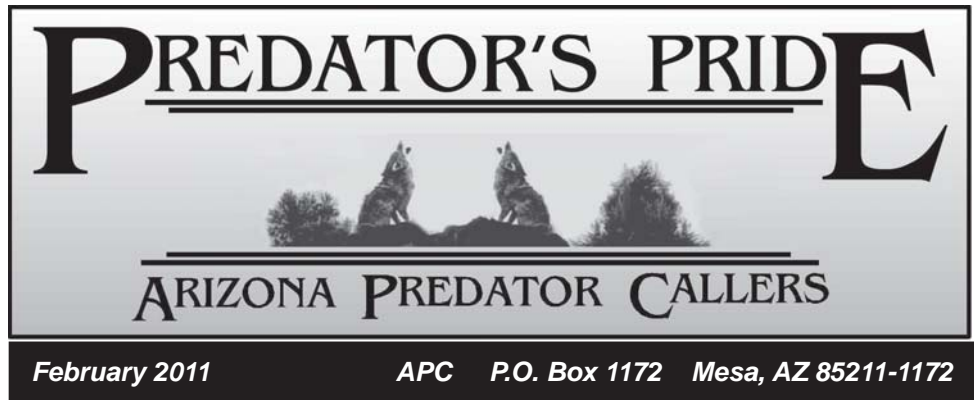


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The President's Message

by **Scott Francom, APC President**



Since our clubs numbers were down at this year's Multi-Club Hunt I will do a quick recap for everyone who could not attend, Josh and I had discussed doing this hunt together and we both enjoy shooting gray fox and Josh has found a new area that held good numbers of fox.

We swung by Bass Pro on our way out and grabbed a few boxes of Hevi Shot Hevi-Metal in BB size for our 12 gauge shotguns. It's a duck load but we've found it a fantastic load for fox and bobcats as the shot travels a good distance, doesn't put large holes in our fur, and at \$23 a box it is cheap to shoot.

We drove up the night before and did some quick scouting looking for sign and found very little, which concerned me but Josh promised foxes at day break if we returned. The area looked like typical fox terrain. Juniper and rocks scattered throughout the lower hills of a larger mountain range. I could still see patches of snow 2/3rd of the way up the mountain and tomorrow as we worked our way up the road we'd probably be hunting in it.

We spent the night at a local hotel, ate dinner at Denny's and got up at the crack of dawn and travelled 30 minutes in darkness to our first stand. As we sat in the dark the morning light slowly illuminated the rocky wash we were perched on the rim of. This large wash ran down from the mountains. The day before we had picked hunting this wash all the way up the mountain because it gave us the visibility we needed. Foxes often live in thickly vegetated areas that give the hunter limited opportunities to shoot. An open wash forces the fox to come out from its hiding place in the low bushes to investigate the distress sound it hears. With our shotguns in hand I started the Minaska Outdoors Big Country playing Madl Lips quietly. After 3 minutes of that I switched to Johnny Stewart's Gray Fox distress sound at full volume. Within a minute I saw a fox run down the hill behind the way making its way to the rocky wash. I lip-squeaked to Josh and we watched the fox run down into the wash. As it cleared a large boulder 25 yards below me I dropped it with a single shot. It kicked around and after 20 seconds stood back up. I fired again and I heard Josh shoot at it also. The fox scrambled up the wash side and made it into the bushes and Josh and I both shot at it again. We got up and chased after it but found no blood nor fox. This is quite common in fox hunting. Foxes are notorious for taking a load of shot and being able to get up and scamper off. It is best to shoot the fox initially and remain pointing your firearm at it for a full minute to see if it is going to get up. This year alone we have lost 2 dozen foxes I imagine to foxes that resurrected and ran off after quality shots of #4 buck or Hevi-Shot BBs.

Stand after stand we called in foxes as we worked up the wash. Some doubles, some just singles. After 6 stands we'd called in 9 foxes and had 5 in the truck. A few had gotten away without a shot fired and a few more had gotten away wounded. As luck would have it I had only bagged 1, while Josh had 4. As the wash dissipated into the upper hills and higher elevation we had to search for flat ground to call into. We found some but between 10 and 1 PM we didn't call in another fox.

