



# PRONGHORN

*4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2013*  
*Volume 19 Number 4*



# ARIZONA ANTELOPE FOUNDATION, INC.

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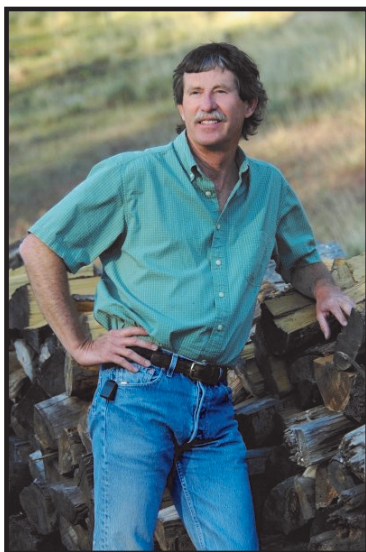
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### **AAF Mission Statement:**

The Arizona Antelope Foundation is an organization dedicated to the welfare of pronghorn antelope. The Foundation's Mission is to actively seek to increase pronghorn populations in Arizona through habitat improvements, habitat acquisition, the translocation of animals to historic range, and public comment on activities affecting pronghorn and their habitat.



## ON OUR COVER

“Resident” photographer Richard Ockenfels snapped the cover photo at a work project earlier in the year. Our habitat projects are so important to conserving places for pronghorn. If you haven't volunteered lately, please consider doing so. The work is rewarding, and the fellowship and food are outstanding!

*Pronghorn is a quarterly newsletter for the members of AAF. Letters, comments, news items, articles, pictures and stories are all welcome and will be considered for publication. Address all such items to:*

Tracy Unmacht, Pronghorn Editor, PO Box 12590, Glendale, AZ 85318, or by email at [info@azantelope.org](mailto:info@azantelope.org).

# SPECIAL TAGS & THE HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

## FROM AZ GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT WEBSITE

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Established by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission in 1992, the Arizona Elk Habitat Partnership Committee and affiliated Local Habitat Partnership Committees were created to address and reduce elk and livestock conflicts and to promote partnerships through cooperative projects.

In January 1996, the program concept expanded beyond elk and livestock conflicts and was renamed the Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee to better reflect an ecosystem approach to wildlife habitat management and related projects.

There are currently 10 Local Habitat Partnership Committees (LHPC) and one affiliate member across the state, which comprise the Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee (AHPC). All of these committees focus on putting money on the ground to improve habitat or management for big game species, although many projects benefit other wildlife and livestock as well. The State HPC Committee meets twice a year.

The program's primary funding source is Special Big Game License-Tag funds. The AZGF Commission annually awards 3 special big game license-tags per big game species to nonprofit wildlife conservation organizations that auction or raffle these tags to raise funding that is used to benefit the wildlife species for which the license-tag is issued. The sponsoring wildlife

conservation organizations cover all marketing and administrative costs for the license tag sales, and 100% of the money raised is returned to the state of Arizona.

These funds are allocated through the HPC Program by collaboration between the Department and the wildlife conservation organizations that market and sell the tags. Once project proposals are submitted, the Department coordinates with these wildlife conservation organizations and funding is allocated to the projects that provide the most benefit to big game species in Arizona.

The AAF was awarded 2 of the 2013 antelope tags, which were auctioned at the AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep and AAF banquets. The third tag was included in the AZ Big Game Super Raffle. A total of \$91,980 was raised and added to the tag fund. The AAF participates in the HPC process to choose the projects that will be funded (see a report about 1 such project on page [????](#))

Once again, the AAF has been charged with marketing 2 of the 2014 antelope tags. The first will be auctioned at the Wild Sheep Foundation banquet in January, and the second at our fundraising banquet on February 22nd. As you can see from the photo below of one of the previous auction tag buyers, Arizona produces some of the best trophy antelope in the country!



**AAF Life Member Art Pearce purchased the special tag at our 2012 fundraising banquet**

# REMEMBERING WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST JIM YOAKUM

BY CAROL ANN BASSETT

Jim Yoakum peers through a spotting scope across a broad sagebrush valley. Here at Hart Mountain

National Antelope Refuge, a pronghorn doe has just squatted into a familiar position, about to give birth. As a legendary pronghorn biologist, Yoakum knows about these animals; he has spent more than seven decades roaming this fault-block range in southeastern Oregon. He understands the language

of the pronghorn, its flared nostrils and the sleek curve of its haunches in flight.

Soon, a tiny fawn plops from the doe's belly and lands on the ground. "Here comes another!" he exclaims. Within minutes, the twins rise on wobbly legs, shake off the afterbirth, and begin suckling. They must gain strength as quickly as they can and learn to run almost immediately to escape hungry coyotes, cougars, bobcats and golden eagles. It's an instinct hard-wired into their genes.

Yoakum, who is wearing loose jeans and a camouflage jacket, continues watching. Seven decades of riding horses on this mountain have left his legs bowed. Today, he uses a walking stick, wears hearing aids and breathes oxygen from a respirator. Even as Yoakum observes the miracle of birth, he knows that his own life is waning.

James Donovan Yoakum was born June 15, 1926, in Templeton, Calif., son of a hunter-father. As a student at Oregon State, he would help his professor monitor pronghorn fawns on Hart Mountain. Yoakum's dog, a Labrador retriever named Tad, assisted by pinning them down and licking the sweet mother's milk off their muz-



zles. When Yoakum graduated in 1957 with a master's degree in wildlife management, the Bureau of Land Management hired him as the agency's very first wildlife biologist. During his 28-year career with the BLM, Yoakum was a steadfast advocate for wildlife conservation and habitat restoration. His book, *Pronghorn: Ecology and Management*, is a 903-page masterpiece containing nearly everything that's currently known about his beloved species.

*Antilocapra americana* is the swiftest mammal in North America; it can run faster than 60 miles an hour. Its namesake refuge, the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge and its sister refuge just over the border in Nevada, the Sheldon Wildlife Refuge, are classic sagebrush-steppe Great Basin landscapes—perfect pronghorn habitat.

