

PREDATOR'S PRIDE



ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

August 2007

APC P.O. Box 1172 Mesa, AZ 85211-1172

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stan Schepers, APC President

HELLO EVERYONE,

Wow, I'm still thinking about the meeting in May, it was something special, to honor REED PETERSON, he is the guy who started Mesa Varmint Callers. I wish I could have recorded some of the stories he had to tell. Anyway congrats REED for being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Well summer's been busy for me working on my property, got my concrete poured. I'm working on framing & closing in my barn.

I did make it to the Trapper's Convention in July this year. I go mainly for the calling & Trapping seminar. This year they were great. Thanks to Rich Higgins he got Les Johnson to do the calling portion which APC sponsored. Les put on some great seminars on calling coyotes.

Ron Leggit did the trapping Seminar which he is known for his fox & coyote trap set. He said he has 1,700.00 foxes in the freezer right now. I think he might be doing something right. Also Wes Patrick did a cage trapping seminar, which was very interesting because he has a nuisance animal control business in the valley. It was very interesting to hear the different things he does in town to trap animals, and then there was a skinning demo & fur prep demo. Great time...

Well it's that time again to start thinking about this upcoming season. Check all your gear, make sure your vehicle is ready and then start thinking about all the predators you are going to harvest this season....

Stan

Coming Events

Aug General Meeting..... .9 Aug '07
Aug Board Meeting.....27 Aug '07
Sept. General Meeting...13 Sept '07
Sept. Board Meeting.....24 Sept '07
Oct. General Meeting.....11 Oct '07
Oct. Novice Hunt #1.....27 Oct '07
Oct. Board Meeting.....29 Oct '07
Nov. General Meeting.....8 Oct '07
Nov. Novice Hunt #2.....10 Nov '07

Monthly APC meetings are held at the Mesa FOP Hall, 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa, from 7:00 pm until ??

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Treasurers Report

by Jerry Thorson, APC Treasurer

This Treasurers report details all transactions from May 1 through July 31, 2007.

Checking Account

Beginning Balance..... \$3,687.45
 Check #1573 Legends Express.....(\$119.12)
 Check #1574 Advertize It-Decals..(\$108.15)
 Check #1575 AZ Corp Commsn.....(\$10.00)
 Check #1576 Mike Burris-WCC(\$68.62)
 Check #1577 Mohave Sportsmsn(\$200.00)
 Check #1578 Mike Burris-Expens..(\$62.48)
 Check #1579 Mike Burris-WCCC...(\$124.97)
 Check #1580 AWF - 7 members.....(45.50)

Deposit-Trophy Book Banquet Rafl.\$815.00
 Deposit - Memberships + Cash.....\$730.00
 Deposit - Memberships.....\$95.00

Ending Balance 7/31/07.....\$4,588.61

Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance....\$75.73
 Cash Sales.....\$0.00
 Merchandise.....\$20.00
 Dues.....\$410.00
 Raffles.....\$1,051.29

Deposits to Checking.....(\$1,485.00)

Petty Cash End Balance.....\$72.02

Total Cash.....\$4,660.63

Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$1,781.75

Total Assets.....\$6,442.38

APC Video Library

The following individuals have videos checked out. Please return in a timely manner so others may view also.

- 4/13/06 Paul Corens...Citr Call Instruction
- 5/11/06 Tom Sylvester.How to Talk to Deer
- 5/11/06 Tom Sylvester.Operation Predator
- 5/11/06 Tom Sylvester...Whitetails Chance of a Lifetime
- 11/9/06 Chuck Beshears.....Elk Calling DVD
- 11/9/06 Chuck Beshears..Utah Raging Bull
- 1/10/07 Paul Corens.....Guns of Valor
- 1/10/07 Paul Corens.....How To Hunt Black Bear
- 1/10/07 Chuck Beshears.Archery Hunting Tactics for Deer
- 4/12/07 Sid Chalasani.....Calling Coyotes
- 4/12/07 Conner Griner...Hunting in the East
- 5/10/07 Dave Warren.....Beyond Belief-How to Shoot Big Bucks
- 5/10/07 Dave Warren.....Production Line Bobcat Trapping
- 5/10/07 Dave Warren...Texas Predator Pursuit

Thanks *Jerry*

Membership Report

by Kara Jensen, APC Membership

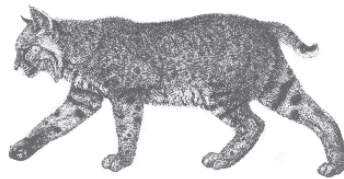
Welcome new members **Kurt Zoellner** from Snowflake, **Ross Shores** from Queen Creek and **Vere Harris** from Chino Valley.