Continued on page 6

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Coming Events

- ATA Fur Auction.....Feb. 5, 2011
 APC Meeting.....Feb. 10, 2011
 Save-A-Fawn Hunt.....Feb. 19, 2011
 Board Meeting.....Feb. 28, 2011

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



Membership Report

The following memberships will be expiring in January 2011.

**Greg Moore,
Jeff Kemper,
Richard Strunc**

Welcome new members:

Larry Erickson of Apache Jct.,
Randy Winsor of Chandler,
Ruben Fuentes of Gilbert,
Steve Wisniewski of Mesa
Ken Pence of Wittman
and **Bob Spay Jr.** of Scottsdale.

Thanks to the following for renewing their memberships:

**Stan Cluff, Jim O'Dell,
Doug Wallace, Stan Hardwick,
Josh Ebert, Bob Delano and
Keith Butler**

Please renew your APC membership before it expires. You don't want to miss a single issue of Predator Pride. The membership form is available on the last page of the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance	
Beginning Balance 01-01-10.....	\$230.11
Check #1776 J.Albin, Postage.(\$17.60)	
Check #1777 Legend Express..(\$37.56)	
Check #1779 J.Albin, Postage.(\$26.40)	
Check #1780 M.Burris, Food....(\$39.18)	
Check #1781 M.Burris, Food..(\$650.00)	
Check #1782 Chase, Checks...(\$32.11)	
Deposit AZGFD Hunter Grant..\$2,800.00	
Deposit Memberships.....\$728.00	
Deposit Memberships.....\$30.00	
01/30/10 end balance.....	\$2,985.26
Petty Cash Beginning Balance....	\$96.46
Dues Received.....	\$270.00
Raffles Received.....	\$313.90
Deposit to Checking.....	(\$608.00)
Petty Cash Ending Balance.....	\$72.36
Total cash.....	\$3,057.62
Total Inventory of Goods.....	\$2,251.75
Total Assets.....	\$5,309.37

February Meeting Program

“Alan Korwin on Gun Owner’s Rights”

We will be honored to have **Alan Korwin** speak to us on “**Gun Owner’s Rights**”. Mr. Korwin is a nationally know speaker, writer and consultant who has appeared on network TV as an expert on gun rights. He was on the news 2/1/11 discussing the recent anti-gun tactics employed by New York City Mayor Bloomberg. Mr. Korwin is the author of “**The Arizona Gun Owner’s Guide**” and numerous other books on gun rights. This should be a very informative presentation.

The Arizona Predator Callers meeting is on **Thursday, February 10, 2011. 1010, 2011 at 7:00 PM.**

The meeting will be held in the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #9 at 1450 East Main Street. The FOP Lodge is on the north side of Main Street between Stapley and Gilbert Road in Mesa.

The meeting is free to APC members and students under 18, and \$5 for non-members. Refreshments and door prizes are included in the admission price.

Please contact Mike Burris, APC Vice-President, at (480) 654-1411 if you have any questions.

APC Raffle Tickets Available

The Arizona Predator Callers is raffling two excellent items this month.

The first is a **Mossberg Model 535**, 12 gauge pump shotgun in dipped camo. This is an excellent shotgun for close up predator hunting.

The second item is a **Gametraks electronic caller** that is a sure fire tool to get those predators to come in.

Tickets are available at all club events. The sooner you buy them, the sooner the drawing will take place.

Thanks to **Rich Higgins** for speaking to the APC last month.

Check out Rich’s favorite website at:
www.predatorprofessionals.com
This website has blogs and articles, callers and sounds, tips and tricks, reviews, and stories.