I first heard about Yoakum when I volunteered to dismantle barbed wire fences with the Oregon Natural Desert Association on nearby Steens Mountain—the first designated "cow-free" wilderness in the United States. We were giving the land back to the pronghorn, without boundaries. In 2010, I traveled to Hart Mountain to meet up with Yoakum; Bill Marlett, the former execu-

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Yoakum continued from page 4)

tive director of the association; Marlett's wife, Terry Gloeckler; their friend, Matt Holmes, and Yoakum's friend and colleague, Jorge Cancino, a wildlife biologist who works with the endangered peninsular pronghorn (*A.a.peninsularis*) in Baja California Sur.

It's May, and an unexpected snowstorm has dusted the hillsides white, burying our tents at Hot Springs Campground. A frigid wind rips through the valley. At dinnertime, we wrap Yoakum in sleeping bags before a blazing fire, and someone pours him a warming cup of bourbon. I ask Yoakum about his relationship with the pronghorn.

"I still belong to the pronghorn family," he replies, his face ruddy in the leaping flames. "I talk to them every day, practically."

"What do they tell you?"

"They tell me what they like and don't like. They don't like fences. They don't like roads. They don't like railroads. They tell me what they like to eat. They tell me they want lots of water. They don't like to be too close to cattle, because sometimes they get diseases from them. They get diseases from domestic sheep, and they have problems with wild horses that eat the same food they like. The adult doe must provide enough food to maintain her health and support two fawns." The doe bears twins, he explains, because normally only one

fawn survives predation. "They tell me these things."

But on Hart Mountain, coyotes and eagles weren't hampering pronghorn recovery; instead, herds of cattle were competing for limited pronghorn food. Yoakum, a maverick in biological diversity, believed the species could be restored successfully on the mountain. In the 1990s, he worked with conservationists and won a lawsuit to kick the cows off the refuge. Without them, grasses and forbs flourished, and so did pronghorn and sage grouse. Last year, the pronghorn population reached its greatest number ever—a rise from about 3,700 animals in the 1990s to over 6,200 pronghorn in the Hart and Sheldon refuges.

Back in camp, Yoakum ticks off the tasks he still wants to accomplish, then adds: "I have to live 84 more years. I have lots of things to do." But Yoakum never got the chance to return to his beloved Hart Mountain. He died Nov. 20, 2012, at age 86. This summer, Marlett and other friends, who shared and still share Yoakum's dreams, will scatter his ashes where his spirit can forever behold the galloping herds.

*Carol Ann Bassett is a professor of environmental writing and the author of three books, two of them finalists for the Oregon Book Award in Creative Nonfiction, including Galápagos at the Crossroads: Pirates, Biologists, Tourists, and Creationists Battle for Darwin's Cradle of Evolution.*



## FRUITS OF OUR LABOR...



Back in May 2013 the AAF hooked up two wildlife drinkers and fixed them in place with rock and concrete at Davis Well on the south side of highway 82. The goal was to provide permanent pronghorn water in the western portion of the Davis pasture. The photos on the top show the completed drinkers.

This work is one piece of the "puzzle" in our overall Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative designed to improve 100,000 acres of "Pronghorn habitat connectivity", and ultimately restore pronghorn populations in that part of the state.

We are happy to report that pronghorn are frequenting these troughs. AZ Game & Fish Game Ranger Matt Braun captured the photos at the bottom on a trail camera installed at the water.

# WHERE THE ANTELOPE ROAM ... AND ZEBRA, HARTEBEEST, KUDU, ETC.

BY MARSHA PETRIE SUE, AAF MEMBER

Thanks to the Live Auction at the Arizona Antelope Foundation Annual Banquet and the recommendation of Jim McCasland and Bill Keebler, both Life Members and past presidents of AAF, Al and I had a wonderful African hunting adventure. My first two animals, a Hartmann Zebra and a Red Hartebeest were bagged by crawling through the bush behind my wonderful P.H. (Professional Hunter) Andries van Zyl from Mount Carmel Safaris.



Stalking and sneaking up on the animals is not for the faint of heart and the Christiansen Arms 300 Ultra Mag with a muzzle break, the Swarovski 4x12 Scope and the Scirocco 180 grain bullets did come in handy! The tweezers certainly were used the first two evenings as I was picking the thorns from the palms of my hands. Of course my gloves were still in the 'bakkie' (truck) so I quickly learned that bringing the right equipment is important, but using it is even more important.

Ah, the bakkie - the South African term for open-air safari truck. We traveled in a Toyota bakkie and without a doubt, it is the most rugged vehicle I've been in. Neither the terrain mattered nor who was driving; Andries, Andre, P.G. or Izak. We bounced and tumbled to

find the animals. It was like Mr. Toad's Wild Ride at Disneyland and I must say, very fun. I'll show you no pictures of the butt bumps and bruises or Al's 'saddle sores'!! Amazingly we only had six flat tires.



We saw so many varieties of animals and the one thing I learned is that Zebra come in different flavors. My third animal on the hunt was a Burchell's Zebra and it has the shadow stripes where the Hartmann's has thinner, closer together stripes and is far more skittish.



My husband Al also got the trophies he was looking for when Andries took us to Jules of the Karoo lodge in the Northern Cape. Julian Theron is his friend from high school and they have known each other for many years! This was a gorgeous farm and as with Mt. Carmel, wonderful staff and people along with a great family. They are world acclaimed for their outstanding Antelope and Springbok animals.

The Springbok Grand Slam was in Al's crosshairs. The White, Common (or Kalahari), Black and Copper will now be new additions to our homes' decorating scheme

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Safari continued from page 6)



because of his success. Tough shots on all of them and in the wind! Luckily the first few days during my hunting, the wind was not much of an issue.

The twin Common's (Kalahari's) were taken with one bullet. Because of the neck shot from Al's rifle, the bullet ricocheted from the first springbok and hit the second. That's the way to save on ammo! The Black springbok was the most difficult. Lots of chasing, stalking, crawling and waiting in the plains of Mt. Carmel. Equally difficult was the hunt for the Copper, another suspicious, smart animal.

Spotting the White springbok was not difficult at all. There were many of them on the Karoo. Al bagged the first one and was then asked by Izak to take the second because it was lame. Leaving it for the Jackal just didn't seem like the right thing to do.

Al also scored a Mountain Rebok in the mountains of the van Zyl's family home where Andries grew up. Such history and we were lucky to get a private tour of this grand home.

