



PRONGHORN

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ARIZONA ANTELOPE FOUNDATION, INC.

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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

This is an AZ Game & Fish file photo from a capture and collar project conducted in 2007. The AZ Game & Fish Department was capturing pronghorn antelope and fitting them with radio telemetry collars as part of an ongoing pronghorn movement research study being conducted by Department biologists.

The AAF supports these activities financially through the special tag fund program, and by providing volunteers to assist on the captures.

This issue of the Pronghorn contains a story about a recent capture some of our members helped with (see page 4). Look for another capture story coming up in a future issue as well.

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: Pronghorn Editor, PO Box 12590, Glendale, AZ 85318, or by email at info@azantelope.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

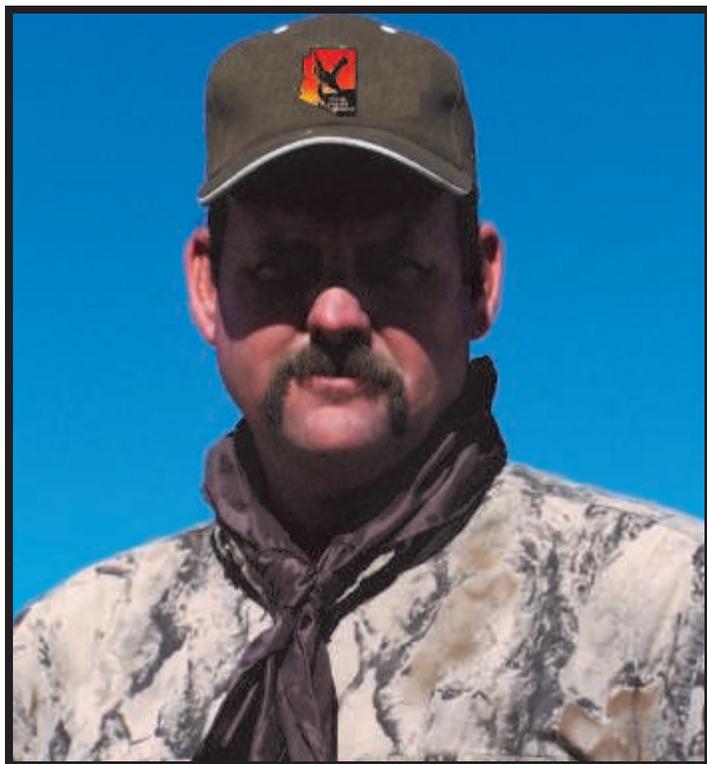
Happy Holidays!

Hopefully this letter finds you in good health and surrounded by good family and great friends. 2010 has been very productive and challenging for the AAF, and due in large part to our active board of volunteers and involved membership, we have accomplished many good things for Arizona Antelope and their habitat.

One of AAF's biggest accomplishments this year has been in working hand in hand with the AZ Game & Fish Department to help secure the Horseshoe Ranch North of Phoenix. This acquisition is coming closer to completion, and will secure nearly 70,000 acres for future generations to enjoy and establish long term habitat and education possibilities that will continue into perpetuity. AAF is extremely excited about the opportunities this acquisition will open for present and future generations.

Our habitat enhancement and scientific projects were successful again this year in bettering antelope habitat and we are looking forward to the work we have planned in 2011. These projects would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the volunteers who selflessly give their time to help complete them. We were successful in modifying miles and miles of fencing, conducting range land restoration by eliminating invasive plant species, conducting scientific movement studies, relocation efforts and working hand in hand with ranchers and federal agencies to develop sound programs that benefit all species both plant and animals that occupy our great ranges.

We held our 1st Annual Arizona Conservation Awards on October 30th. We honored volunteers from



AAF as well as various other wildlife groups. The event was a great success and an excellent opportunity to honor those who give so much back to Arizona's wildlife. Thanks again to you all!

With the elections now over, I would encourage you to stay informed on issues that effect wildlife and habitat. Engage your politicians, and let them know what matters to you. Increasingly wildlife management is coming under attack from enviro-litigants who are set on changing the way we manage wildlife. These moves are largely based on emotions and rarely come with any

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Mark your calendar

2011 AAF Projects

March 12 - Bonita Grasslands Area SE Arizona

October 8 - SE Arizona

Spring 2011 - Unit 21 TBA

Other Events

January 22-23 Game & Fish Fence Project Foster Ranch

March 26-27 Game & Fish Expo

May 21st Fundraising Banquet with AZ Deer Association

Board Meeting Schedule

January 10

February 14

March 14

All meetings are at 6:30pm at El Zaribah Shrine in Phoenix

WCC Meeting Schedule

January 25

February 22

March 22

Pronghorn Capture

By Al Sue, 2011 AAF Director

The Arizona Antelope Foundation was contacted by the Arizona Game and Fish Department asking for participation in a planned antelope capture in portions of Units 17A, 18A & 18B on September 27 – 29, 2010. AAF volunteers Jim McCasland, Jay Morrison, Paul Sandstrom and Al Sue joined a number of Game and Fish Managers in this project.

This capture was unique as twelve antelope from as many diverse herds as possible were captured using a helicopter outfitted with a Department net-gun crew to immobilize the animals and fit them with a new state of the art GPS collar - \$4500 per collar. Each of the AAF volunteers were paired with a Game and Fish Manager, scouted for different herds, radioed the herd location to a fixed wing aircraft that verified the herd location to base camp which then dispatched the helicopter capture team.