APC Video Library

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

9/9/10	Bob Allen.....	Calling Coyotes
1/13/11	Scott Hornaday.....	Coming to the Call
1/13/11	Seraphim Moreira.....	Coyote Behavior
1/13/11	Christian Ensley.....	Deer Processing
1/13/11	Seraphim Moreira.....	Eyes Front 3
1/10/08	Chuck Beshears.....	Hunting Coyotes East and West
1/13/11	Mason St. Clair.....	Mastering the Art of Predator Calling
10/14/10	Greg Malenfant.....	Mastering Predator Calling
1/13/11	Jose Montijo.....	Nail Em AZ Style
1/13/11	Mickey Ensley.....	Operation Predator
10/14/10	Dusty Sellers.....	Quest for Coyotes
1/13/11	Jose Montijo.....	Texas Predator Pursuit
1/13/11	Ruben Fuentes.....	The Best of the West
3/12/08	Conner Griner.....	Utah Raging Bull

Thanks *Jerry*



“Success In The Field”



Steve Thompson harvested this coyote on 11-20-10.



John Albin harvested this fine gray fox using a Baretta 12ga and Foxpro - Red Fox Pup in Distress call.

If you have a picture of your hunt, please share it with fellow APC members by sending it to the Predator Pride editor. Send to: johnalbin1@msn.com

Hunt and Events Calender

- ATA Fur Auction, Gila Co. Fairgrounds.....Feb. 5, 2011
- General Meeting of APC.....February 10, 2011
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt.....February 19, 2011**
- Antelope Eaters Hunt.....March 5-6, 2011**
- General Meeting of APC.....March 10, 2011
- APC Club Hunt.....March 19, 2011**
- General Meeting of APC.....April 14, 2011
- Griffin Ranch Cleanup.....April 16, 2011
- APC Club Hunt.....April 30, 2011**
- General Meeting & Awards Presentations.....May 12, 2011

Please get these dates and events onto your calendar.
Club hunting events are in red type.
Dates and events are subject to change.

The word “coyote” is derived from the Nahuatl (a people found in central Mexico) word “coyotl.” The coyote’s scientific name, *Canis latrans*, means “barking dog.”

ATA Fur Auction

The Arizona Trappers Association will be holding their annual fur auction February 5th at the Gila County Fairgrounds north of Globe. You can drop your fur off on Friday, February 4th from noon to 6:00 PM or on Saturday morning until 10:30 AM. The auction starts at 12:30 on Saturday, the 5th.

Please call Mike Hull with your fur counts as soon as you can. The fur buyers want to know if it is worth their efforts to attend. Call Mike at 928-674-3355 or Tony Miller at 928-651-5000.

Stan Schepers has an open invitation to APC members or prospective members for one-on-one training on skinning and preparing your fur for sale. Stan can be reached at 480-461-8730 or by cell phone at 602-499-0505.

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Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman

Multi-Club Hunt January 22, 2011

For all of you that hunted the multi-club hunt, thank you for your support. As usual it was a lot of fun and the weather was great. I hunted with Ken McKenna who lives not far from where the check-in was held. This worked out quit well, as I was able to leave my truck and the trailer at his place while we hunted so I didn't have to pull it around all day. We saw two (coyotes) but weren't able to even get off a round before they vanished. There were approximately 75 people at the check-in and we feed most of them. The grill was going for almost 3 hours as people showed up, hamburgers, hot dogs, chili, potato salad, chips, pastries, and cold drinks. I have been assured that I won't have to worry about the food next year since we didn't win the contest. XPC won it and will get to host it next year.

According to the sign-in roster the totals are as follows:

APC.....23 people, (11 teams).....2 coyotes, 8 fox
PVCi.....21 people, (9 teams).....4 coyotes, 1 fox
XPC.....22 people, (12 teams).....5 coyotes, 3 fox, 2 bobcats
SAWC(Tucson)..6 people, (3 teams).....2 coyotes

Our next club hunt is the save-a-fawn hunt in Heber on Feb 19th & 20th. If you are not up for camping there are two motels available: Sawmill Inn in Heber 928-535-5053 or Forest lake lodge in Forest Lakes 928-535-4727

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill ! DUSTY



XPC took first place in the Multi-Club Hunt this year. As you can see from this photo, they were well represented.



Dusty Mosier, Mike Burriss, Mike Collins, Scott Francom and Josh Ebert at the check in table tell about the ones that got away.