Mount Carmel Safaris is a full service guest farm located in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa. Mount Carmel Safaris is owned and operated by Andries van Zyl, a qualified professional hunter and tour guide. His family approach to both hunting and non-hunting guests is tailored to produce an unforgettable African experience in a "home away from home" atmosphere. Trophy hunts can be conducted with the client's choice of weapons: rifle, muzzleloader, archery, or handgun. Hunt options also include non-lethal darting.

Put this trip on your Bucket List if it isn't already there. The amazing food and preparation on the Braai, the wonderful people and the mere adventure of being in Africa creates memories that last forever. ***(Editor's note: this trip will be auctioned at our February 22, 2014 Fundraising banquet. See page 18 for more information)***

Marsha and Al Sue are devoted to conservation of animal herds in Arizona and participate in many antelope projects. In addition, Al is a Life Member and Director for AAF.

By Marsha Petrie Sue  
Women's Outdoor Media Association - President  
NRA Women's Leadership Forum - Executive Committee  
Outdoor Writers Association of America - Member  
Hunting and Angling Heritage Workgroup - Steering Committee  
Professional Speaker/Author  
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# SONORAN PRONGHORN UPDATE



BY JILL BRIGHT AZ GAME & FISH  
OCTOBER 4, 2013

## *Captive Breeding:*

### Cabeza Prieta Captive Breeding Pen

The pronghorn in the pen are starting to congregate in larger groups and it is getting easier to observe and count them. We have been trying to get more accurate counts on the number of fawns surviving in the pen. In north herd, there are 26 adults and we believe 15 fawns (10 females and 5 males). Originally north herd had 17 fawns so two seem to have died. In south herd, there are 30 adults and either 20 or 21 fawns (11 or 12 females and 9 bucks). Twenty-one fawns was the maximum we thought were born in the south half of the pen. These numbers and sex ratios may change as we verify the counts.

There are several pronghorn we are paying special attention to as they appear sick or injured. Two males, a fawn and a yearling, are limping, likely due to sparring during the breeding season. A yearling doe also has a limp and appears to have an injury on her chest above the leg that is injured. Another yearling doe appears thin and would not get up from a bedded position and move away with the rest of the herd when they were spooked on one occasion. However, all these animals are moving around with the herd, and are being observed feeding on alfalfa and native forage.

The pen received 1.1 inches of rain from 09/06 – 09/10. However, in the last half of September, the pen has started drying out again. Consequently, personnel have started irrigating in the pen. Both pronghorn herds have started coming back to the feeders in large numbers and are consuming larger amounts of alfalfa.

We are getting prepared for our annual capture and release of pronghorn from the pen scheduled for December 13-16. Personnel have started getting the bomas ready, and will begin feeding near the bomas in the near future.

### Status of Pronghorn in Cabeza Pen

September 2013

NORTH HALF		SOUTH HALF	
Adult Females	10	Adult Females	10
Yearling Females (b 2012)	5	Yearling Females (b 2012)	9
Yearling Males (b2012)	9	Yearling Males (b2012)	9
Breeding Buck (b 2010, Purple 3)	1	Breeding Buck (b 2010, Yellow 3)	1
Back-up Buck (b 2011, Yel/Blk 3)	1	Back-up Buck (b 2011, Green 4)	1
Fawns (born 2013)	15	Fawns (born 2013)	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Total Pen</b>		<b>92</b>	

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**Kofa Captive Breeding Pen**

There are now 25 pronghorn in the Kofa pen, including the 2 fawns (1 buck and 1 doe). An adult doe, Grey, was killed inside the pen by a bobcat near the northeast feeders between the afternoon of 09/21 and the morning of 09/23. The bobcat has left the pen; we are currently attempting to remove this bobcat from the vicinity of the pen.

Yellow, who injured her hind leg last summer, continues to maintain a limp on her hind leg that seems to improve or worsen on a day-to-day basis. Green buck has lost weight and looks thin; we are currently monitoring him. Both animals are still moving and foraging with the herd.

The Kofa pen received a total of 1.82 inches of rain from 09/07 – 09/13. The crew has suspended irrigation efforts temporarily due to this. The pen remains green and weekly alfalfa feeding decreased this month by 9.5 bales, or 22%, from last month.

We are currently working on constructing the bomas in the Kofa pen and preparing for the upcoming capture and release of pronghorn in December 2013.

**Status of Pronghorn in Kofa Pen**

	September 2013
Adult Females	10
Yearling Females (b 2012)	4
Yearling Males (b2012)	5
Breeding Buck	2
Back-up Buck	2
Fawns (born 2013)	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>

**2012 Released Pronghorn - Cabeza**

The two females released on ORPI that came back to the pen in July, have remained in the vicinity of the pen and Childs Valley. One of the released bucks remains on ORPI; the other one was found dead on the September 15 telemetry flight. Subsequent investigation on the ground indicated he had died about a week earlier, and was not killed by any predator. His cause of death is unknown although disease is suspected. The pronghorn released on BMGR-West remain in that area.

**2012 Released Pronghorn - KOFA**

Three pronghorn, 2 doe and 1 buck, have been recorded on camera at a pond on the Yuma Proving Ground on several occasions through September 17<sup>th</sup>. This is the same two (doe and buck) that were recorded at the same pond earlier in the summer. The other female was last seen with a herd of deer near Dateland; she has found her way back to the Kofa area, and joined the other two pronghorn. We still don't know the whereabouts of one other doe.

***Water Projects:*** Nothing new to report.

***Forage Enhancements:*** Our forage enhancement in the Mohawk Valley remains green from the rains, and is not being irrigated. Charlie Bell forage plot is beginning to dry out, and personnel have started irrigating. Up to 9 pronghorn have been recorded at Charlie Bell on camera during the last half of September.

***Other Projects/Personnel:*** We are planning for our biennial range wide survey of Sonoran pronghorn in Sonora, Mexico, scheduled for December 7-11.

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**Wild Pronghorn Cabeza/ORPI/BMGR Herd :** The Air Force monitors are starting to observe more pronghorn and in larger groups on the Tactical Ranges; up to 29 have been seen recently. Several of our VHF collars on pronghorn have quit working in the last few months, reducing the number of individuals we can locate.

The most recent telemetry flight documented a doe to fawn ratio (100:22) below our expectations given the level of rainfall. We are likely to see this ratio change after future flights if we see more pronghorn and sample new groups. Nonetheless we are concerned with the initial low estimate of fawn recruitment for this year.