While the project was scheduled for three days, all twelve antelope were captured on Tuesday, September 28. Nine animals were captured during the morning hours and the remaining three captured in the evening. The capture was terminated during the heat of the afternoon to reduce the chance of the animals suffering heat related issues. The helicopter capture team would only give chase to a herd as it is almost impossible to net a single antelope due to their erratic movements. Once the animal was netted, the team had only five minutes to complete the collar installation.

The data captured by the GPS will be used to monitor migration routes, mortality and, more importantly, identify possible migration route obstacles for removal or modification.

It was my pleasure working with all the Game and Fish folks and being able to ride with two young, energetic and relatively new Wildlife Managers – Ben Shelby out of Seligman and Tim Shurtliff out of Bagdad. We saw plenty of antelope and one day Tim and I



Photos by Jay Morrison

saw a bachelor herd of eleven Mule Deer bucks with two BIG 4 X 4's. It was obvious to me these men have the respect of the local ranchers in pursuing their Wildlife Manager responsibilities. This is what conservation is all about.

Horseshoe Ranch

By Jim Unmacht, Past President

Perhaps you've heard or read that the Arizona Game & Fish Department is in the process of (finally) finalizing the purchase of the Horseshoe Ranch, a significant acquisition and landmark opportunity for wildlife in general and pronghorn in particular.

Why is this important to the AAF you ask? The AAF has worked tirelessly in and around the Horseshoe Ranch and on their grazing leases (comprising a large part of the Agua Fria National Monument) for many years! Our first project on the ranch was in 1998. This came to fruition after AAF Past Presidents Nancy Lewis and David Brown were successful in working with then ranch owner Dick Wilcox, which resulted in the AAF becoming an Adopt a Ranch partner with the Wilcox family. (See our Winter 2004 edition of the Pronghorn on our website for the full story). The relationship resulted in annual work projects for the next several years

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A STEP BACK IN TIME....

Arizona Antelope: A Navajo Antelope Roundup

By Will C. Barnes

From the November 1934 issue of *Hoofs and Horns*

Foreword by David Brown



This article, written by Will Croft Barnes and published in the November 1934 issue Hoofs and Horns magazine is highly unusual in that it is an eyewitness account of how Native Americans hunted pronghorn

antelope. Most such accounts, written by ethnologists and anthropologists, while more politically correct, are based on the testimony of informants and typically contain exaggerations and/or misinterpretations such as adhering to certain spiritual rituals, capturing the animals alive, etc. This account, while probably not without some embellishment, records a real event.

Will Croft Barnes (1858-1936) was a true Arizona hero being the first Arizonan to receive a Congressional Medal of Honor—a result of him being the only

*telegraph operator not killed when sent out from Camp Apache to get help from Fort Thomas when the Camp was surrounded by hostiles in 1881. On leaving the U. S. Army he took up cattle ranching at Obed Meadows north of Holbrook just in time to see the country swamped by Aztec Land and Cattle Company livestock wearing the "Hashknife" brand. Following his ranching attempt, Barnes joined the U. S. Forest Service where he worked as the Chief Grazing Inspector under Gifford Pinchot. After successfully easing the Forest Service's grazing policies into the West's ranching community, he left the Service in 1928 at the mandatory retirement age of 70 to take up a career as an historian, writer, and chronicler of Arizona lore, publishing articles in such magazines as Arizona Highways, Historical Review Arizona, Hooves and Horns, not to mention several best selling books such as **Apaches and Longhorns** and **Arizona Place Names** (University of Arizona Press).*

Natural history topics were one of Barnes' favorite themes and this recollection in Hoofs and Horns is an

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AAF Conservation Awards Banquet

October 30, 2010

The first ever Conservation Awards Banquet was held on October 30, 2010. This intimate affair provided a means to recognize some very deserving individuals and groups for their efforts behind the scenes to help conserve Arizona's wildlife. The AAF presented its annual conservation awards for 2009 and 2010, as well as new award categories for President's Lifetime Achievement, Donor of the Year, and Vendor of the year. The Phoenix Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation presented awards for Clair Harris "Blue Collar" Award and Youth Conservationist. The Arizona Wildlife Federation Annual Trophy Book awards were also presented at the event.



**Jen Anderson's Girl Scout Troop #9
AAF 2009 Volunteer of the Year**



**Art Boswell
AAF President's Lifetime Achievement**



**Jill Bright, AZ Game & Fish
AAF 2009 Professional of the Year**



**Henry Provencio, US Forest Service
AAF 2010 Professional of the Year**



**Mark, Kyler, Zachary and Samuel Boswell
AAF 2010 Volunteer of the Year**



**Heritage Metalworks, Inc.
AAF Vendor of the Year**

**Art Pearce
AAF Donor of the Year (See Art's photo on page 17)**

AZ Wildlife Federation Trophy Book Awards



**Mike Wiemann
RMEF Youth Conservationist**



**Freddie Wieman
RMEF Clair Harris
"Blue Collar" Award**

Project October 2010

By Glen Dickens, AAF Director

Another successful AAF project was completed by 34 volunteers in southeastern Arizona on October 9th 2010. The project weekend took place on the Rose Tree and Babocomari Ranches located near a previously funded AAF and AZ Deer Association brush treatment project and was in direct proximity to a pending HPC funded multi-specie water project.

The project had two elements. The first consisted of modifying 3.5 miles of existing fence to 4 strands by removing the bottom, barbed-wire strands and replacing with smooth-wire. The second element of the project included hand clearing 2 acres of mesquite on the southern approach of Oil Rig tank on the BLM Las Cienegas Grasslands.