Mike Burriss had some family members drop by at check in. From left to right: Grandsons, Buddy, Adam and Connor. Mike and Shannon Collins.



Mary Moore representing XPC checks in her gray fox.



APC Vice President, Mike Burriss congratulates the president of XPC, Kelly Lewis. XPC will host the event in 2012.

President's Message, continued from page 1

Possibly the seasonal snow had pushed the foxes down into the canyon or the time of day was keeping them in their dens. Regardless at 1 we decided to move back down the mountain and into another area we'd seen on the drive up.

We had seen some really thick washes that crossed the roadway that has elevated banks to shoot from on the way up. It looked like prime bobcat country and with the elevated shooting positions we could use our .17 FBs and shoot further distances. We spent the remainder of the afternoon hunting these washes but only called in 1 fox, which was shot.

Racing back to check-in we saw a break in the barbed-wire fence and pulled over. At this point we were tired and the prospect of not climbing another fence was enough to merit a stand. I called in a coyote which took some BBs in its hind end as it did a mach 1 drive by on our stand. We piled in the truck, took off our gear and went to check-in a few miles down the road.

Check-in had Dusty cooking on our new grill we recently purchased. Hamburgers, hot dogs and chili beans for everyone in attendance was a welcomed sight. Numbers were down across the board except for XPC. Since this was their stomping grounds, they were out in force and their dead pile quickly grew.

One pair of hunters brought in 2 nice bobcats, but the pelt on the larger was wasted as it was shot with a .243 and blew a volleyball sized hole in its upper back. The hunter had mentioned he knew there were bobcats in the area but why he chose to carry in a .243 bewildered me. The bobcat weighed 22 pounds and was easily a \$250 pelt if it had been harvested with a shotgun or small caliber rifle. If the hunter is comfortable with his outcome I guess I should just shrug my shoulders and not worry about it.

APC ended up with 8 foxes is all in our dead pile. All of our heavy hitters from years past did not come through for one reason or another. We had only a handful of members that participated, and like in years past with other clubs, you need as many rifles out there shooting to amass a sizable pile of animals.

PVCI had fairly good numbers but XPC by far did the best of rallying their members and won the event easily. Kelly Lewis, the XPC president, is to be congratulated on winning the 2011 Multi-Club Hunt. I believe it is tradition for the presidents of the other hunting clubs to go to the club meeting of the winning club and present the trophy. This trophy has been passed around for many decades and has dozens of engraved labels of each year's club winner. I look forward to going and presenting it to them as they deserved it.

Scott

Save-A-Fawn Hunt February 19, 2011

This year's Save-A-Fawn Hunt will be a one day affair. The goal of this hunt is to help the antelope and deer populations in units 4A, 4B, 3A, 3B and 3C. Please try to hunt these units if possible. We realize that some roads in these units may be closed due to snow, but do your best.

Check in time is 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Check in will be held at the **Red Onion Lounge** in Heber. Address is 1931 Arizona Highway 260, Heber, Arizona

Leave your kills in the truck and come on in for dinner. We will come out to verify your harvests. We are working with the restaurant to secure a discount.

If you want to stay overnight, there are a couple of nice motels in the area. The Best Western Sawmill Inn is in Heber. Their phone number is 928-535-5053. The Forest Lakes Lodge in Forest Lakes number is 928-535-4727.

Coyote Social Seasons

by Rich Higgins

1. Mating (includes Breeding), Dec. 15 - Mar 15

- . Greatest sociality and aggressive behavior
- . Greatest territorial maintenance

2. Denning (includes whelping), Mar 15 - May 15

- . Energy spent providing for pups - less for maint.
- . Least vocal
- . Defend core areas only

3. Pup Rearing, May 15 - Sept. 15

- . Territorial maintenance - Low
- . Core defense - High
- . Reluctant to reveal position
- . More nocturnal and crepuscular

4. Dispersal, Sept. 15 - Dec. 15

- . More transients
- . Relaxed social bonds

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If you have any items you would like to offer for sale to our membership, please get them to the editor of Predator's Pride by the deadline at the end of each month.

Send them to: johnalbin1@msn.com

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Signature: _____

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