## LIFE MEMBER ART BOSWELL HONORED AZ GAME & FISH COMMISSION ANNUAL AWARDS

Life Member Art Boswell will be honored with an Award of Excellence at the annual AZ Game & Fish Commission Awards banquet on January 11th. The Commission held its first annual awards banquet in 1991. Since then, a total of 317 recipients have been recognized with Commission awards. The awards banquet gives the Commission an opportunity to recognize individual and organizational award recipients for their contributions to Arizona's wildlife resources.

Over the years Art has had many great times hunting, but his many Arizona antelope hunts struck a chord. In 1993 he received a letter from the AAF, and decided he needed to give back to this species, becoming a Charter Member. In 2005 he became Life Member #11 and has also served as Director, Secretary and Equipment Chair on the AAF Board.

He has monitored, rehabilitated and refurbished 29 different water catchments mostly in Units 37A & 38M and when possible, he took his grandsons with him. Many of these were inoperable before Art's undertaking but are now all useable. The projects were completed with Art's personal funding. He has enhanced our desert terrain by hauling out tons of trash over the years.

Art Boswell is one of those behind the scenes guys that made up his mind to get something done without having to rely on an organization or someone telling him what needs to be done.

Art's been quoted as saying, "Those younger years of mine have taught me

much, and in a few short words, leave this great State a better place than I found it!" and, "To all of you who may read this, take it from me, in later life you will look back and wish you had done more than just give a few dollars, but had given lots of muscle too!"

Art Boswell has given dollars, muscle and inspiration to help ensure Arizona's wildlife thrives in the future. While his modesty would never have him seek recognition, his deeds surely warrant the recognition from the AZ Game & Fish Commission and Department.

**Our congratulations to Art!**

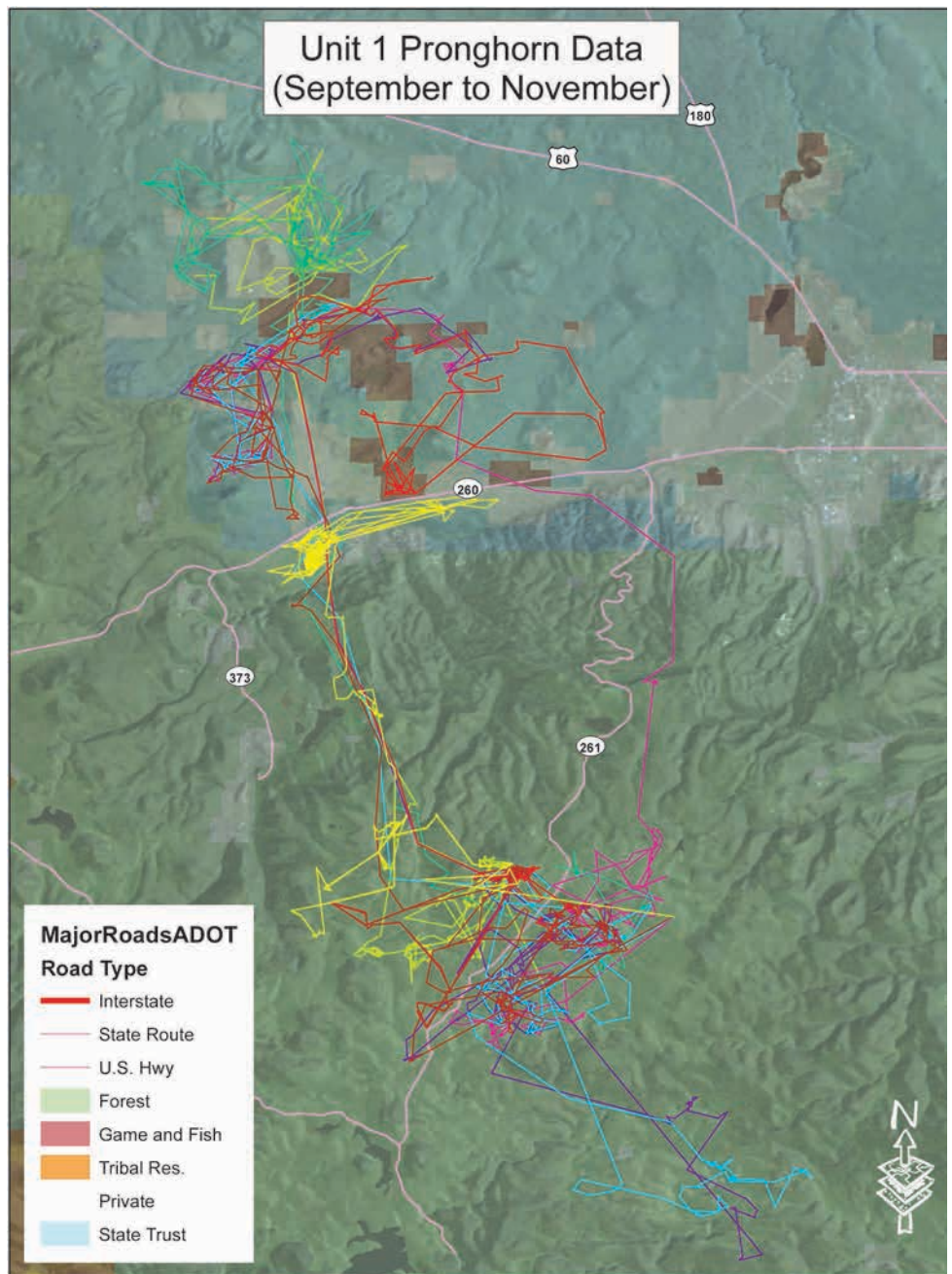


# REGION 1 PRONGHORN MIGRATION STUDY

## TYLER RICHINS, AZ GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT

The Pinetop Region of the AZ Game and Fish Department began a 2 year cooperative study with the US Forest Service to determine the key migratory routes used by the pronghorn that summer in the grasslands around Big Lake and then trek north each year to their wintering grounds. The AAF approved funding of \$30,000 through the HPC process to purchase GPS collars and helicopter time used for the capturing and collaring activity. The data produced by the collars will provide a "Connectivity" map and will help prioritize forest management activities that will help ensure improved long-term migration corridors through the forested regions lying between the herds summer and winter habitats.

