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES

1940

Main Street, Bisbee

Bisbee's story is one of ups and downs. In the early 1900s, Bisbee's population thrived because of the town's lucrative mines. Gold, copper, silver, lead and zinc were pulled from the Mule Mountains, and it wasn't long before "the Queen of the Copper Camps" took its place as the largest city between St. Louis and San Francisco. By the mid-20th century, the boom was over, and the population dropped to below 6,000. Still, mining remained a key industry in the area, sparing it from becoming another ghost town. Today, Bisbee has been revitalized, thanks to new restaurants, boutiques, art galleries and a brewery, and it's a favorite among visitors looking for a quaint (and quirky) small-town vibe.



RANDY PRENTICE

ARIZONA THEN & NOW

Sometimes, it's OK when history repeats itself. Especially with things like road trips to the Grand Canyon, storms in the desert and the Suns beating the Lakers. We feel the same way about this month's portfolio. We first did a "Then & Now" feature back in November 2010, and the feedback was so enthusiastic that we decided to do it again. As you'll see, things aren't what they used to be. Not necessarily better or worse, but definitely different.

A PORTFOLIO EDITED BY JEFF KIDA & KATHY RITCHIE



CRAIG SMITH



ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY / TUCSON

1919 Washington Street, Phoenix

The 1918-1919 influenza pandemic hit Phoenix particularly hard. When this photograph was made (left), some 700 cases of the flu had already been reported in the city, and police patrolled the streets to ensure that residents who ventured out wore gauze masks to help prevent the spread of the disease. Ninety-three years later, the flu no longer makes big headlines, and downtown Phoenix is a buzzing metropolis (above), with a light-rail system, professional sports venues, restaurants, shops, hotels, a major convention center and a satellite campus of Arizona State University.



ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES



PAUL MARKOW

Circa 1940 Molly Butler Lodge, Greer

By the time this photograph (above) of Molly Butler Lodge was made in the 1940s, the popular White Mountains rest stop, which opened in 1910, had already played host to former President Theodore Roosevelt and author Zane Grey, among other notables. Today, 50 cabins and the main lodge comprise Molly Butler, and it maintains an idyllic alpine atmosphere.



NICK BERZENKO

1957 Whiskey Row, Prescott

Once home to more than 40 saloons, including The Palace, Whiskey Row was popular with miners, cowboys, soldiers and businessmen. Wyatt Earp, Virgil Earp and Doc Holliday were among The Palace patrons. The small-town mores no doubt had many well-heeled residents shuddering at the thought of what was transpiring at these “red-light” establishments — gambling, dancing and drinking were, perhaps, the lesser evils. Fire eventually destroyed much of Whiskey Row, but some of the saloons survived. Today, Whiskey Row is a family friendly destination (left), with art galleries, candy shops and boutiques lining the square, in addition to a handful of bars.



ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES

Circa 1915

Main Street, Jerome

In the early part of the 20th century, Jerome and its mines were enjoying their heyday. At its peak, the population of the tiny town was estimated to be around 15,000 — not surprising, considering that the United Verde Mine produced more than a billion dollars' worth of copper, gold and silver. When the mines finally went bust, Jerome was on the brink of becoming a relic. Today, the town is enjoying a renaissance of sorts. Wine has replaced copper and gold, and visitors regularly flock to Jerome for its historic buildings, charming galleries, restaurants and sweeping views of the Verde Valley.



ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES



SHANE McDERMOTT



ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY / TUCSON



EDWARD MCCAIN

1939

Fox Theatre, Tucson

When it opened on August 24, 1929, Tucson's Fox Theatre was originally called Tower Theatre. But then the Fox West Coast Theatres chain acquired the property, and the Tower went by the wayside. When the photograph above was made, *Let Freedom Ring*, starring Nelson Eddy and Virginia Bruce, made its world premiere at the Fox. "Pepper" Carpenter is seen standing outside the theater with a megaphone. Although the Fox sat empty for several years, the space underwent a multimillion-dollar restoration and once again hosts movie and musical performances.

1950

Historic Route 66, Flagstaff

For those in search of a slice of Americana, the stretch of Historic Route 66 that cuts through Flagstaff is an excellent place to start. Unlike other segments of the Mother Road, which have been left to ruin, this piece of blacktop looks a lot like it did during its heyday. Many of the buildings that appear in the photograph below, which was made in 1950, remain, including the Grand Canyon Café.



NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY, CLINE LIBRARY



TOM BEAN

Circa 1978

Biltmore Fashion Park, Phoenix

A magnificent example of midcentury architecture, Biltmore Fashion Park opened its doors in 1963 and was considered a premier shopping and dining destination, anchored by upscale shops I. Magnin and The Broadway. Over the years, celebrities, including Princess Grace of Monaco, Sophia Loren and John Wayne, visited the Biltmore, adding to its cachet. Today, it remains a destination for shoppers who enjoy the finer things in life. Although it underwent a major renovation, and the original stores have come and gone, it still retains its classic charm (below).



ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES



ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES



CRAIG SMITH



RANDY PRENTICE

1937

Eighth Street, Yuma

“Whatever Ye Sow ...” So read the tagline of the Alfalfa Seed Co., which occupied a spot on Yuma’s Eighth Street in 1937. In the early 20th century, cotton and alfalfa were Yuma’s dominant crops, and although things have changed over the years, the town’s agricultural scene has not. Alfalfa and alfalfa seed are still important — in 2009, there were some 30,000 irrigated acres of land dedicated to the crop. Besides the clover-like plant, about 90 percent of all leafy vegetables grown in the United States are produced in the Yuma area, and agriculture and agritourism have made the Western Arizona town “the nation’s salad bowl.”

1920

Fourth Street, Kingman

The Mohave County Courthouse (below) stands as proudly today as it did when our “then” photograph (bottom) was made in 1920, just five years after it was built. Although Kingman began as a mining town, it evolved over the years, becoming a trade and transportation hub. That was due in large part to the railroad, which led to a boom. Later, Route 66 became a major route through town. Although the city wasn’t incorporated until 1952, Kingman was already bustling by then.