Project benefits included completing travel corridors between the ranches that will help ensure that 2 separate groups (18 & 36) of pronghorn now using the western section of the Rose Tree Ranch and the Babocomari Ranch further south of that vicinity can have free access to one another. It also helped in completing the critical south portion of the overall pronghorn Santa Cruz Plains pronghorn corridor improvement project as well as to improve pronghorn use and accessibility to a permanent dirt tank.

Camp for the project was located at the historic Rose Tree corrals and stone bunkhouse near Elgin and the weather was fall perfect with no wind or rain. A delicious green chili pork carni-

(Continued on page 9)



Photos show before (above) and after (below) mesquite removal.



(Project Report continued from page 8)

tas dinner with the sides was provided by Caterer Frank Hernandez of Tucson.

Thanks go out to several groups of folks that contributed to this successful project...

- The Boswell family: Art and Mark
- Representing the AAF Board: Art of course, Jay Morrison, Connie Taylor and yours truly.
- Other AAF members and volunteers: Brian Taylor, Al Sue, Al Kreutz, Betty Dickens, Will Hayes, John Millican, Janet & Andrew Oldak, Lloyd & Patrick Wun-

drock, Ken Pitzlen, William Pinkerton, Mark Tervo, Clay Hernandez & Sons, Astrid Huseby, Katie Hulpke, Perphelia Wilborn, Dave Cruce, Sheridan Stone, Laura Olais from the BLM, Larry Audsley, Ray Emmerich, Warren Adams, Richard Marsh, Netzin Steklis, Jen Anderson and Girl Scout Troop #9, Barry & Andy Sopher.

-Game & Fish personnel: Troy Christensen & Karen Kilma

Thanks everyone for your efforts!

Photos by Connie Taylor, Will Hayes and Betty Dickens



GARRY SPENCER'S 5B ANTELOPE



I want to thank you for the 18th annual hunters clinic I went to. I received very helpful information there and would recommend it to any hunter. I am very pleased with my first Arizona antelope in 5B. I hope to get an Arizona draw again someday. Thanks for your help.

(President's Message continued from page 3)

fact based knowledge or scientific background. We will work to stay actively engaged and informed on issues that effect our ability to sustain our wildlife and habitat.

We recently held our annual meeting and elected our slate of officers for the 2011 year. I was extremely honored to have been nominated and then elected to serve a second term as President. I am also very grateful for the other officers and board members who were gracious enough to "throw in their hats" and volunteer to serve. They are the heart and soul of this organization and I am constantly in awe of the breadth of knowledge our board has! I look forward to spending another year learning from them!

I would encourage you to renew or upgrade your membership. Arizona's Pronghorn are in jeopardy now more than ever. The Arizona Antelope Foundation is working diligently to preserve this noble species. We cannot further this mission without the financial support of our membership. This is why we need you to do your

part, and renew your membership in the AAF. Why not consider upgrading to a Family or Sustaining Membership. You can also make a long term commitment and become a Life member. This commitment will eliminate future renewal responsibilities and will add much needed funding to our Permanent Endowment. We will continue to do our part, but we need your help!

As the AAF moves into its 19th year I am excited at the possibilities we have before us to make a difference in the betterment of one of the states greatest resources. We will continue to remain steadfast and diligent in our efforts to ensure Arizona's pronghorn herds have a voice.

May your Holidays be pleasant and bountiful, and may you hear the call of conservation.

"LIBERTAS AD VAGOR"... FREEDOM TO ROAM"

Shane Stewart
602-616-0383
shane@ssiaz.com

2011 Board

Congratulations to the following who were elected at our annual meeting on November 8th:

OFFICERS

President – Shane Stewart
Vice President – Todd Hulm
Secretary – Art Boswell
Treasurer – Mary Keebler

DIRECTORS Term Ending 12/31/11:

Jim McCasland, Richard Ockenfels, Connie Taylor

DIRECTORS Term Ending 12/31/12:

Glen Dickens, Jay Morrison, Al Sue

Thanks for stepping up to serve

My Antelope Hunt

By Robert Hutchison

After securing written and verbal permission from local businesses and ranchers in my hunt unit to gain access to two certain areas I started with casual scouting over a three month period. My lady said I was out there too much and reminded me of that on occasion. I don't recall being out more than 90-95 times.

I had the distinct pleasure and advice of a well-know sheep hunter, guide and personal friend named John Houzenga, who also happens to be my neighbor. I expressed to John that I really had to do some reasoning with myself to harvest this special antelope. I always give thanks to our creator when harvesting animals but this hunt was somehow different! My lady accidently took four days off work to help me with this hunt. She is more of a sports lady than a hundred hunters and has taught me a lot about ethics. Number one, if you don't eat it, don't you dare harm it!

Opening day was absolutely wonderful. From our vantage point we could see a lot. I passed up two different bucks at approximately 1200 yards. Then some hunters on quads and side by sides were zipping all over. Then three little green men tried to sneak up on the herd and we were rooting for the antelope. Thanks to John's 10x50 binoculars it was quite a show.

On day two my buck was following three more hunters on foot 100 yards behind them sniffing the footprints. My lady stayed back while I chalked up 600 yards. The buck then re-appeared at 600 yards away but he was coming toward me. He turned broadside at 425 yards. The first shot went under his chest. The second shot was perfect.