Eight pronghorn were collared in mid-September and the pronghorn started moving off the high elevation grasslands on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> with the last one coming off Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. Most of the movement to the lower elevation grasslands occurred on the North East side of the Greer area. We did have one come off near Mexican Hay Lake. They are all spread out on the grasslands around Antelope Mountain. The map below shows movements documented so far. This data has already been shared with ADOT to make sure the fence renovation that they will be doing on Highway 260 will be done to wildlife standards.



## TENTATIVE 2014 PROJECT SCHEDULE

April 12th Rosetree  
June 21st Unit 7 HW 180  
August 16th Unit 7/9 HW 64  
September 20th Unit 32 Bonita  
November 16th Unit 19A, Prescott  
Visit our website for more information  
[www.azantelope.org](http://www.azantelope.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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I would like to wish  
each and everyone of  
you a Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!

*Shane Stewart  
President  
Life Member*

### YOUTH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

BY GLEN DICKENS VICE PRESIDENT, PROJECTS & GRANTS MANAGER

As previously reported in the last *Pronghorn* our National Fish and Wildlife/Youth Grant in partnership with the Southwestern Conservation Corps (SCC) put 8 youth on the Las Cienegas National Grasslands this past summer to modify fences for Pronghorn and to assist the ongoing Black-tailed Prairie Dog restoration project by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The project officially ended on August 29, 2013 and accomplished the following outcomes:

- Completed modifying a total of 26.56 miles of the highest priority 5-strand barbed wire fence. The projects original goal was to modify or remove at least 20 miles of fence, goal exceeded by 6.56 miles or 33%. The goal for acres of Pronghorn "Connectivity" was 20,000 acres, final number 45,023 acres exceeding the goal by 125%. (Please note the color coded map of fences modified on the Sonoita Plains)

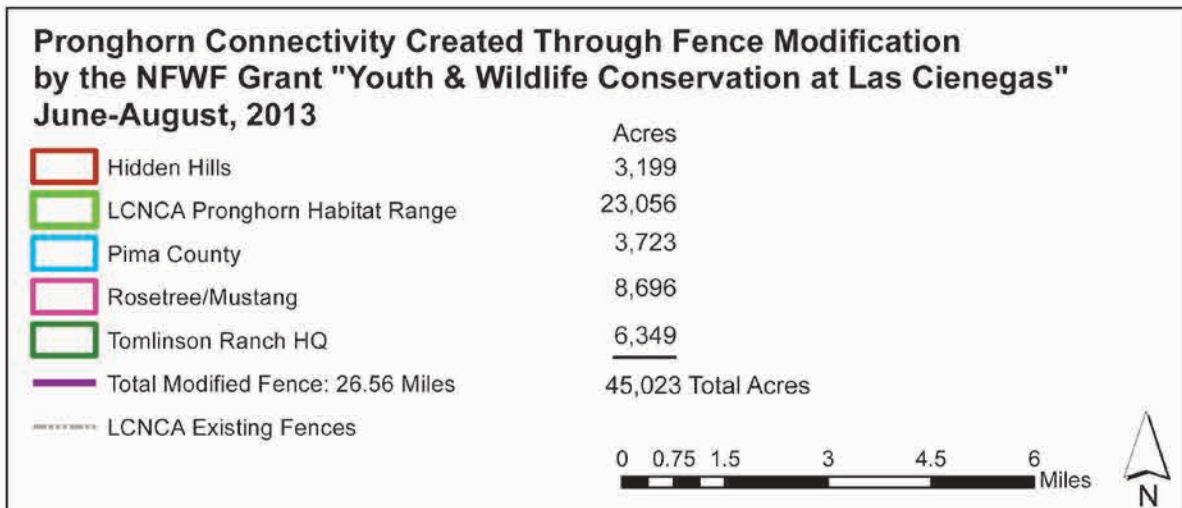
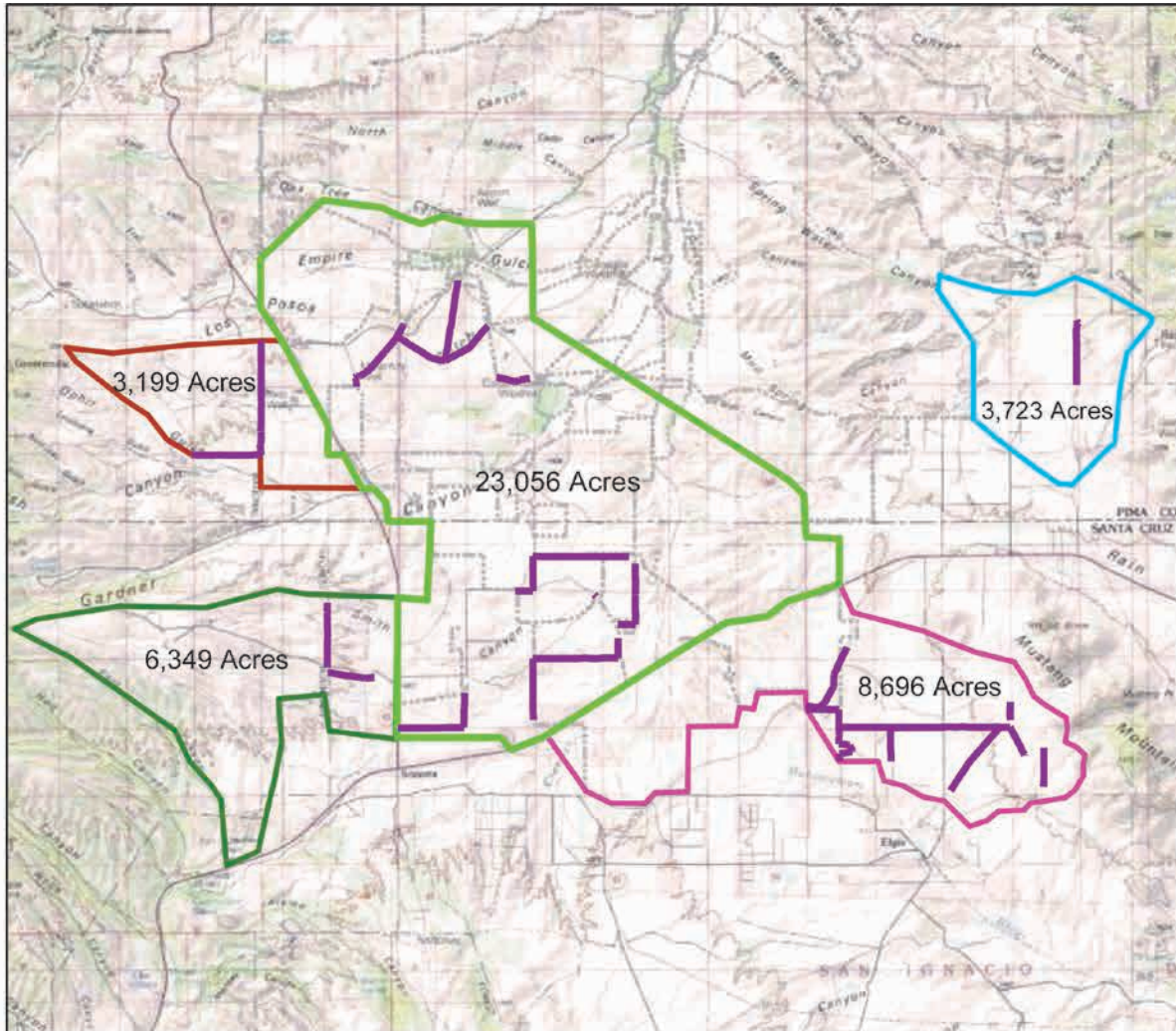
- Completed the following for the Blacktailed Prairie Dog project: captured, tagged and processed 44 prairie dogs, constructed 155 arthropod traps, installed 20 mesquite enclosures, constructed 17 grassland enclosures, surveyed 80 mesquite enclosures, measured 552 vegetation plots, GPS surveyed 500 burrows and provided 100's of hours of colony observations.
- Submitted for the GIS data base 24 pronghorn locations.