TOM BEAN



MOHAVE MUSEUM OF HISTORY & ARTS



ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY / TUCSON



RANDY PRENTICE

Circa 1950

Intersection of Main and 12th streets, Douglas

At one time, this intersection was one of the most glamorous spots in the state, thanks to the Hotel Gadsden, which dates to 1907, and the Grand Theatre, which was built in 1919. Although the Grand fell into disrepair and closed just eight years after the photograph above was made, owners have since restored it to its former glory at an estimated cost of \$9.5 million. As for the Gadsden, the old hotel has retained its splendid architecture, which features a solid-white Italian marble staircase. [AH](#)



Hikers get this view of the rocky knob known as Tom's Thumb (center) along the trail of the same name in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

FOR LAND'S SAKE

There are many reasons why Scottsdale residents have overwhelmingly supported the McDowell Sonoran Preserve: It's ecologically diverse, it's an important wildlife corridor and it's adjacent to the Tonto National Forest. But more than anything, it's about the land itself, and the open space it provides for hiking, biking, picnics, photography, ecology ...

BY MOLLY J. SMITH | PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUZANNE MATHIA



ABOVE: Joggers are surrounded by the unfolding desert landscape as they head out from the Lost Dog Wash Trailhead.

ABOVE, RIGHT: The night-blooming cereus, also known as “queen of the night,” adds its heavy, sweet scent to the desert aromas.

RIGHT: An unusual rock formation along the Tom’s Thumb Trail frames the distant Four Peaks range east of Phoenix.



IN the heart of North Scottsdale lies what will soon become one of the largest urban preserves in the nation. By 2013, the McDowell Sonoran Preserve will comprise roughly 30,000 acres of beautiful Arizona desert. The preserve got its start in 1991, when a group of Scottsdale citizens banded together to form the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy. Their goal was to advocate for the land and persuade the city to preserve the area. When the first parcel of land was acquired in 1994, the conservancy became the stewards of the land — although it was the residents of Scottsdale who made the preserve possible. It’s funded through taxpayer bonds, which residents have renewed twice in order to help expand the lands purchased.

“It’s one of the amazing stories that twice [Scottsdale

residents] voted to tax themselves to preserve these lands,” says Mike Nolan, executive director at the conservancy. “The volunteers are really coming out, and it’s more than just money. They’re putting in time to see it taken care of and preserved.”

The members of the conservancy (now more than 400 active volunteers) are organized into 11 different groups, including teams for patrols, pathfinding, hiking and education. But with recent land expansion, they’re in need of more volunteers — the planned acquisition of nearly 6,400 acres by 2013 means the preserve’s total acreage will have nearly doubled in the past three years.

“The challenge for us has been to keep up with the rapid growth of the preserve,” Nolan says. “It’s a great ‘problem’ to have, but we’ll have a year or two to work very hard to keep up with it. When you plot it out, there’s 10 more square miles to patrol.”

Included in those 10 miles is the newly opened Tom’s Thumb Trailhead. Located toward the north end of the preserve, the trailhead is in an area of rolling desert landscape that’s flatter than the rockier McDowell Mountains toward the south. A new interpretive trail to the east of Tom’s Thumb will include a path across Marcus Landslide, a 500,000-year-old landslide that was discovered 10 years ago by the Arizona Geological Survey.

With the new additions to the north, the preserve stretches from approximately Via Linda in Scottsdale to Stagecoach Pass, and connects the McDowell Mountains region with the Tonto National Forest.

“The city did a great thing when they connected [McDowell Mountain Regional Park] with the national forest through this corridor,” Nolan says. “For an area that’s this close to such a dense urban area, it’s very ecologically diverse. It’s important as a wildlife corridor, it’s important for the health of the Tonto and the region, and it’s important to city residents to have an incredible open space that really contributes to the quality of life here.”



“It has been said that, at its best,
preservation engages the past in a
conversation with the present over
a mutual concern for the future.”

– WILLIAM MURTAGH



LEFT: Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains is visible to the southeast from the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

BELOW: A mountain-biker explores a trail near Lost Dog Wash.

RIGHT: The preserve's Gateway Trailhead at 18333 N. Thompson Peak Parkway in Scottsdale has parking, restrooms and other amenities.



Help Wanted

The McDowell Sonoran Conservancy is looking for help. Here's what's involved:

- An average commitment of 10 hours a month is desired; hours are flexible.
- There are 11 different volunteer groups covering a variety of interests (patrols, hiking, trail-building, education, office work).
- A New Steward Orientation with classroom and field training is provided. A \$50 fee includes training materials, a T-shirt and refreshments.

For more information, call 480-998-7971 or visit www.mcdowellsonoran.org. 

ARCH RIVAL

OF ALL THE BACKCOUNTRY HIKES IN THE GRAND CANYON, THE POINT HUITZIL ROUTE TO ROYAL ARCH IS AMONG THE MOST CHALLENGING — IT WAS EVEN A NEMESIS OF THE GREAT HARVEY BUTCHART. ALTHOUGH SOME PEOPLE WOULD SAY YOU'D HAVE TO BE CRAZY TO DANGLE FROM THE EDGE OF THE SOUTH RIM TO GET THERE, OTHERS WOULD SAY THE PAYOFF IS WORTH A FEW DOZEN DEATH-DEFYING MANEUVERS. OUR WRITER IS ONE OF THE OTHERS.

BY ANNETTE MCGIVNEY PHOTOGRAPHS BY ELIAS BUTLER

“Here?” I’m secretly hoping it’s not here. Stepping off the lip of the South Rim of the Grand Canyon where there’s no trail feels like a skydiver jumping out of an airplane. I knew it would require a leap of faith, but I was somehow expecting that my first foray into Grand Canyon route-hiking would begin on more solid footing.

OPPOSITE PAGE:
Author Annette McGivney is dwarfed by the massive, high-rising Royal Arch overhead and the rock spires nearby.



“Looks like this is it,” says my friend Elias Butler as he points a handheld GPS toward a bottomless abyss to verify the way-point called Kaibab Break. There’s also a pile of rocks at our feet, which could be a cairn — or just a pile of rocks. After driving to the old Pasture Wash Ranger Station, we’d bush-whacked through a tangle of juniper trees and then rock-hopped down a shallow ravine to suddenly pop out here, in the middle of nowhere, at the edge of the Earth.

