



November 2012
NEWSLETTER

Presidents message - Hi everyone. Hopefully your hawking season is in full swing by now. Pam and I got a late start but are happily making up for lost time.

The website has been redone with a new address: www.arizonafalconers.com. Please change your bookmarks to the new site. There is also a new forum which I hope I can keep clear of spammers. Always a challenge...

The new regs go into effect here in AZ shortly. We are all very excited about this. It's taken a long time and a lot of hard work to get these regs done but I think we have something we can be proud of.

Please note also that there is a significant change in Commission Order 25 for 2013 and 2014. Previously unrestricted Harris' hawk take for resident falconers has changed. Because of a loophole in the new regs, the state needed to put in a mechanism to prevent unrestricted out-of-state transfer. Their initial plan was a permit tag system for residents which we fought hard against. The final result was a quota of 30 birds, which is well above our normal take numbers. The details are all contained within the CO which is available on the AZGFD website. I'll post it to our website as well. It's important that we all follow the requirements of this CO. It's also important that we don't transfer freshly trapped birds to non-residents in an attempt to circumvent the NR permit tag system. If all goes well, we can get this quota lifted in the next CO, but if there is evidence of out of state transfer, they will have ammunition to keep us on a quota.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the meet!

Charlie Kaiser
AFA President

Two Arizona Falconers Association meets scheduled

Camping Field Meet in Dugas on December 15th and 16th

The Dugas meet has been a favorite for AFA members for many years. This meet provides a great chance to mix great hunting opportunities with an old fashioned camp out. **Gary Lollman** says, “The terrain is open with rolling hills, some canyons and rock outcroppings. Jacks tend to be in the open flats and bunnies on the rocky slopes. The vegetation is grassland, with prickly pear and catclaw and some mesquite trees. There are good slope soaring opportunities.”

Some may want to get an early start on Friday, the 14th. Bring your acoustic musical instrument for some jammin’ around the campfire.

Directions:

From Pheonix: Take I-17 north to the Dugas/Orme exit (approximately 5 miles N. of Cordes Junction) exit and turn right (East) and follow for approximately 5 miles. Paved road will turn to dirt after approximately 3 miles.

From Flagstaff: Take I-17 south past Camp Verde and take the Dugas/Orme exit, turn left under the freeway (East) and follow for approximately 5 miles.

Watch for AFA signs. Camping area is on the right hand side. There are camping sites along an intermittent creek with cottonwoods.

There are no services at this site; it is on Forest Service land. There are several gas stations and a McDonalds on I-17 five miles south of the Dugas/Orme road exit. Call Gary for more information at 928-821-0108.

The 2013 AFA Desert Hawking Classic January 24th through the 27th

The Desert Classic is back to the Casa Grande Holiday Inn by popular demand! Save the date. Bruce Taubert, famous wildlife photographer and falconer will be the keynote speaker. Note: Bruce is also looking for falconry raptors to photograph. They can be flying, perched, or whatever. If you can fly without equipment, that’s even better. This can be during the meet or any other time. Contact Charlie for details.

Please; the club needs lots of donations for the meet raffle. Contact Ken Mesch with information about your contributions at kenmesch@msn.com

Watch our website at www.ArizonaFalconers.com for meet details soon.



The AFA Falconers Picnic was a big success, especially for introducing many apprentices and soon to be apprentices to the club. A big thanks to those that participated and those that donated food and falconry items. The auction generated \$244 for the club.

On a sad note: Former Arizona falconer Doug Doty passed away last May in Colorado. Doug will be missed by all that knew him.



Apprentice Seminar – Watch for an announcement soon about an upcoming apprentice seminar. This will be perfect for both new apprentices and pre-apprentices. Come and see what's involved and what to expect as you begin your journey in falconry.

AFA President Charlie Kaiser has been working hard on our website. Check out his progress at the new site, which is www.arizonafalconers.com. The old site will redirect to the new one for a while. While there, check out the new falconry regulations that go into effect after January 1st. It's important that everyone is familiar with the new regs when they go into effect. Our sport has been extremely law-abiding in AZ for a long time and with everyone's help, we'll keep it that way.

Arizona Falconers Association to put out a 2013 Journal. That is, IF members contribute articles and pictures for publication. Deadline for articles is December 31st, 2012. Please think about what you can contribute to our next AFA Journal, then make it happen! Send articles to journal editor Ken Mesch at secretary@arizonafalconers.com

Membership Drive The Arizona Falconers Association is launching a membership drive with hopes of bringing back members who have drifted out of the club. New efforts to provide more meets and apprentice functions, as well as journal and newsletter publications, will up the value of being a member of AFA. It is important that we stand together to assure the best possible falconry regulations and conditions for our sport. Go to the AFA website at www.Arizonafalconers.com for an easy membership application, 2013 renewal, and online payment. Anyone joining AFA now will be a member for the balance of 2012, plus all of 2013. What a deal!

Here is a list of Arizona Falconers Association Officers

President	Charlie Kaiser	president@arizonafalconers.com
Vice-President	Gary Lollman	vp@arizonafalconers.com
Secretary	Ken Mesch	secretary@arizonafalconers.com
Treasurer	Ron Palmer	treasurer@arizonafalconers.com
Apprentice Liaison	Matt Hankins	apprentice@arizonafalconers.com
Director	Jamaica Smith	director1@arizonafalconers.com
Director	Pam Hessey	director2@arizonafalconers.com
Director	Matt Hankins	director3@arizonafalconers.com



The future of Arizona Falconry; apprentices! Casey and Chase Miller