As an organization the AAF is delighted that the project went as well as it did this in large part due to the tireless efforts of our grant funded Southeastern Arizona Field Manager John Millican and the two SCC field supervisors, James Pitts and Maxwell Mazzella. The map in-

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Youth & Conservation continued from page 12)

cluded in this issue is compliments of our grant funded GIS Manager Caroline Patrick-Bidwell. What follows are letters of what the experience meant to the final four crew members and again I believe you will find their perspectives refreshing.



C. Patrick-Bidwell, Happy Desert GIS and Environmental Consulting  
9/25/2013

Basemap Copyright: © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

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# YOUTH CONSERVATION PARTICIPANT LETTERS



**Allison Rosengren-Crew Member**

The most significant aspect from my time working with the southwest conservation corps (SCC) would definitely have to be my crew. 20 years from now when I'm looking back on this project, I will remember all of the laughs we have shared as well as the struggles that brought each of us closer. One of the most beautiful things about programs like SCC is the random combination of a bunch of strangers growing into a functioning

team, a family. It is through these 7 individuals that I have learned so much about the desert, wildlife, how to push myself harder, and to make important life decisions.

When I originally signed up for SCC, I was living in Michigan. I decided to apply because I was sick of my office job and I needed some motivation for change. I thought the 12 weeks spent in Arizona would buy me some time to make a new plan. Being on a team of mostly college students/grads really pushed me towards the choice to further my education. This is a HUGE way that SCC will affect my life. I am very grateful for this new motivation that I will be taking with me.

I also learned a lot about what I do not want for my future from working this project. I can go a week with no shower, electricity, living outdoors but going a few days without music is tough! SCC made me realize just much I love music.

There's no way to sum up everything I have learned over the past 11 weeks. I have made 7 new best friends and even though our time together was short, I know that it will greatly impact the rest of my life.



**Rachel More-Hla-Crew Member**

My summer with Southwest Conservation Corps has been fantastic. I've met new people and learned new skills. Our group chose the name Barbara 5-Strand, not to be confused with the singer. Most of the crew worked on a five strand barbed wire fence line the whole summer, but I also helped with the prairie dog research.

Working on the research project helped me strengthen skills I learned in school, while also learning new field

techniques. This was one of my goals for this summer, so that I could be more confident in myself. I am very thankful this project is ecosystem based. The focus of the project wasn't just on prairie dogs, it was also on the environment they are living in and the other species living with them. I plan to keep on the project as a volunteer after the summer session ends.

One of the most enjoyable parts of the summer has been the scenery. I love working outdoors. My team and I wake up early each morning and get to see the sun rise. The clouds left from the night monsoons make the sunrises breathtaking. I took countless pictures of the ever changing horizon.

The crew I worked with and the experiences we shared will never be forgotten. Our team is strong because of the friendships and respect we have developed for each other. We all come from different backgrounds which made it fun and interesting to get to know one another. I hope to keep in contact with the new friends I have made.

Working with this great group of people and being a

*(Continued on page 15)*

*(Youth & Conservation continued from page 14)*

part of two very important projects has made this more than a summer job. It's an experience that empowers young adults with skills in life and work. I hope that this experience will help open doors for me to get into a career in wildlife conservation, so that I can continue to make a difference for the wildlife of the southwest.



**James Pitts-Crew Supervisor**

It certainly is a challenge. Leading and supervising a field conservation crew that is. But I choose to live by

challenge and that is why I took the position. Everyday offers a different stream of events, experience, and new knowledge. Some days I am overwhelmed with layer upon layer of complexity, but most of the time I am humbled by the utter simplicity. On occasion when I look off into the distance a strong presence manifests, as if it was over one hundred years ago without any of the modern conveniences of today. I find myself wondering what the challenges of that time period were and what it must have been like to persevere through the ages.

Nature never ceases to awe and amaze me, and this summer has been no exception. Spending the days on the fence line, among the pronghorn antelope and other wildlife, watching my fellow crew members grow and share in their own individual experience, as well as my own, has truly been an extraordinary gift and privilege. I have always felt a strong connection with nature and mother Earth and these experiences have served to strengthen that bond with genuine first-hand experience shared with real people. I am extremely grateful to everyone working on this particular project as well as those working in similar fields, and everyone who spends their time striving to make a difference. It is definitely an uphill battle yet I know that every action we take large or small all work towards the greater good and are always reflected in the world that surrounds us.



**Rafael Delara-Crew Member**

I started SCC 3 months ago, I've grown into a young man that is one with himself grounded by the outdoors. This job has made me overcome fear within my own self the pressure of giving up ran through my thoughts the first couple of weeks, as time went on I started to feel as though it was faith that brought me here. I also started feeling good about the work I'm doing for the

Antelope Foundation , the family we built as a crew also made me feel good about joining SCC.