Unlike flatter recreation areas, the Canyon is not a landscape where hikers should just strike out in any direction. It’s a relentlessly steep obstacle course that descends 5,000 feet from rim to river, and in most places, the elevation drops like an elevator shaft — 300 feet or even 1,000 feet straight down.

Ravens and bighorn sheep have the travel advantage here. Bipeds — especially those shouldering unwieldy backpacks — are gravitationally challenged. Make one slip that turns into a tumble, and it could be curtains. This is why the vast majority of people who hike rim to river stick to a dozen or so established park trails. Originally used by Native Americans and prospectors, these well-trodden rim-to-river paths are clearly the most logical way down. Yet, they’re not the *only* way down. Throughout the 1.2-million-acre national park, there are also countless unofficial “routes,” which means someone has figured out a way to scramble through a drainage, around a cliff, maybe all the way down to the river.

After living in Arizona for nearly two decades and hiking every established trail on Grand Canyon’s South Rim at least once, I found the possibility of traversing an off-trail route alluring. I’d long contemplated it the way a college undergraduate might consider going to graduate school. It could be good for me. So when Butler asked me if I wanted to join him on a backcountry hike along the Point Huitzil route to Royal Arch, I thought, *Why not?*

But I fear I’m getting an answer to that question just barely a few hundred feet below the rim. Perhaps I’m not ready for this. My legs quiver on the steep scree as I struggle to know where to step next. Venturing off-trail in the Grand Canyon is way out of my comfort zone.

Back in the mid-1940s, when a college math professor named Harvey Butchart started exploring the Grand Canyon, there was no information about the terrain beyond the national park trails. Butchart studied topographic maps and became increasingly determined to establish himself as a Grand Canyon explorer. He approached pioneering new routes in the Canyon like solving a complicated math equation, methodically working his way down drainages and geologic layers, recording detailed notes on his topos of “what goes” and what doesn’t. Over a period of four decades, Butchart became the undisputed king of Grand Canyon off-trail hiking, logging more than 12,000 miles and 1,000 days below the rim.

The Point Huitzil route, which drops off the South Rim just west of its namesake promontory, is legendary because it’s one of the few places that confounded the daring math professor. It took Butchart five failed attempts and extensive scouting be-

fore he finally solved the equation of how to safely traverse the Canyon’s upper layers to find what he was hoping would be a more direct way to get to Royal Arch. In his extensive guide-book series, *Grand Canyon Treks*, Butchart called Huitzil “the most interesting way through the Coconino [rock layer] I know.”

Before our trip to Point Huitzil, I sought the advice of Rich Rudow, a modern-day Butchart who is equally obsessed with off-trail exploration in the Grand Canyon (he’s descended more than 117 slot canyons in the park). He also runs the Phoenix-based GPS company Trimble Outdoors. But Rudow told me a GPS alone is not all that useful for navigating the deep recesses of the Canyon. “I study Harvey’s maps [which are available online through Northern Arizona University’s Cline Library] and try to eyeball which way it’s going to go,” Rudow says. “You learn how to make navigational choices based on the geology. From a distance, the route may look completely improbable, but then you walk around a cliff band and find ruins. You suddenly realize that people have been going up the Canyon that way for a long time.”

This situation is exactly the same with the Huitzil route. Even as Butchart was perplexed by how to find a path down in the 1980s, he could see Ancestral Puebloan ruins tucked in the cliffs below. Now, as Butler and I make our descent through the fossil-studded white rock of the Kaibab limestone layer and then the Toroweap, we use the ruins as a navigational landmark. Along with a couple of key GPS waypoints from Rudow, I have a printout of his route instructions crumpled in my hands, and I struggle to read them while still gripping my trekking poles.

“Hike the Toroweap bench to a point where you’re above the ruins and can descend a series of ledges,” Rudow advised. “Descend past the ruins on the ledges until you hit Coconino slabs. Continue down a few slabs until you see a small flat slab on top of a cliff. This marks the entrance to the cave.” This 20-foot-tall crack has a “ladder” that Rudow said to climb down to get to more ledges we could descend through the rest of the Coconino formation. “This is a very delicate route,” he added. “There are many twists and turns.”

I feel like we’re on a scavenger hunt, going from point to

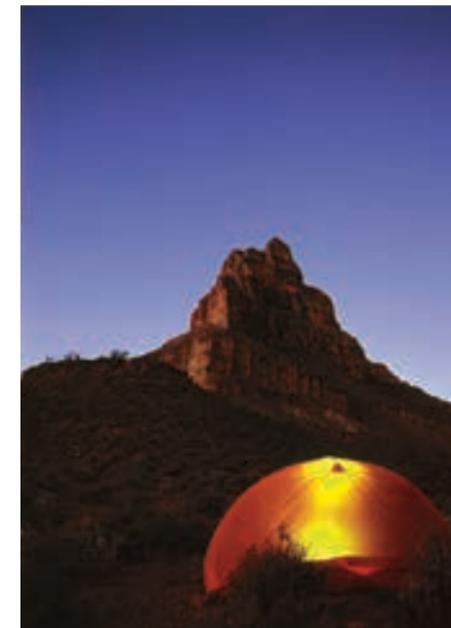
point in search of the next clue. And constantly distracting me from the challenge of not slipping is the spectacular panorama of the Aztec Amphitheater that sprawls below us. This wild, trail-less expanse of swirling rock and twisting drainages in the western Grand Canyon is a route-hiker’s paradise. I gaze out wondering when (if?) we’ll make it to Royal Arch, a distant prize some 10 miles down canyon and well out of view.

As Butler and I negotiate our way down the ladder (actually an old cottonwood trunk with nubs on it) and inch across the steeply angled slabs, we cling to the sandstone like lizards.

It’s March, and a spring windstorm with gusts up to 40 mph threatens to peel us off the rock. We lower our packs down with a rope in some especially precarious places. And we get around narrow ledges with 100 feet of exposure by slowly placing one foot in front of the other as if we’re walking a balance beam.

After sliding down the fine, red scree of Hermit shale, we finally hit a solid bottom on the dry, boulder-filled bed of Royal Arch Creek. We drop our packs and decide to camp on a ledge where there are a few potholes filled with rainwater. I tell Butler that my legs are like Jell-O. But what I don’t say is that, so far, this hike is much harder than I’d expected. And we’re only halfway to Royal Arch.