Thanks to:

Bill Rice
Thomas Blum
Daniel Rooney
Dustin Thompson
Ken Waddill
John Albin

For renewing their memberships.

If you've let your membership with our club expire, please contact us. We would love to have you back! If you have any questions regarding your existing membership, please give me a call at **866-434-0282** or you can e-mail me any time at: membership@azpredatorcallers.com



August Meeting Program

Topic: Elk Hunting In Arizona Seminar

Speaker: Don Martin – [Arizona Wildlife Outfitters](#); Professional Licensed Guide

Subject: Attendees will learn about elk in Arizona, their habits and daily routines. There will also be discussion on locating and calling elk. Attendees can expect to learn the history of elk in Arizona and of elk preservation projects. This seminar is open to all outdoorsmen, photographers, hikers, and campers.

When: 7:00pm, Thursday, August 9th, 2007

Where: [Mesa FOP Lodge](#) - 1452 E. Main Street - Mesa, AZ

Cost: \$5.00 (Free to members of Arizona Predator Callers & students under 18)

Complimentary refreshments are served, along with a free door prize, and outdoor gear raffle.

Arizona Game and Fish Department NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release July 18, 2007

Big game draw complete: results available

PHOENIX - The Arizona Game and Fish Department has announced that the fall big game draw has been completed and the 117,421 applicants can find out if they have been drawn by visiting the department's Web site at:

www.azgfd.gov/draw.

Hunt-permit tags will be mailed to successful applicants no later than Aug. 10. Refunds will be mailed out no later than Aug. 24.

Those who submitted online applications and were successful will get a letter in the mail how they can submit payment.

There are 1,192 hunt-permit tags for deer and javelina remaining for first-come, first-served, which will be conducted by mail only (not online) on Aug. 20.

May Meeting Award Presentations



Willard Bourquein presents "APC Hall of Fame" induction plaque to Guido Roberti



Dan Rooney accepts "Caller of the Year" award from Craig Gombos



Reed Peterson accepts "APC Hall of Fame" plaque from Dan Rooney

"Sportsman of the Year" awards were also presented to John Cline and Stan Schepers

Arizona Predator Callers new trailer being utilized at the May meeting. Ken McKenna mans the grill.



Reed Peterson's Family and Friends



ON THE STAND

by Larry Walden, APC Special Events Coordinator

Each month during the 2007-2008 predator hunting season a successful APC predator hunter, or someone recognized as a predator hunting authority, will be asked 21 questions. I plan to ask essentially the same 21 questions to each person interviewed. At the end of the season we will see if common themes are evident based on the answers provided by successful predator hunters. Hopefully, we will have some valuable information that we all can share.

This month - On the Stand with: APC member **Mark Miller**

Mark has been hunting for around 40 years. He grew up in Connecticut hunting pheasants and squirrels. He also enjoyed turkey hunting success while living in Missouri.

Mark has been an APC member for two seasons. He participates in all the APC club hunts and does a lot of calling on his own. Mark is really lucky in the Arizona big game draw and has harvested some great animals. He successfully called in and killed a Mountain Lion while on a 2006 Arizona deer hunt.

1. How did you get started predator hunting?

While attending an outdoor expo I discovered the Phoenix Varmint Callers. Then I went on a novice hunt with the Phoenix club.

2. Who has had the most influence on your predator hunting career?

Al Fussler took me on a novice hunt. Then we became monthly Phoenix club contest hunt partners.

3. What is your favorite time of the year for hunting predators?

After it cools off. Anytime I can get out ...but especially January and February.

4. What is your favorite Arizona hunt unit for predator hunting?

No favorite.

5. Name a couple of your favorite predator hunting mouth” calls?

Tally Ho and Pee Wee.