Knowing that water and everyday things were not always available or nearby was hard to adjust there is something inside of me that was built for this kind of work and harder work. It made me appreciate all the simple things in my life that I do have.

This process has made me truly love myself and has turned out to be a life changing experience. The peace I have when sitting across cross apple sauce like in middle school in a field of waste high grass waving back and forth; the cool air blowing in my face; awesome lighting storms; and the best thing - the postcard mountain view in the background.

Overall I've grown into enjoying my experience with this job. It's changed me into a man I've dreamed of becoming and still growing and learning every day. I'm looking forward to start the fall session of SCC doing chainsaw work so wish me luck thank you leaders for making it a wonderful session.



## SHORT SHOTS

### NEW WIRE ROLLER/QUAD/TRAILER

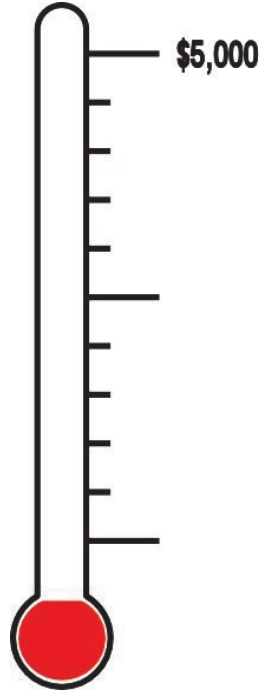
The AAF has begun a targeted fundraising campaign to raise funds for purchase of a new wire roller, a used quad to mount it to, and trailer to haul. If you've attended a fencing project recently, you have seen for yourself how valuable this equipment is to our work. The photo to the right shows similar equipment in action

Donations from our members along with 50/50 cash raffles at our habitat projects will be the primary funding source for purchasing this equipment.

Please send your donations to:  
AZ Antelope Foundation  
Att: Wire Roller Fund  
PO Box 12590  
Glendale, AZ 85318

You may also click on the DONATE button on our website at [www.azantelope.org](http://www.azantelope.org)

Fundraising Goal



### ADOPT-A-RANCH-PROJECT

The North Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation is conducting a project on the Horseshoe Ranch January 11-12th. While not sponsored by the AAF, our organization has a history of being an Adopt-A-Ranch partner with the ranch, and it is located in prime antelope habitat, so we are happy to help recruit volunteers.

The project will involve work on water sources. Camping will be at the ranch headquarters on Friday and Saturday nights. Work will begin at 8:00 am on both days and should be completed by Sunday afternoon.

For more information and to RSVP, send an email to [Carter@MDF.NVChapter.org](mailto:Carter@MDF.NVChapter.org) or [KJ@MDENVChapter.org](mailto:KJ@MDENVChapter.org).

### PRONGHORN TRANSPLANT

The AAF will be assisting with the capture and transplant of 70 antelope. This activity is a part of the Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative

Corral and alleyway construction begins January 27th in the Chino Valley area. The capture operations will begin on January 28<sup>th</sup> and continue until the desired number of pronghorn have been captured. Release into various areas in Southeastern Arizona will follow. Back up dates are February 10-14<sup>th</sup>. Those wishing to assist with the capture portion, must participate in the construction phase.

**It is important that if you plan to attend any portion of these operations you email Virginia Gouldsbury or Erin Butler.**  
[vgouldsbury@azgfd.gov](mailto:vgouldsbury@azgfd.gov) or [ebutler@azgfd.gov](mailto:ebutler@azgfd.gov)

### ARIZONA BIG GAME SUPER RAFFLE

Sales have begun for the 2014 campaign. This is your chance to win one of the 10 coveted Commissioner's tags for:

- Antelope
- Bear
- Buffalo
- Coues Deer
- Desert Bighorn Sheep
- Elk
- Javelina
- Mountain Lion
- Mule Deer
- Turkey (Goulds or Merriams)

Winners can hunt for 365 days almost anywhere in the state. Funds raised from the sales of the tags go back into important conservation work. Additional prizes offered are a Swarovski optics package valued at \$13,750, and a New Mexico Trophy Elk hunt. Sales will continue through June 2014, and the drawing will take place on July 9th. Visit their website for more information.

[WWW.ARIZONABIGGAMESUPERRAFFLE.COM](http://WWW.ARIZONABIGGAMESUPERRAFFLE.COM)



# MEMBERSHIP

## LIFE MEMBERS

- |                                  |                                    |                                   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Art Pearce, Phoenix           | 18. Terry Schupp, Tempe            | 35. Tim Blank, Mesa               |
| 2. Jim Mehen, Flagstaff          | 19. Dale Hislop, Calgary Canada    | 36. Jodi Stewart, Gilbert         |
| 3. Larry D. Adams, Bullhead City | 20. Mick Rusing, Tucson            | 37. Keith Joyner, Scottsdale      |
| 4. James K. McCasland,           | 21. George Welsh, Kingman          | 38. David Hussey, Cave Creek      |
| 5. Nina Gammons, Payette, ID     | 22. Matthew Massey, Gilbert        | 39. Susan Pearce, Tucson          |
| 6. Nancy Lewis, Phoenix          | 23. Don Parks, Peoria              | 40. Glen Dickens, Tucson          |
| 7. Pete Cimellaro, Phoenix       | 24. Bill & Kerrie Jacoby, Chandler | 41. Will Garrison, Peoria         |
| 8. Jerry Weiers, Phoenix         | 25. Adam Geottl, Cottonwood        | 42. Tom Waddell, New Mexico       |
| 9. Harry Carlson, Phoenix        | 26. Shane Stewart, Gilbert         | 43. Josiah Austin, Pearce         |
| 10. David Brown, Phoenix         | 27. Don Davidson, Mesa             | 44. Connie Taylor, Mesa           |
| 11. Art Boswell, Tucson          | 28. Terry Petko, Mesa              | 45. Mark Boswell, Mesa            |
| 12. Charlie Kelly, Scottsdale    | 29. Gary M. Johnson, Phoenix       | 46. Jessica R. Pearce, Scottsdale |
| 13. Chrissy Weiers, Phoenix      | 30. Richard Guenzel, Laramie WY    | 47. Douglas Hartzler, Phoenix     |
| 14. Al Sue, Scottsdale           | 31. Randy Cherington, Scottsdale   | 48. Karen LaFrance, Phoenix       |
| 15. Mary Keebler, Happy Jack     | 32. Joe Del Re, Chandler           | 49. Kurt Schulz, Waddell          |
| 16. Bill Keebler, Happy Jack     | 33. Bob Walker, Phoenix            | 50. Walt Scrimgeour               |
| 17. James Stewart, Phoenix       | 34. Cookie Nicoson, Williams       |                                   |