As Butler wanders away from camp to take photographs, I sit on the ledge and feel adrenaline still running hot through my veins. Maybe it’s just from a day of what felt like constant near-death experiences, but I fight the creep of panic. The sil-



ABOVE, LEFT AND RIGHT: Author McGivney and her son, Austin, trek along Royal Arch Creek. FAR LEFT: McGivney inspects panels of petroglyphs that are coated with desert varnish. LEFT: A well-lit tent contrasts sharply with dark, predawn mountains on the South Bass Trail.

I TELL BUTLER THAT MY LEGS ARE LIKE JELL-O. BUT THIS HIKE IS MUCH HARDER THAN I’D EXPECTED. AND

WHAT I DON’T SAY IS THAT, SO FAR, WE’RE ONLY HALFWAY TO ROYAL ARCH.

McGivney takes in the view of Royal Arch, which was named by famed Canyon explorer Harvey Butchart, who pioneered many of the off-trail routes seen only by the hardest hikers.

houette of the distant South Rim, blue in the moonlight, looms over me. When we get to Royal Arch, will I have the strength and skill to make it back out of the Canyon the way we came in?

We wake the next morning to clouds and a soft rain. I'm grateful for the cool, overcast skies and the fact that my legs have recovered a bit. From our camp, the route to Royal Arch mainly follows the dry creekbed. We trade the rigors of yesterday's gravity-defying descent for today's demanding obstacle course through a jumble of boulders, over giant chockstones and, in one place, we crawl on hands and knees along a cliff band to safely get around a slick 100-foot pouroff. Gradually moving through the Grand Canyon's Redwall formation, the gorge gets deeper and, with the 2,000 feet of descending elevation, the air warms and prickly pears cling to the Canyon walls.

Anticipation about what lies ahead pulls us downstream. And, abruptly, the harsh desert vanishes. I hear the music of running water. Then ferns and monkeyflowers and glassy pools appear. The Canyon narrows and softens; it's laced with white travertine and padded with green moss. Around the next bend is a gift: Royal Arch.

The clouds part just enough to illuminate the arch in brilliant sunlight. The massive bridge, elevated 100 feet above the Canyon floor, glows gold, and through its keyhole is the Colorado River's inner gorge. The magic of this spot instantly diminishes the pain I experienced to get here. This is the second time I've hiked to Royal Arch, but I'm just as awestruck as I was on my initial visit.

During a solo exploratory expedition down Royal Arch Creek in 1959, Harvey Butchart was the first person in historic times to see the natural bridge spanning the drainage. His discovery of the significant feature, which he named Royal Arch, was one of many that elevated his status to that of a Grand Canyon hiking guru. And his obsession with pioneering routes would inspire a dedicated following of adventuresome souls to follow in his footsteps.

After pitching our tents on a sandy balcony at the base of the arch, Butler and I sit next to the creek and listen to the water gurgling in the darkness. The memory of Butchart hangs heavy here. After Butchart died in 2002 at the age of 91, Butler and Tom Myers co-authored a biography of the guru titled *Grand Obsession* (2007, Puma Press). "Discovering this bridge was one of his crowning achievements," Butler says. "It was a high point in his hiking career." As part of his research on Butchart, or perhaps just as an official excuse, Butler has hiked many of Butchart's Grand Canyon routes. Now he can check Point Huitzil off that list.

"I guess a big reason why routes are so irresistible to some



people is that you get to see things the general Grand Canyon hiking public never does," Butler muses. "It's like a doorway to another world."

Over the next two days, we retrace our steps back toward the South Rim. And as with every trip in the Grand Canyon, I feel myself soaking up the beauty like a sponge. In the process, all the cares that I hiked in with are wrung out of me. The trek back up Royal Arch Creek and Point Huitzil is easier, if only because my heart is lighter and I know what to expect.

Climbing the route, following loosely spaced cairns that are like bread crumbs left by fellow hikers, we come upon a

large petroglyph panel. It spreads across a Coconino slab that's coated with desert varnish. Perhaps I was too distracted to fully appreciate it when we were hiking down, or maybe it's the late-afternoon light that perfectly illuminates it now, but dozens of prehistoric figures are alive in vivid detail. I study etchings of what appear to be bighorn sheep, spiders, a thunderbird, humans, spirals and other mysterious geometric designs. Butler takes photos and I sit on the warm rock next to the panel for at least an hour, soaking up more beauty. The 1,000-year-old billboard is a testament to how many people have passed this way before. It is, in fact, a great way down. [AH](#)

IF YOU GO: Begin the Point Huitzil route at the Pasture Wash Ranger Station, which is 27 bumpy miles down Forest Road 328 (a high-clearance, four-wheel-drive vehicle is required). FR 328 is located off of State Route 64 north of Tusayan. A less technical route to Royal Arch is via the South Bass Trail. The trailhead is located at the end of FR 328. From there, follow the cairns down into the east arm of the Royal Arch drainage. Permits are required for all overnight camping in Grand Canyon National Park. For more information, call 928-638-7888 or visit www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit.



AN EXCERPT FROM OUR DECEMBER 1962 ISSUE

The cold winter wind blew in from the north. The wind came from beyond the Bering Sea, from across the harsh lands of Siberia, from any of a thousand places in the Arctic where winter winds begin. The wind had strong and icy fingers, which put the atmosphere in motion and which churned the no-longer pacific waters of the Pacific into a mass of white, angry dancing foam. An air mass was formed and began moving toward the mainland of the United States. Here a snowflake, eventually to fall later in the high country of Arizona, was born. It happened this way:

Moving air, or the atmosphere in motion, a simple description of wind, is made up of invisible water vapor, oxygen, nitrogen and other elements. When water vapor of sufficient strength concentrates in the atmosphere, the relative humidities rise to eighty or ninety percent, and the vapor will condense on any handy particle in the atmosphere. To get really professional, we would like to point out that these particles are called nuclei, as they form the loci on which water vapor may condense. Sea salts from the Pacific, formed from evaporation of sea wave and ocean bubble spray, are the most important nuclei in the atmosphere; so the little snowflake we hope eventually to welcome this winter in the high country of Arizona, nine times out of ten, will have as its inner core a molecule of salt from the Pacific. At least we hope so because other nuclei in the

SNOW DESIGN, Blue Range Primitive Area

HIGH WINTER

EDITED BY RAYMOND CARLSON
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID MUENCH

atmosphere are formed by industrial pollution, smoke from forest and grass fires, volcanic dust, just plain dust kicked up by the wind from city street or from an acre of farmland, and other impurities man and Nature can create from the land that supports them. Fresh air, did someone say? It is surprising how un-fresh fresh air can be. If we were a snowflake we think it much more romantic to have as our nucleus a particle of sea salt carried by the wind from the distant ocean.