By the time I had the buck field dressed my lady showed up with all the stuff to retrieve the buck. The most important item she brought was a long handle round point shovel (#7 I think) and lots of water bottles. We clung the buck's legs to the shovel handle and carried him out 50 yards at a time. Three fourths of a mile through rocks and cacti is further than you might think. I was able to drive the 4x4 another 1/4 mile. Woody scored this buck at 76 6/8 and is doing the taxidermy work only because I am John's friend.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your participation in all aspects of this program. I will do my best to do the same for you. A special thanks to my lady who claims I left her in the hot sun that day. That's not true, I brought her home with me.

Robert Hutchison, Overgaard, AZ

excellent example of his marrying wildlife and history. Hoofs and Horns was a western range publication that catered to ranching constituents including the dude ranch industry that was so much a part of Arizona in the 1930s, the magazine being in print from July 1931 through to the war years of the 1940s. Published in Tucson, this monthly magazine sold for 10 or 15 cents depending on the economy and was written for and read by cattlemen, guest ranch operators and rodeo followers. Featured articles included editorials and columns covering such topics as western history, livestock shows, cattle prices, range plants, book reviews, reminiscences and obituaries. Contributors included authors such as J. J. Thornber, Will Barnes, Oren Arnold, and K. C. Kartchner, who later went on to become the State Game Warden. In January 1936, in the depths of the Depression, the magazine contracted with the Arizona Game Protective Association to publish four pages of its Arizona Wild Life as a regular feature, the AGPA paying for four pages and distributing copies to its local members on the payment of 50 cents per member for annual dues. This arrangement continued on through March 1937 when even this small amount of money became too hard to come by and the AGPA was temporarily forced to forego a publication.

David E. Brown

About twenty-five miles southwest of Holbrook, is a fine open valley six or eight miles wide and about twelve or fifteen miles long. It is dotted here and there with small clumps of cedar and pinyon trees. Almost in the middle is a great depression where, in seasons with heavy snows in the mountains to the south, the runoff in the spring through several "dry washes" formerly created a huge lake known as the "Big Dry Lake."

When full, this lake was about three miles long and probably a mile wide and four feet deep in the middle. At such time, it was a great watering place for range cattle and horses. In the days of the big range herds, we frequently found as many as six thousand range cattle together with a couple of thousand head of wild range horses, "broomtails," watering at the lake.

The writer saw this lake for the first time in the summer of 1885. It was surely a grand sight. Overhead were great flocks of sea gulls and other water fowl while the water was fairly alive with wild ducks and geese. Once too we saw a bunch of swans. It was certainly hard to believe some Mormons we met there, who told us in all seriousness that the lake would probably be

a dry dust bed by October. This, however, proved to be a fact although in some seasons when the summer rains were very heavy it filled up again and held water through the winter, and sometimes for two or three years.

Scouting round the region that summer of 1885 we found a bunch of Navajo Indians camped on a "tank" in the heavy cedars about seven or eight miles east of the lake. It was quite a camp, men women, children, dogs, and a large number of ponies. They were far off their reservation on the northern side of the Little Colorado, and we were naturally curious to know what they were doing there. We camped that night at a little water hole a couple of miles from the Indians.

Early the next morning we rode over to the Navajo camp to have a "look see" and found the whole outfit hard at work chopping down cedars and pinyons and piling brush for a huge corral.

They told us they were preparing to trap or corral antelope. We hung round to watch the operation.

The squaws did most of the manual labor connected with the enterprise of building a round corral about a hundred feet across. This they did by filling in the openings between the larger trees with branches and whole trees, lacing the limbs together until they had a brush fence probably ten or fifteen feet high and more than that wide at the bottom. They left a wide gap at one side opening towards the prairie to the west. From this opening they built two long "wings" or fences of brush much as the main corral was built. These wings ran out about a half mile on each side at right angles with the corral. They were not of course as strong or high as the corral, but were still enough to turn any animals or cattle that came up against them seeking escape from danger.

We hung round for two or three days waiting for the Indians to inaugurate the drive. One morning we all started out at the first gray light in the east; men, women, children, dogs and ponies. Most of the men and some of the squaws were mounted.

It was understood that there was to be no shooting of guns by anybody. Nearly all, however, carried some instrument for producing noise. Some had sheep or cow bells, while tin cans in which were a dozen or so small pebbles were plentiful. A few carried five gallon coal oil cans on which they beat a regular devil's tattoo as they went along. The whole idea, of course, was to scare any antelope or other animals that came within the long line toward the encircling arms of the long brush wings of the corral. The mob in small bunches went up the valley some five or six miles. No particular efforts was made to keep out of sight or not make any noise and talking and laughing between the groups was not frowned upon. Here and there on the valley floor we

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saw small bands of game, mostly antelope although there were some deer, one or two coyotes, and a half dozen bobcats rounded up in the final dash.

These were not disturbed and apparently they saw nothing to fear in the presence of so many humans, although the antelope eyed the crowd rather curiously and generally, after "bunching up," would race away at full tilt for half a mile, their white rumps flashing in the bright sunlight like flags of truce.

Finding themselves unharmed, they would stop finally and without further ceremony go to feeding.