6. Do you use electronic calls? If so, what brand/model do you use and what are the three most effective “sounds”?

No

7. Do you use decoys? If yes, what kind?

Not often. I have not noticed much benefit. I think walking out to place the decoy into position might be a problem.

8. Do you use cover scent? If so, what do you use?

No.

9. What are 3 important factors to consider when on, or approaching, a predator hunting stand? Of the three which is the most critical?

- Wind direction.
- Noise - like truck door closing. You need to sneak quietly to stand.
- Elevation – in order to provide visibility for clear shooting lanes.

Wind is the most important factor.

10. Describe your most memorable predator hunt.

The day I called 7 coyotes to one stand. Last February I went out with Joe Porath who is 76 years old. We made a stand around some rocks with elevation. I began calling and 5 coyotes came on the run. We shot twice called again and 2 more coyotes came in. I got one and Joe got one. It was Joe's first coyote.

11. What is your favorite predator to hunt? Why?

Mountain Lion

12. Describe your single most successful predator stand?

The predator hunt described in question #10.

13. Describe your most disastrous predator hunting adventure?

This past season's APC lion hunt in Kingman.

I went to the hunt in a friend's new Ford 150 pick-up. We were on our way to our second stand when we had a blow out. Since the truck was new it took some time to find the jack and change the tire. We went about ¼ of a mile and had our second blow out. We were out of spares so we called AAA and they had a local tow company call us. We described our location and the tow truck operator told us we would have to get back to the paved road because AAA refused to pay him the last time he went in to get someone from our location. So my partner decided to sacrifice a tire and rim and we started driving toward the paved road. The steel belts on the blow out tire came loose and damaged the fender, broke the bumper bracket and cut a brake line. It was several days before my partner was able to get his truck repaired and return to Phoenix.

14. What is your favorite predator hunting rifle/caliber/bullet and shotgun/gauge/load?

.308 Winchester / 12 GA 3"

15. What is your favorite camo / pattern?

Leafy Wear - no specific pattern.

16. Name your favorite annual APC hunt or activity.

Dusty's Xmas party.

17. What is your number one predator hunting goal?

To call and harvest a bear.

18. In your opinion, what development (equipment, strategy or tactic) has most influenced predator hunting during the last 5-10 years?

Electronic calls.

19. What Arizona Game & Fish hunting regulation would you change?

Allow nighttime predator hunting.

20. What do you consider to be the greatest threat to the future of predator hunting?

Uninformed public. Anti-hunters.

21. Describe your dream big game/predator hunt.

Arizona bull Elk early season rifle.



Bruin Makes Sweet Escape!

by Larry Walden, APC Special Events Coordinator

The bruin sauntered back into the Canadian bush with a huge pastry in it's mouth. It looked like the bear was grinningkind of mocking meas if it knew all along I wasn't going to pull the trigger.

Images of that bear walking away from the bait site have visited me for almost a year. So on August 23rd two friends and I depart for Kirkland Lake Canada. I will have a second chance to harvest a Canadian Black Bear.

It was the second day of last years fall hunt and I was sitting quietly in the Canadian bush hunkered down in a ground blind 31 yards from the bait. The mosquitoes were driving me crazy again so I started digging in my rain jacket for more Ben's DEET. The sun, filtered by dense tree cover, created patches of light and dark shadows throughout the bush. The bait consisted of stale pastry and icing from a local bakery shop mixed with rotting bacon covered with honey, molasses and soda. Frequently a light breeze would blow and I could smell the pastry and sometimes the bacon.

The day before the outfitter told me to watch the ground squirrels. If they started running away and taking cover a local bruin was near. As we were baiting my stand for the first time the outfitter's helper pointed toward two pieces of red trail marking tape tied 55 inches apart on a stick positioned above the bait. He said, "do not shoot any bear unless it is longer from nose to tail than the distance between the two pieces of tape. There are some very large bears in the area." I knew he was correct because we checked with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources before we arrived at camp and they verified some 600 pound bears had recently been harvested in our hunt unit.

About 4:30 pm on the second day of the hunt all of the small animals started to panic. One of the ground squirrels ran into the ground blind with me. He wedged his way between two logs and disappeared. After what seemed to be an hour but was actually only about two minutes, a shadow appeared to the left of the bait. Then slowly the bear's outline became visible.