The sky darkens over the Pacific Coast, to our west, and the wind pushes in a storm, boiling dark clouds of water vapor and all the other ingredients to be found in the atmosphere.

In winter, over the high coastal ranges, when temperatures fall below freezing, water vapor in the atmosphere condenses on the nucleus in the form of

a single white or translucent ice crystal. Weather forecast for tomorrow: snow!

Nature has come up with many strange and wonderful things but perhaps nothing as delicate and wonderful as the ice crystal formed by water vapor in the atmosphere condensing around a nucleus (sea salt particle, etc.) and then freezing. A snowflake has been created by Divine sculpture usually in a complex branched hexagonal (six-sided) form. In single crystals we find beautiful, infinite variety of form, although normal snowflakes are composed of broken single crystals, fragments or clusters of such crystals, no less beautiful.

One man with an inquisitive mind and a microphotographic camera photographed thousands of snowflakes and published the results in a book. (William A. Bentley, *Snow Crystals*.) He found no two snowflakes alike. Snowflakes

WINTER'S GLADE, Hannagan Meadow



“Love winter when the plant says nothing.” — THOMAS MERTON

FROSTED MORNING, Blue Range Primitive Area

come in hexagonal columns and plates, simple or with a variety of extensions at corners, smaller hexagonal plates with long rays or plume-like extensions and also three and twelve-sided forms. An artist would have to be very talented, indeed, to create a form as delicately beautiful as that of a snowflake!

Snowflakes, then, come in all sizes and forms. A snowflake may grow as large as three to four inches in diameter, and it has been reported that in extremely still air (a snowflake falling through turbulent air naturally gets battered about a bit) snowflakes up to

ten inches in diameter have been measured. (Imagine being slapped in the face with a ten-inch snowflake!)

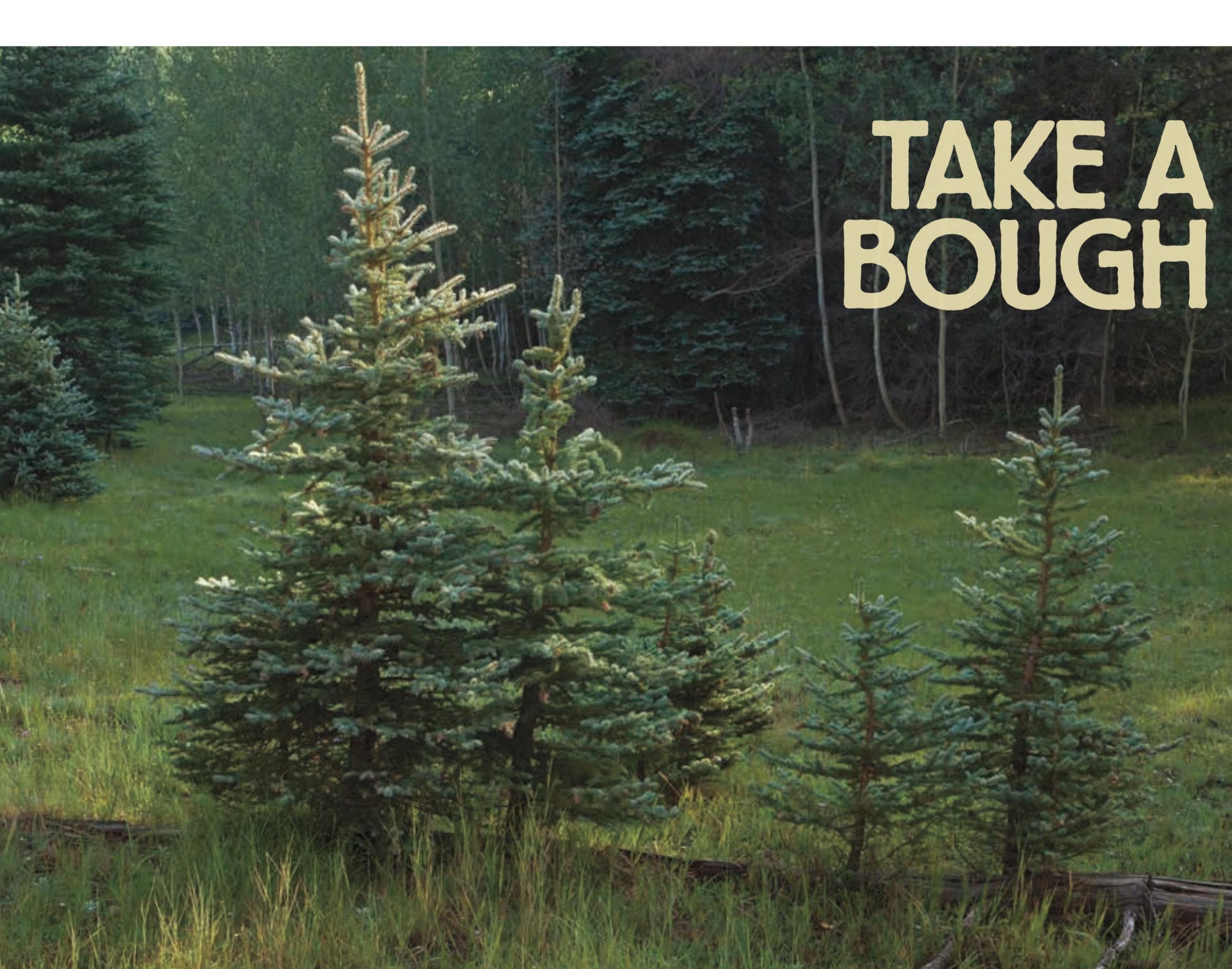
The snows we receive during our high winter have a personality of their own. Snow densities vary tremendously, dependent as they are on the temperature of the air for their moisture content. When it is real, real cold, -20 to -40 degrees, four or five inches of snow will result in only a few hundredths of an inch of water when melted. When the temperature is from around -20 to around zero, snowflakes tend to be light and dry, squeaky underfoot. This type will take

about fifteen to twenty inches to make one inch of water when melted. Then we have the “wet” type of snow when snowflakes become fat, moist and large as temperatures approach 32 degrees. This type of snow, perfect for a snowball fight, may result in an inch of water from four to seven inches of snow depth.