Finally the head men of the party stopped their

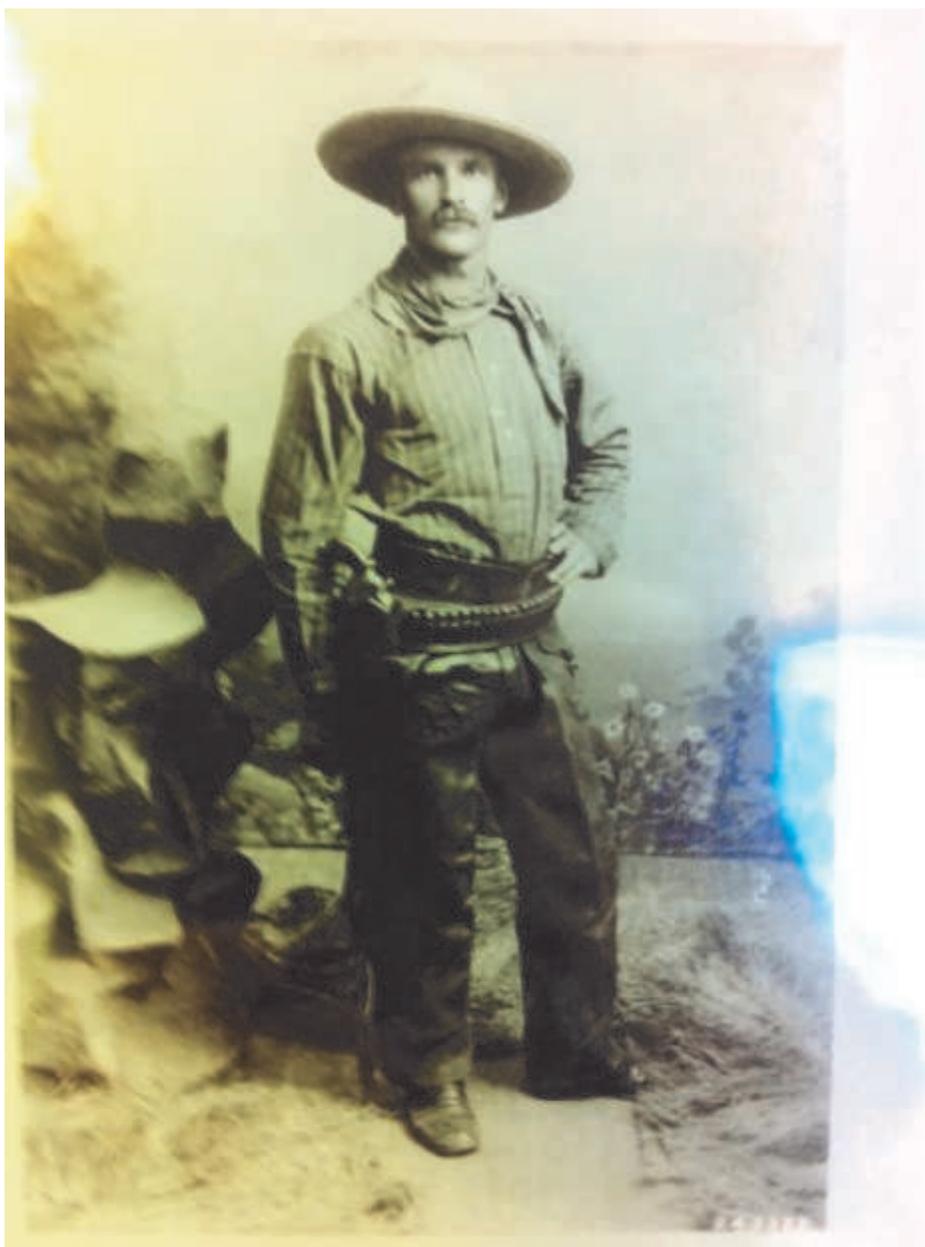
ponies and gave instructions for the roundup. The party divided into two bands. One went to the right, the other to the left. As we went, a man, woman, or kid would drop out about every hundred yards or so just as we did in making the cattle roundups. Finally when the whole line was strung out, the signal was given by one shot and we swept across the valley, bells ringing, tin cans rattling, and every one making some vocal noise. This yelling increased with the gradual accumulation of animals ahead of us. At first the antelope or deer kept some distance from us, but with the encircling line we formed always curving in, none of them seemed to realize they might escape by "going round the ends" but kept steadily moving in the direction we wanted them to.

There was a gradual accumulation of small animals. From behind sage bushes or clumps of yucca dashed long eared jackrabbits and cottontails. How the kids would shout and yell when these hopped into sight. The dogs, too, took a hand in the matter. Then we began picking up antelope and an occasional deer. From some of the scattered clumps of cedars and pinyons, the boys dislodged bob cats and a few lynxes. Prairie dogs sitting on the mounds would take on hasty look at the oncoming horde and with shrill barks scuttle into their holes. Occasionally a lumbering badger hot-footed it ahead of us but generally dodged into a hole before the boys could catch him. Two or three prickly porkies also showed up, but nobody stopped them when they stopped and curled up and said goodbye to us.

As we neared the corral, the huge half circle of hunters came nearer and nearer to each other. Horsemen rode on each end from one point to another to meet any animals that tired to escape the encircling line by going round the end. This, singularly enough, was not so often as one would have expected. In fact the wild creatures simply raced and romped back and forth in front of us rather taking the easiest way, which was straight ahead as far as any human pressure was concerned. But always the line behind them was slowly converging towards the long brush wings that stuck out from the corral like the deadly arms of the Devil fish.

The first animals that came to the wings merely stopped a moment

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Will Barnes as a young man in a posed photo at the time he was applying to go to work for the U. S. Forest Service courtesy of the Arizona Historical Society Tucson's Will Barnes Collection #54670

enhancing and improving pronghorn migration corridors and opening access across the thousands of acres grazed by the ranch. While the base property is only approximately 200 acres, the BLM Horseshoe allotment is 29,850 acres and the adjacent Tonto Forest Service allotment is 34,944 acres. David Brown reported Dick Wilcox had a genuine interest in helping us help pronghorn.