The bear had its head down and was licking crumbs from one of the game trails that led to the bait.

The bear stopped and tested the airlicked some crumbs from it's snout and silently walked to the front of the bait. I could not believe how quite the bear made its way through the bush. I carefully studied the bear and it looked like it was missing its left ear. I had a clear shot. What about the trail tape markers? Does this bear make the tape? Since the bear was not standing right next to the stick with the tape I couldn't tell. I did not have much experience sizing bears so I waited. The bear was busy eating pastry, icing and rotting bacon. Surely a feast for the taking.

After what seemed like a lifetime the bear moved into position directly between the tape markers. It was close! I kept thinking the bear would make the tape with only a little bit of stretching. I had the bear in my crosshairs with the safety off my rifle several times over the next 20 minutes. It would be my first bear but I did not want to return to camp and be ridiculed as the rookie with a bear that was not up to standards.

The words from the outfitter's helper kept sounding in my head. "Don't shoot a bear unless it makes the tape." After what seemed like a lifetime the bear strolled back into the bush with a large pastry hanging from it's snout. I was not disappointed becausethis is easy and surly a bigger bear will visit my ground blind tomorrow.

Back at camp the trucks began to arrive and bears were unloaded. Several over 300 pounds and several that would not have made the tape. I started to realize what was presented about the tape being an absolute was actually a guideline. The tape markers are in place to help novice bear hunters like myself who do not have a lot of experience sizing bears and I think they are an excellent idea. I have only myself to blame for not taking the bear and I do not blame the outfitter's helper for my decision. However, I learned to ask more questions and to make sure I understand if something is a suggestion or a hard and fast rule.

Bruin Makes Sweet Escape! continued

A couple of days later APC member Johnny Burris and I were driving one of the back roads in our rented SUV and as we rounded a curve there sat a bruin in the middle of the road scratching behind it's ear. The bear ran along side of the SUV for some time and then disappeared into the Canadian bush. That was the only other bear I saw during the hunt. Over the next 5 days 20 hunters harvested 17 bears. Including one killed by Johnny.

This weekend I stood and looked at the black bear mounts in Bass Pro Shop in Mesa and realized the one I let walk away was probably as big as two of the Black Bears displayed in the store.

My first Canadian bear hunt was a great experience but this fall the Ontario bruins better be ducking and weaving.

Larry



Craig Gombos To Guide Raffle Winner

At the recent Wildlife Federation banquet, the Arizona Predator Callers sponsored a raffle to raise funds for the club. This raffle was for a guided predator calling hunt with **Craig Gombos**. Our raffle sold more tickets than the guided hunt sponsored by the Phoenix club. Congratulations to Craig and good luck to the winner.

Anderson Mesa Habitat Projects

Project date: 8/11 Corner Lake

Project Activity: Fence removal

Project Duration: Approximately 4-5 hours each work day

Where to meet: Mormon Lake Ranger District office at 4373 South Lake Mary Road, Flagstaff at 8:00 am

What to bring: Some tools will be available, but please bring the following if you have them:

- Work Gloves
- Sun Screen
- Hat
- Food & water for the day
- Heavy pliers

Contact Info: HENRY PROVENCIO, Coconino National Forest (928) 214-2436

More Upcoming Events

- Bear Hunt.....October 5-6, 2007
- Fur Donation Hunt.....January 5, 2008
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt.....January 19, 2008
- Antelope Eaters Hunt.....March 1-2, 2008

Upcoming Raffle

A Remington 280 rifle will be raffled off starting at our next meeting. Tickets are \$10.00 each and there will be a total of 56 tickets sold. The raffle will take place when all of the tickets are sold. Help support the Arizona Predator Callers club by purchasing raffle tickets for this fine rifle.

Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: _____ Hm Phone: _____ Wk Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ DOB: _____

email address: _____

Additional Family Members

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____

Primary Annual Membership.....\$30.00

Family Membership add \$5.00.....\$35.00

Lifetime Individual Membership.....\$350.00

New Membership

Renewal

Send To:
Arizona Predator Callers
P.O. Box 1172
Mesa, AZ 85211-1172

Amount Enclosed _____

Arizona Predator Callers
P.O. Box 1172
Mesa, AZ 85211-1172



Address Correction Requested