In Arizona, elevation is very important in the accumulation of snow. Snow in the desert is so rare as almost to be a phenomenon. You have to climb high for snow in our state. Here are some figures, annual average snowfall: Bright Angel on the North Rim of Grand Can-

yon (elevation 8,400 feet) 133 inches; Maverick (7,800 feet) 88 inches; McNary (7,320 feet) 94 inches; Alpine (8,000 feet) 65 inches; Flagstaff (6,993 feet) 69 inches; South Rim, Grand Canyon (6,965 feet) 62 inches; Williams (6,750 feet) 67 inches.

We in Arizona welcome high winter. It means winter sports and recreation, beautiful vistas of snow-clad forests, and most of all when the thaw comes in Spring it means water, from one to two million acre feet, filling our reservoirs to be used judiciously for the benefit of all of us. [AH](#)



TAKE A BOUGH

'Tis the season (for some of you), which means it's time to start thinking about Christmas trees. Although urban parking lots and department stores offer plenty of options, there's nothing better than going into the woods and cutting your own.

THERE WAS A TIME when getting into the holiday spirit meant going out and cutting down your own Christmas tree. Times have changed. These days, you can easily run out to your local supermarket parking lot and pick up a tree. Or hit a department store for an artificial tree, some of which come with lights and ornaments and all the rest. But for those who want to ring in the holiday season the old-fashioned way, there's an alternative. The U.S. Forest Service makes a limited number of Christmas tree tags available beginning in mid-October. You'll find them at Big 5 Sporting Goods stores across the state, as well as at some of Arizona's national forests. "There will be everything from piñons and junipers to spruces and firs," says Jerry Drury, the natural resources staff officer for the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests. If you decide to cut your own tree, don't forget to pack your thinking cap. Drury says to wear warm clothes, take plenty of water, and be sure to let people know where you're going and when you'll be back.

— Kathy Ritchie

PARTICIPATING FORESTS

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

928-333-4301, www.fs.usda.gov/asnf

Coconino National Forest

928-527-3600, www.fs.usda.gov/coconino

Kaibab National Forest

928-635-5600, www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab

Prescott National Forest

928-443-8000, www.fs.usda.gov/prescott

Tonto National Forest

602-225-5200, www.fs.usda.gov/tonto

EDITOR'S NOTE: Permit availability varies from forest to forest. Please call ahead before venturing out.

Don't forget to pack a hand saw or an ax, as well as some rope to carry out your tree. | TOM BEAN

The Route to Council Rocks

Once the stronghold of Cochise and the Chiricahua Apaches, the Dragoon Mountains are among the most rugged ranges in Arizona. This scenic drive cuts through the heart of it.

BY ROGER NAYLOR | PHOTOGRAPHS BY RANDY PRENTICE

There are mountains. There are hills. And then there are the Dragoons.

Officially a mountain range, the fiercely rugged and deliciously enticing Dragoon Mountains defy categorization. Some mountains soar, but the Dragoons seem to roll over the landscape. A collection of sharp-slanted cliffs and tumbled boulders rises abruptly from shaggy grasslands and slices north to south across Cochise County. For

30 miles, the Dragoons — surging, falling, cresting and curling — appear as if a pounding surf had somehow turned to stone during high tide.

One of the best ways to access this haunting terrain, once the stronghold of Cochise and the Chiricahua Apaches, is to make the drive to Council Rocks. Along the way, you'll cross a golden savannah dotted with mesquites, yuccas and agaves. Sprawling oaks with piously bowed limbs gather at the stony flanks

of the Dragoons. It was at Council Rocks that Cochise signed the Broken Arrow Peace Treaty in 1872.

The drive begins on Middlemarch Road, which once served as a supply and patrol route between Fort Bowie and Fort Huachuca. Follow Middlemarch, a

BELOW AND OPPOSITE PAGE: Granite boulders and overhangs in the Dragoon Mountains offered protection and shelter for Cochise and the Chiricahua Apaches. Today, it can all be seen on a leisurely drive.

wide gravel road, for 10 miles and turn north onto Forest Road 687.

As you parallel the mountains on this rutted dirt track, you'll see what made the Dragoons such perfect shelter for the Apaches. The slopes jut upward in a snarl of rocky chaos. Granite spires, sheer cliffs and slashing chasms create both a maze and a fortress.

The mountains provided Cochise with food and medicine and year-round water. And from the high vantage point, the Apaches had excellent views of the valleys on either side of the mountains. They could literally see Army troops coming two days before they arrived. The angular peaks and labyrinth of canyons were ideally suited for the guerrilla tactics used by the Apaches. It's no wonder that

after 11 years of bloody warfare on the Arizona frontier, the government was eager to make peace.

Turn east onto Forest Road 687K, which leads to the Council Rocks parking area. A short but steep trail clambers into a cluster of house-sized boulders and shallow caves. Ancient footholds carved into the rocks offer assistance today, just as they did decades ago. Evidence of fire pits and metates, where corn was ground, can be found.

Dozens of pictographs adorn boulders and overhangs. Archaeologists believe the original pictographs were created by the Mogollon people nearly 1,000 years ago and were later augmented by the Apaches.

Little has been changed by the passage of time. Views are still endless, stretching for miles across the deep-grass valley. A soothing quiet settles,

and it's easy to drift between eras. This is still the West, still the frontier. Standing watch amid the granite bones, don't be surprised to find yourself staying alert and vigilant, scanning the horizon for dust clouds. After all, it could be the cavalry.