I rolled up my first ball of barbed wire for the AAF in 1999 at the ranch, as did many other volunteers. It's proximity to the Phoenix metro area was an allure, as was the ease of access and opportunity to hunt relatively close to home. Like many others, this was a convenient way to give back to the species and have an impact on an animal that needed help.

As President Clinton's days in the White House came to an end in 2000, the Agua Fria National Monument was enacted by Executive Order.

A couple years into our Adopt a Ranch relationship, Dick's son Charlie took over the ranch, and was more interested in cattle than pronghorn. While that evolved, we were impacted by a severe drought, and our pronghorn numbers plummeted, hitting a 20 year low in the population numbers, despite two large transplants, (Utah in 1997 and Colorado in 1998) and a lot of modified fences.

In 2002 we learned the ranch was put up for sale. Anyone that ever crested the Bloody Basin Road

and drove past the power line heading east, could take a step back in time once you turned on the last blind curve and saw the Agua Fria River valley open up before you. When the Wilcox family had the hay field irrigated, it's green swath put a highlight on the idyllic setting. I couldn't help but think of one of those hard fought ranches at the end of the trail, and at the end of many books written by Louis L'Amour. It was an inspiring sight, but alas I couldn't afford the price tag that it demanded to put it in my name!

As the sale of the ranch played out, our direct projects there took a hiatus, and we concentrated on adjacent habitat areas in Unit 21. We weren't short of any work, but as I visited the area, I took notice that our Adopt a Ranch signs had gone missing. I found one on a quail hunt in late December 2003, but it was off the beaten trail. In checking again with the realtor, he said a sale was imminent, and the new owner would be raising horses.

In January of 2004, the realtor handling the ranch sale told me the Red Mountain Mining Company from Mesa had purchased the ranch. We understood part of the intent was to effectuate a trade with the BLM for some land the mine wanted near their location in Mesa. Whatever the reason, the ranch and leases had a new operator and the AAF wasn't part of the equation.

Throughout the next 18 months, over the course of most of my two terms as the AAF President, we began to hear there was a level of dissatisfaction with past AAF fence modifications. Game & Fish Wildlife Manager Jake Fousek met with ranch owner Dale Longbrake in the fall of 2005, and relayed to me some of the concerns. Part of our problem was the ranch manager employed with the new owners didn't have a lot of good things to say about our past work. We also learned, he was not a proponent of the Game & Fish Department.

I had to get to the bottom of this problem, for the good of our past efforts and our stature in the ranching community. The Board charged me with following up with Mr. Longbrake. I did so with a letter to him in December

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of 2005, and he responded favorably a few weeks later. I met Dale and his associate Jimmie Peterson at the Deer Valley Airport in March of 2006, and set the wheels in motion to get our cooperative Adopt a Ranch efforts and relationship with the ranch back on track. This meeting set the stage for a BBQ lunch at the ranch on June 10th, with Dale, Jimmie, about a dozen AAF folks and Jake, Dana Warnecke and Troy Christensen

their way to a satisfactory resolution, for both the Federal agencies, but even more importantly for the pronghorn on the “Lucky Horseshoe”!

As David Brown concluded in his article from the Winter 2004 Pronghorn, “...much has been done, but the AAF needs to change its game if the pronghorn in Unit 21 are to prosper. Making the Horseshoe Ranch “lucky” for pronghorn is no longer enough. We need to be playing “21” with a full deck of players.”

It looks like we’re close to filling all the chairs, and the deck is no longer stacked against the species!

In closing...many thanks need to go to a number of AAF folks and Game & Fish folks too, for endeavoring to persevere.

I would be remiss in not giving some special recognition to Dale Longbrake for his stewardship on this land and for giving the AAF a second chance. Finally, to Jimmie Peterson, who we got to know well, and who cared for our cause. He passed away in October of this year, may he rest in peace.



from Game & Fish. Our efforts paid off, our Adopt a Ranch sponsorship was back on track and so were our Horse-shoe Ranch

projects. Win-win all the way around! (for that story, see the 2nd Qtr 2006 Pronghorn and for an additional update, see our 4th Qtr 2006 Pronghorn on our website too)

Dale wanted the BLM to make a trade with him for the property, but between former Congressman Renzi’s land trade issues, the BLM’s apparent lack of interest, and some other factors, the deal didn’t get done. He put the ranch up for sale in 2007. From that point until today, the proposed sale of the Horseshoe Ranch twisted and turned. The Trust for Public Lands helped carry the matter forward, the AZ Game & Fish Department continued to work on details. All the while, the AAF remained engaged and committed to help seal any deal, particularly regarding the grazing leases. Antelope tag fund money was set aside in 2009 for this very opportunity, we stood ready.

By the time you’re reading this, we hope the deal has closed and the grazing lease issues are well on



Dale Longbrake (top), Jimmie Peterson (bottom) Photos by Jim & Tracy Unmacht

and then loped off down its side with the rest following blindly. Eventually the two lines following along the wings met. Here the excitement became intense. The bewildered animals milled round in several large bunches. Occasionally some would dart towards the oncoming line of hunters but were driven back by the tremendous hubbub that met them. Finally one bunch found themselves in front of the corral opening or gate. Here seemed to be a way to escape from their pursuers. Cautiously the leaders moved toward the opening and then one by one they went inside. It took but a moment for the rest to follow and in they trooped, antelope, deer, rabbits, bob cats, and two or three coyotes, all in one frightened hurrying mass. As the last animal entered the corral, a dozen squaws hidden in the brush near the entrance sprang from cover and while three or four stood in the gap and waved gay Navajo blankets and shrieked like calliopes to keep the animals at bay, the rest dragged up heavy boughs and limbs of trees placed nearby for this purpose. In a few moments the entrance was closed. The squaws inside then crept out through a small opening at one corner of the gap. Inside the trapped animals were racing like mad round and round the green encircling walls. Some would make a run at the fence and jump high up on its sides but never did one get over. They mostly fell short of the top by some feet, dropping back into the tangle of limbs and tree tops and then rolling down to the ground.