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Robert Bushong, Yuma	Michael Domanico, Scottsdale	Richard Ockenfels, Mayer
Bill Cole, Glendale	Randy Gaskill, Show Low	Derek Oyen, Anthem
William Cordasco, Flagstaff	Roger & Ilene Hailey, Flagstaff	Jim & Tracy Unmacht, Phoenix
Paul & Joann Delaney, Flagstaff	Jay Morrison, Peoria	David L. Wolf, Flagstaff
Linda Dightmon, Peoria	Susan Morse, Jericho VT	

## FAMILY MEMBERS

Jim & Rita Ammons, Yuma	David Justice, Prescott	James & Joyce Sivley, Scottsdale
Neal & Abby Brown, Glendale	Danny Keiller, San Diego	William & Jan Skibbe, Tucson
Richard & Julia Chabak, Glendale	Dave & Sue Laird, Peoria	Barry Sopher, Tucson
Ken & Kathy Cook, Casa Grande	Thomas McDaniel, Phoenix	Michael Tindle, Mesa
Brian & Dorothy Dolan, Tucson	Kim Neill & Family, Mesa	Chad Villamor, Topock
Ron & Sharon Eichelberger, Alpine	Amy & Stephen Ostwinkle, Gilbert	Sean Wilson, Tempe
Chad & Audrea Elliott, Ehrenberg	Matthew Phillips, Yuma	Jim Wood, Glendale
Kyle, Shawn, & Alan Gallagher	Daniel Robinett, Catalina	Kevin & Tiffany York, Mesa
Brian George, Scottsdale	David & Debra Scott, Glendale	

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST LIFE MEMBER  
#50 WALT SCRIMGEOUR, PRESCOTT**

# Arizona Antelope Foundation

## 11th Annual Fundraising Banquet

**Saturday, February 22, 2014**

**Phoenix Airport Sheraton**

**1600 S 52nd St**

**Tempe, AZ 85281**

**Waterhole 4:30**

**Dinner 6:00**

**Free Beer ☆ Discounted Rooms \$119**



**Tickets \$75 Adult/\$25 Youth**

**\$850 for group table of 10  
(includes \$200 in bucket raffle  
tickets)**

**Live & Silent Auctions  
Raffles & Blitzes**

**Auction of Commissioners  
Special Antelope Tag**

**POOR MAN'S  
RIFLE RAFFLE  
Tekka 22-250  
with Vortex Scope  
Tickets \$1 Each!**  
*Rifle winner to be drawn at our June Clinic*

The annual fundraising banquet is the Foundation's primary source of funds. It has been said that an act of conservation can never be made too early for we never know when it is too late. It is with this principle and sense of urgency that Arizona Antelope Foundation is currently moving forward. But we can not do it alone. Please support our fundraising efforts with your attendance and donations!

*Tickets must be purchased in advance . Please complete the back of this form and mail to:  
AZ Antelope Foundation ♦ PO Box 12590 ♦ Glendale, AZ 85318*

For more information see our website, [www.azantelope.org](http://www.azantelope.org), or call 602-361-6478

# AAF Annual Banquet February 22, 2014

If you attended one of our previous banquets, you and your friends made those events the most successful fundraising events ever held to benefit Arizona Antelope! Funds raised enable the Foundation to invest in many projects and activities to benefit antelope.

This year we are offering an **early-bird banquet bucket raffle ticket** purchase incentive. **Purchase by January 31st** and you will receive \$100 in raffle tickets for the low price of \$70 (bucket raffle tickets will also be available the night of the banquet at the regular price of \$20 per sleeve of 5 tickets). We are also selling tickets for our **\$1 Poor Man's Rifle Raffle** which will be **drawn at our annual Hunter Information Clinic in June**. Banquet tickets can also be purchased online from our website [www.azantelope.org](http://www.azantelope.org)

We are also in need of **donations** of all types: art, jewelry, hunting, fishing and camping gear, new or gently used silent auction items, trips, gift cards. Please contact us at 602-361-6478 or [info@azantelope.org](mailto:info@azantelope.org) and we will make arrangements to get them!

## Order Form

Individual Dinner Tickets..... Number \_\_\_\_\_ x \$75 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Dinner Tickets (10 & under) ..... Number \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Table for 10 ..... Number \_\_\_\_\_ x \$850 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Includes \$200 worth of bucket raffle tickets)

Name on Reserved Table \_\_\_\_\_

\$100 Early Bird Bucket Raffle Ticket Package..... Number \_\_\_\_\_ x \$70 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(MUST BE PURCHASED BY January 31st)*

Rifle Raffle Tickets ..... Number \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Donation \* ..... = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* The AAF is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS

**TOTAL PURCHASE = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Method of Payment

Check payable to AAF     Visa     Mastercard     Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 3-dig security code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to AZ Antelope Foundation ♦ PO Box 12590 ♦ Glendale, AZ 85318-2590



ARIZONA ANTELOPE FOUNDATION

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GLENDALE, AZ 85318

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NOT A MEMBER? JOIN TODAY!

Join (or renew) now and help the Arizona Antelope Foundation in its efforts to fund and provide the manpower necessary to finance pronghorn research, enhance and improve pronghorn habitat, encourage and assist in pronghorn transplants to historic habitat, and replenish existing herds.

Contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible, as the Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Complete the form below and send with your payment to our mailing address. You can also join/renew online with your credit card. It's easy to do. Just visit the Membership page on our website, www.azantelope.org

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
Email

- Regular Membership \$ 40.00 Per Yr.
Family Membership \$ 60.00 Per Yr.
Sustaining Membership \$ 100.00 Per Yr.
Life Membership
Age 59 and YOUNGER \$1000.00
Age 60-66 \$ 750.00
Age 67 and OLDER \$ 500.00

Method of Payment: Cash Check
VISA Master Card Discover
Amount Enclosed \$
Credit Card #
Expiration 3-digit Security Code
Signature

New Member Renewal