ADDITIONAL READING: For more scenic drives, pick up a copy of our book *The Back Roads*. Now in its fifth edition, the book (\$19.95) features 40 of the state's most scenic drives. To order a copy, visit www.arizonahighways.com/books.



tour guide

Note: Mileages are approximate.

LENGTH: 16.8 miles one way

DIRECTIONS: From Tucson, drive east on Interstate 10 for 45 miles to Benson. In Benson, drive south on State Route 80 for 22 miles to Middlemarch Road, which begins about a mile north of Tombstone. Turn left onto Middlemarch Road and drive 10 miles to Forest Road 687. Continue on FR 687 for 6.5 miles to Forest Road 687K, turn right, and continue 0.25 miles to the small parking lot.

VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS: A high-clearance vehicle is

recommended. Forest Road 687 can become rough and rutted following a heavy rain.

WARNING: Back-road travel can be hazardous, so be aware of weather and road conditions. Carry plenty of water. Don't travel alone, and let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.

INFORMATION: Douglas Ranger District, 520-364-3468 or www.fs.usda.gov/coronado

511 Travelers in Arizona can visit www.az511.gov or dial 511 to get information on road closures, construction, delays, weather and more. **AH**

Pine Mountain Trail

Of all the scenic wilderness areas in Arizona, Pine Mountain Wilderness might be the least visited, but only because it's hard to get to. The hiking there is spectacular.

BY ROBERT STIEVE | PHOTOGRAPHS BY SHANE McDERMOTT

If you think the Road to Hana is a long and winding road, take away the pavement, and throw in a creek-crossing, long stretches of washboard effect and a lifetime supply of deep ruts, and you've

got the road to Pine Mountain.

The Pine Mountain Trail, as this hike is called, is actually a series of four trails leading up to and around Pine Mountain, which rises 6,814 feet above

the wilderness of the same name. The first of the four trails is the Nelson Trail, which takes you into the Pine Mountain Wilderness, an isolated area that was established in 1972 and encompasses 19,569 acres. The lack of foot traffic is something you'll appreciate as you make your way through the shaded riparian area fed by Sycamore Creek. This stretch is a wonderland of trees dominated by Arizona sycamores, ponderosas and alligator junipers.

After about 15 minutes, the trail arrives at the remains of the old Nelson place, an abandoned homestead that includes a series of impressive stone walls. If you've ever been to Virginia, you can envision what it looks like. From there, the trail winds along Sycamore Creek, crossing back and forth, for about 20 minutes until it reaches an intersection with the Pine Flat Trail, which veers right into Beehouse Canyon. Don't let the name fool you. This isn't your turn. Instead, continue following the creek upstream for another 45 minutes to a junction with the Willow Springs Trail. You'll be on that trail later in the hike, but for now, stay right on the Nelson Trail and look around. In addition to the inherent beauty and quiet splendor that's typical of most wilderness areas, this part of the trail is marked by waves of young 10-foot-tall ponderosas that are reclaiming the land after a fire burned the west side of Pine Mountain in 1989.

Literally, you'll be rubbing elbows with these lime-green trees as you make your way uphill to the Cloverleaf Junction, where the Nelson Trail meets the Pine Mountain Trail. This is the second of the four trails, and it angles left along Bishop Creek for about 45 minutes to an intersection with the Verde Rim Trail, about a half-mile southwest of Pine Mountain. Before you get there, you'll

A series of four trails offers premium views of the Pine Mountain Wilderness.

The Pine Mountain Trail is more difficult to reach than others, which makes for a more secluded, quiet hike.

see more remnants of the fire, and you might see some snow as well, depending on the time of year. Although this is considered a year-round hike, you should call the U.S. Forest Service ahead of time to check on the conditions.

At the Pine Mountain-Verde Rim intersection, turn left and continue northeast. As the name implies, the Verde Rim Trail hugs a narrow ridge that even mountain goats might appreciate. What the name doesn't tell you is that the views from the ridge are superb and include panoramas of Humphreys Peak, the Verde River Canyon, the Mazatzal Mountains and even Horseshoe Lake near Phoenix.

Moving north, just beyond a short side trail that leads to the summit of Pine Mountain, the Verde Rim Trail descends a series of steep switchbacks that lead to a saddle at the head of

Sycamore Creek. Turn left onto the Willow Springs Trail, the fourth of the four trails, and follow it for a half-hour to its intersection with the Nelson Trail, and then another hour back to the Salt Flat trailhead. In all, the route winds up and down for almost 10 miles. It's rated as moderate, but it'll seem easy compared to the long and winding drive back to civilization. Not to worry, though. It's a beautiful drive.



KEVIN KIBSEY

ADDITIONAL READING:

For more hikes, pick up a copy of *Arizona Highways Hiking Guide* (\$24.95), which features 52 of the state's best trails — one for each weekend of the year, sorted by seasons. To order a copy, visit www.arizonahighways.com/books.



trail guide

LENGTH: 9.6 miles round-trip

DIFFICULTY: Moderate

ELEVATION: 5,110 to 6,814 feet

TRAILHEAD GPS: N 34°19.577', W 111°50.177'

DIRECTIONS: From Phoenix, drive north on Interstate 17 for 57 miles to the Dugas Road exit. From there, take Forest Road 68 southeast for 18 miles to the trailhead for the Nelson Trail at the boundary of the Pine Mountain Wilderness.

VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS: High-clearance vehicle required

DOGS ALLOWED: Yes (on a leash)