When the whole party of Indians had gathered at the corral, a number of the men crawled into it through the small opening used by the squaws. Inside they had stored a number of heavy clubs with which they went to work on the herd to club them do death. Others more sportingly inclined roped the antelope with their reatas. It was certainly one wild, exiting time for all. Indian men yelling, tin cans still rattle, squaws and children laughing and shrieking with delight at the slaughter going on before them, and pandemonium reigning.

Occasionally one of the bob cats would climb up on the sides and try to escape. Their attempts, however, were doomed to failure. With yells and shouts the boys and women would head the unhappy, spitting cat off and either beat it to death before it reached the ground outside or else haze it back into the corral there to meet its fate.

It did not take much over thirty minutes to kill the last animal. Then the gap was opened, the squaws trooped in and the skinning and dressing began.

That night the whole camp feasted for hours on liver, hearts, tongues, entrails and such dainty tidbits dear to the Indian palate. Early the next morning the squaws were hard at work cutting up the meat into long



Will Barnes at the of his retirement as the Forest Service Chief of Grazing courtesy of the Arizona Historical Society Tucson's Will Barnes Collection #6675

strips for jerking. By noon the trees and walls of the corral near camp were decorated with the long red strips left to dry in the bright sun. Also every rope in camp, stretched between the trees, was utilized for the same purpose. My recollection is that the hides were not saved, the explanation being that antelope hides were thin and porous and not fit for moccasins, dresses or such domestic uses. We agreed that the Navajos secured about ten pounds of dried jerky from each grown antelope or deer in addition to the tremendous amounts they ate fresh. And the dogs, they too fairly swelled out day by day with the feast. On the fifth day the camp broke up, ponies were loaded with jerky and camp equipment and the whole band rode off to the north towards their great reservation.

For a good many years the remains of the corral and its long wings remained as mute witnesses of what was probably the last big antelope roundup conducted by Navajos, or anybody else for that matter, in northern Arizona. We used the corral quite often to catch up horses in or brand a few calves, but eventually some drifting cow person too lazy to cut firewood set one of

(Continued on page 17)

(Arizona Antelope: A Navajo Antelope Roundup continued from page 16)

the wings on fire and with a good stiff wind the whole affair went up in smoke. The burned stumps and heavy tree trunks made excellent wood for camp fires when camping at the water hole. The last time the writer rode past the tank, about 1927, there was very little left to mark the spot excepting here and there an old burned stump and a good many bleached bones. Mute evidences of the tragedy of over forty years ago.

"Jerky" or "Charqui"

And by the way. How many readers know the original

meaning of the word "Jerky"? Well, here it is: When the early California Argonauts coming round the Horn about 1848-49 arrived at the first large port in Chile, Valparaiso, they needed supplies and fresh water. Fresh beef was, of course, out of the question, but in its place they bought large quantities of sun dried beef which was sold under its Peruvian name of "Charqui". This word was quickly picked up by the voyagers, but as we Americans have so often done, it was anglicized under the name "Jerky" which in truth sounded very much like the Peruvian word. And thus we coined a new word, "Jerky," meaning dried meat.

AAF Life Member Art Pearce Finally Gets His Buck



AAF Life Member #1 Art Pearce and his Unit 10 antelope which was taken on September 4th and green scored at 85 points. Art said, "This is my first Arizona Antelope and I have been putting in since the early 1970's before the bonus system was put into place. I had 22 bonus points when I put in this year. I used Vaquero Outfitters of Chino Valley. "



Super Raffle

The Arizona Big Game Super Raffle is back and 2011 ticket sales are in full swing. This raffle has become very successful, bringing in millions of dollars for habitat improvement in Arizona. For pronghorn, it has meant an additional \$215,100 over the 5-year period since the Raffle's inception, providing much needed funds for various projects and studies to benefit antelope. The drawing will take place in July, 2011. Help support Arizona's wildlife and buy your tickets today.

www.arizonabiggamesuperraffle.com

BOW Deluxe

The Arizona Wildlife Federation (an AAF partner) will be sponsoring a winter Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop January 28-30. The place is Saguaro Lake Ranch, which is a historical resort style retreat located in the Tonto National Forest.

Classes will include fishing, boating, birding, Javelina hunting, geocaching, trick track trail Sonoran style, edible and medicinal plants of the southwest desert, desert survival and Dutch oven cooking. A trail ride is also available.

The cost is \$375, which includes instruction, program materials, and use of equipment, deluxe lodging and meals Friday through Sunday lunch. Details of class descriptions and registration information can be found at www.azwildlife.org or call 480-644-0077.

Hunting Works for AZ

Hunting Works for Arizona is a grassroots organization whose purpose is to help tell the story of the role hunting and shooting sports play in both the heritage and economic health of Arizona. Membership consists of businesses representing a cross-section of the Arizona economy including sporting retailers, restaurant owners, hotel, motel and resort operators, gas and convenience stores, hunting and shooting organizations, chambers of commerce and of course all the taxpayers of Arizona (hunters and non-hunters alike) who benefit economically and aesthetically from the license fees, taxes, and jobs the hunting and shooting industry provides both directly and indirectly.