HORSES ALLOWED: Yes

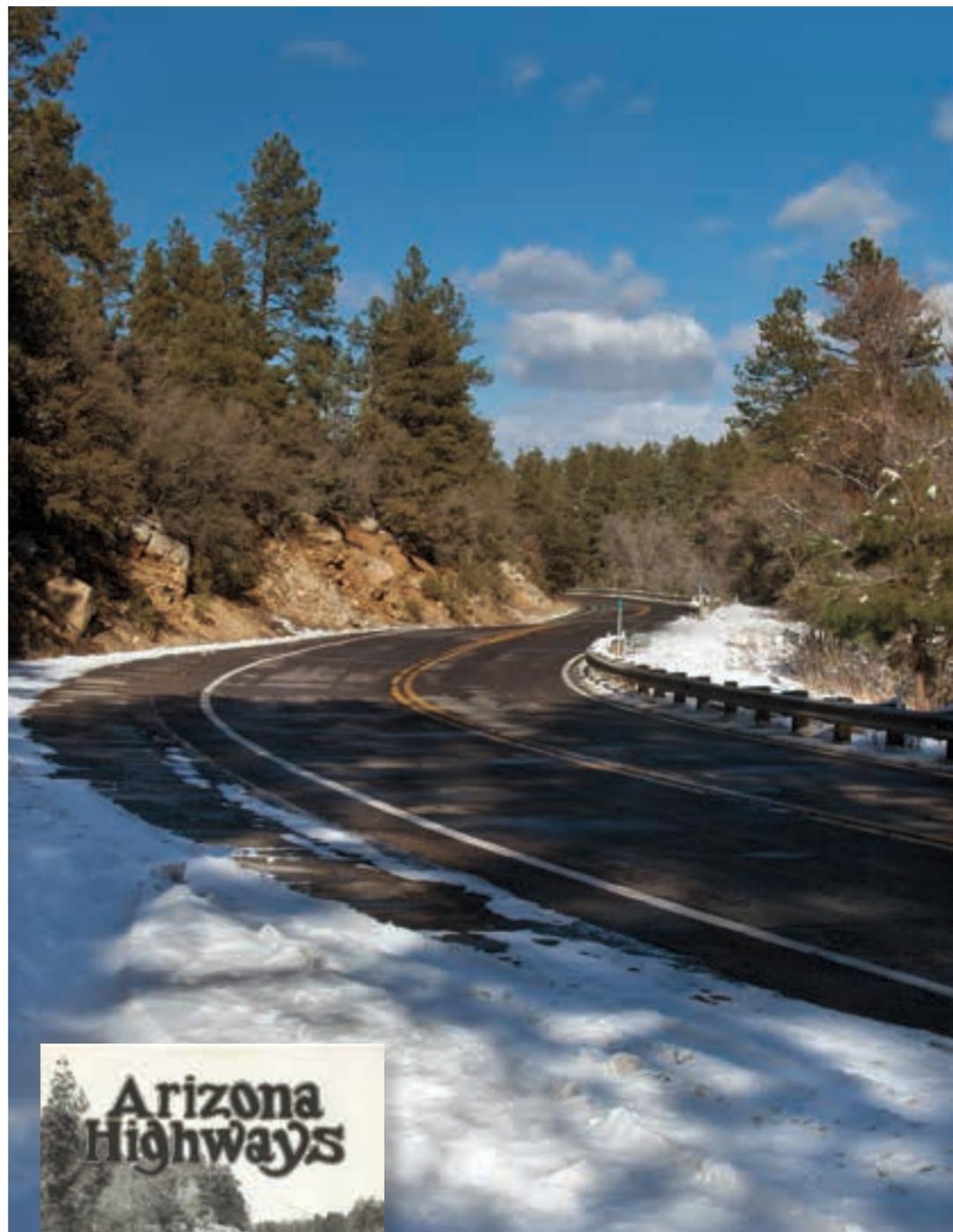
USGS MAP: Tule Mesa

INFORMATION: Verde Ranger District, 928-567-4121 or www.fs.usda.gov/prescott

LEAVE-NO-TRACE PRINCIPLES:

- Plan ahead and be prepared.
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Dispose of waste properly and pack out all of your trash.
- Leave what you find.
- Respect wildlife and minimize impact.
- Be considerate of others. **AH**

where is this?



September 2012 Answer & Winner
 Agatha Peak. Congratulations to our winner, Harry Mandeville of Lynnfield, Massachusetts.



BEV PETTIT

Win a collection of our most popular books! To enter, correctly identify the location pictured at left and email your answer to editor@arizonahighways.com — type "Where Is This?" in the subject line. Entries can also be sent to 2039 W. Lewis Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009 (write "Where Is This?" on the envelope). Please include your name, address and phone number. One winner will be chosen in a random drawing of qualified entries. Entries must be postmarked by November 15, 2012. Only the winner will be notified. The correct answer will be posted in our January issue and online at www.arizonahighways.com beginning December 15.

PAUL GILL

Road Test

When this stretch of road appeared on the cover of *Arizona Highways*' inaugural issue in April 1925 (inset), editor Vincent J. Keating described it as "one of the prettiest scenic roads in the state, traveling through the pines in the Prescott National Forest ..." The road, still in use today, travels southwesterly.

— KELLY VAUGHN KRAMER



Tlaquepaque Lights up the Season

Come to Sedona this holiday season and delight in Tlaquepaque's inspired celebrations! You'll discover 45 world-class galleries, shops and restaurants amidst this charming arts and crafts village created in the style of Old Mexico.

Dia de los Muertos

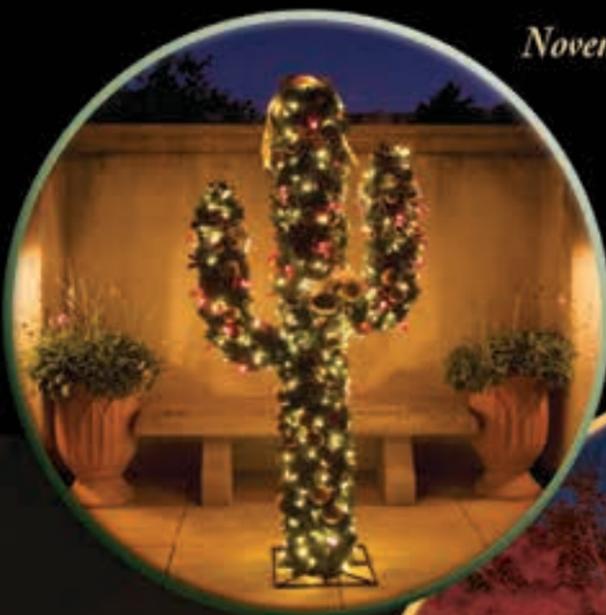
Friday & Saturday, November 2nd ~ 3rd

An honored Arizona tradition, Day of the Dead remembers those who have passed on with displays of offerings. Special altars welcome your participation.

Festival of Trees

November 25rd ~ December 1st

Sedona's world-class artists unleash their talent when trees-as-canvas become artful expressions of season.



Festival of Lights

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