For more information, visit their website www.huntingworksforaz.com

G&F Fence Removal Project January 22-23

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has finalized the purchase of the Foster Ranch property east of Flagstaff for the development of the Northern AZ Shooting Range. However, there are a lot of old barbed wire fences on the 160 acre property which need to be removed before any construction can even begin. Volunteers can help complete this task. For more information or to RSVP, contact Troy Christensen, AGFD Public Access Coordinator, at 623-236-7492 or tchristensen@azgfd.gov

Governor Names Game and Fish Commission Nominee

Governor Jan Brewer has named Robert Mansell of Winslow as her choice to fill the Game & Fish Commission seat being vacated by Jennifer Martin in January 2011. His nomination will now go to the Senate for confirmation. Mr. Mansell formerly served as Superintendent of the Winslow Unified School District and has been a lifelong Arizona resident and outdoorsman, hunter, fisherman, boater, pilot and community leader. As a school administrator for 33 years, he supervised as many as 350 employees, a budget as high as \$16 million annually and oversaw physical assets of \$60 million. He developed the prototype for an outdoor education program for the Winslow Elementary Schools in 1992 which he coordinated with the Arizona Game & Fish Department and U. S. Forest Service.

Mansell grew up in Cornville, Arizona living on a small farm. His Father and Uncle (now deceased) retired as Arizona fish hatchery superintendents, so he has a unique perspective on preservation and harvesting of wildlife and fish. As a pilot he flew various aircraft, including bush planes, and volunteered for numerous search and rescue operations.

Banquet News

Mark your calendars. We will once again be joining the AZ Deer Association for a combined fundraising banquet on **May 21st** at Chaparral Suites in Scottsdale. We could use your help. The banquet committee will begin meeting after the first of the year to plan the event, and more volunteers are welcome. We also need donations of all kinds - art work, hunting and camping gear, jewelry, books, etc. Watch our website and your mail box for more information, or contact us at 602-361-6478.

Membership

Life Members

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Art Pearce, Phoenix | 14. Al Sue, Scottsdale | 27. Don Davidson, Mesa |
| 2. Jim Mehen, Flagstaff | 15. Mary Keebler, Happy Jack | 28. Terry Petko, Mesa |
| 3. Larry D. Adams, Bullhead City | 16. Bill Keebler, Happy Jack | 29. Gary M. Johnson, Phoenix |
| 4. James K. McCasland, | 17. James Stewart, Phoenix | 30. Richard Guenzel, Laramie WY |
| 5. Nina Gammons, Payette, ID | 18. Terry Schupp, Tempe | 31. Randy Cherington, Scottsdale |
| 6. Nancy Lewis, Phoenix | 19. Dale Hislop, Calgary Canada | 32. Joe Del Re, Chandler |
| 7. Pete Cimellaro, Phoenix | 20. Mick Rusing, Tucson | 33. Bob Walker, Phoenix |
| 8. Jerry Weiers, Phoenix | 21. George Welsh, Kingman | 34. Cookie Nicoson, Williams |
| 9. Harry Carlson, Phoenix | 22. Matthew Massey, Gilbert | 35. Tim Blank, Mesa |
| 10. David Brown, Phoenix | 23. Don Parks, Peoria | 36. Jodi Stewart, Gilbert |
| 11. Art Boswell, Tucson | 24. Bill & Kerrie Jacoby, Chandler | 37. Keith Joyner, Scottsdale |
| 12. Charlie Kelly, Scottsdale | 25. Adam Geotl, Cottonwood | 38. David Hussey, Cave Creek |
| 13. Chrissy Weiers, Phoenix | 26. Shane Stewart, Gilbert | 39. Susan Pearce, Tucson |

Sustaining Members

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
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| Mark Boswell, Mesa | Roger Hailey, Flagstaff | Walt Scrimgeour, Prescott |
| James Bowen, Cave Creek | Paul Medina, Peoria | Tice Supplee, Phoenix |
| Bill Cole, Glendale | Peter Mertz, Phoenix | Jim & Tracy Unmacht, Phoenix |
| William Cordasco, Flagstaff | Jay Morrison, Peoria | Scott Vail, Mesa |
| Paul & Joann Delaney, Flagstaff | Susan Morse, Jericho VT | David L. Wolf, Flagstaff |
| Eugene & Linda Dightmon, Peoria | Richard Ockenfels, Mayer | |
| Michael Domanico, Scottsdale | Derek Oyen, Anthem | |

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- | | | |
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| Jerry & Anthony Acedo, Phoenix | Robert Hutchison, Overgaard | Daniel Robinett, Catalina |
| Jim & Rita Ammons, Yuma | Chad Jones, New River | Ryna Rock & Ken Stephens, Camp Verde |
| Robin & Billie Bechtel, Show Low | David Justice, Prescott | David & Debra Scott, Glendale |
| Peggy Biegler, New River | Dave & Sue Laird, Peoria | James & Joyce Sivley, Scottsdale |
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| Ron Gerdes, Hereford | Amy & Stephen Ostwinkle, Gilbert | |
| Stephanie & Gray Holbrook, Peoria | Henry Provencio, Mormon Lake | |

Welcome New Members

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Ted Smith, Yuma | Joseph Silva, Tolleson |
|-----------------|------------------------|

Renewal notices for 2011 have been mailed.
Please return yours today, or renew online at
www.azantelope.org
Thanks for your support!





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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

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