

PREDATOR'S PRIDE



ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

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February 2013

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

The President's Message

by Rich Higgins, APC President

Arizona Predator Callers will present a **Novice Callers Workshop** on Saturday, February 23. We will give demonstrations and seminars from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM. See the directions on page 7.

We will cover as many subjects pertaining to calling as possible including:

Close cover shotgun tactics, Tips, tactics and techniques for beginners, Firearm safety, Skinning, Hand Calling versus E-callers, Behavioral responses to predator calls, Rules, regulations and law enforcement.

We will cook breakfast for everyone beginning at 7 AM, lunch at 12:00PM and provide soft drinks and water through the day. At 4:00 PM we will match as many novices as possible with an experienced caller so that you can apply on stand what you have learned during the day.

This is free of charge and everyone is welcome. We would like everyone to contact a board member and sign on so we have an idea of how many to feed. Contact info is on the first page of this newsletter in the green box to the left.

The ATA Fur Auction will be held at the fairgrounds in Globe on Saturday, Feb 2.

At this time our Second Amendment rights are still mostly intact. The NRA is largely responsible for that. Please join the NRA and provide the needed member numbers and funding that will be essential to fight the most serious attack on our firearms RIGHTS that we have ever been subjected to.

I hope to see everyone at the general meeting Thursday night and at the Workshop on the 23rd.

Call'em close

Rich



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Coming Events

APC Meeting.....February 14, 2013
Novice Workshop.February 23, 2013

Monthly APC meetings are held at the Mesa FOP Hall, 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa, from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

Membership Report

Thanks to the following members for renewing their APC memberships:

- Larry Walden, Steve Harris, Susan Frabotta, Robert LaVoie, Steve Jansen, Paul Melching, Andy Musacchio and Dave Ramsay

We want to welcome the following new members to APC:

- Scott Wardlaw of Mesa, Gent Zangen of Mesa, Floyd Pitney of Chandler and Nathan Pitney of Apache Jctn.

The following members will be expiring soon, if not renewed:

- January:** Ruben Fuentes, Kent Gray, Gai Lazaros, Jose Montijo, Joseph Porath, Yigal Shpigel, Mark Thomas, Loren Vickers and David Warren
- February:** Ryan Anderson, Jeff Heinze and James Petersen

Recently expired. We'd love to have you back:

- Stepen Brinkley, John Clemens, Cory Johnson, Skylar Larson, Darrell Miller, Steve Halvorsen, Joe Cottrell, Steve Carter, Jeffrey Ross, Gary Schvaneveldt, Philip Bidegain, Kyle Carter, Sid Chalasani, Alex Johnson, John Davis and Devan Vowell

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.

February Meeting Program "Ron Day"

APC is proud to present **Ron Day**, Arizona Game and Fish wildlife biologist to discuss and inform us on issues hunters face while hunting in Arizona. Open topics as suggested by our members at the meeting will be answered. This presentation is not to be missed.

The Arizona Predator Callers meeting is on **Thursday, February 14, 2012 at 7:00 PM.**

The meeting will be held at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #9 at 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa. 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 Rich Higgins, APC President, at 480-385-9772 or richaz1221@aol.com if you have any questions.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance
Beginning Balance 1-1-13....\$5,367.32

- 1825 Rich Higgins - mtg food..(\$136.00)
- 1826 Pinnacle Peak Hdwr-rifle...(\$312.00)
- 1827 AWF Affiliate Dues.....(\$650.00)

Deposit - memberships.....\$930.00

1/31/13 end balance.....\$5,199.32

- Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....\$98.61
- Call Sales.....\$0.00
- Merchandise.....\$0.00
- Dues Received.....\$60.00
- Raffles Received.....\$662.00
- Deposit to Checking.....(\$690.00)
- Petty Cash Ending Balance.....\$130.61

Total cash.....\$5,329.93

Total Inventory of Goods.....\$1,740.75

Total Assets.....\$7,070.68

APC Video Library

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

- 8/9/12 Michael Munroe.....Coyote Behavior
- 9/13/12 Craig Barnett..Power Howling Coyotes

Thanks *Jerry*

Share the adventure. Send your articles and photos to: johnalbin1@msn.com



Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman



The multi-club hunt was a bust, everyone got rained out. John Arterburn and I headed north to some areas that he had been wanting to call. After a 2 hour rain delay we exited the truck to call our first stand. No response, so back into the truck and down the road we went.

While driving out we saw two coyotes trot across the road in front of us. When we reached the spot, out of the truck I went into the wash and started squeaking. That coyote must have thought that she was hidden behind that mesquite limb. The Dead Coyote load proved her wrong. One in the truck, and the rain started again. We drove around for several hours "scouting" and noting where we will return on a dry day.

By now its noon, so we jumped over to Wickenburg to watch it rain there. By 3:30 the word was spreading that the check-in location was being moved. The rain had started to let up some so we called a couple more stands. I saw one coyote running across in front of us, but it disappeared never to be seen again.

It was dark by the time we got to the check-in, but everyone was leaving. A number of trucks had been stuck and it had taken several hours to get them all out. The people who were suppose to cook for us had already left. We checked

Hunt and Events Calender

ATA Fur Sale.....February 2, 2013
 APC General Meeting.....February 14, 2013
Novice Workshop & Family Campout.....February 23, 2013
 Antelope Eaters Hunt, Seligman.....March 2-3, 2013
Save A Fawn Hunt.....March 30, 2013

More to come.

Please get these dates and events onto your calendar.

Club hunting events are in red type.

Dates and events are subject to change.

All APC General meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month.

All APC Board meetings are held on the last Monday of each month. Any APC member is welcome to attend.

in our one dog and headed to Wickenburg to grab something to eat. The last word we heard was that they would try and reschedule the hunt.

Our next event is the "Novice Boot Camp" on 23 February. If you are new to the sport or not, try and stop by that day. We are planning a number of stations that should help cut the learning curve for new members. To include: camouflage, calling techniques, set up, patterning your shotgun and whatever else you might want to know. There will be more information about this at the meeting.

Antelope Eaters hunt is on 2-3 March in Seligman and the Save-a-Fawn Hunt is on 30 March in Heber. We will talk more about these at the meeting also.

Remember to keep up with filling out your hunt records, as I will be asking for them in April.

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill !

Dusty

Deadline to apply for elk, pronghorn hunts is Feb. 12

Hunters who wish to apply for a 2013 elk or pronghorn antelope hunt permit-tag issued through the drawing process are reminded that applications must be received by the department by Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013, by 7 p.m. (MST).

Applications can be submitted by using the online process (visit <https://az.gov/app/huntdraw/home.xhtml>), or paper applications can be mailed to the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn: Drawing Section, PO Box 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052, or hand-delivered to any of the seven Game and Fish [offices](#) located in Pinetop, Flagstaff, Kingman, Yuma, Tucson, Mesa and Phoenix.

The 2013 Pronghorn Antelope and Elk Hunt Draw Information Booklet is available at Game and Fish offices, at hunting license dealers across the state, or online at www.azgfd.gov/draw.

A 2013 hunting license is required of all applicants to apply in the draw. If you haven't already purchased your license, you can do so through the draw application process. Please keep in mind that if you are purchasing your license online, you must have a working printer handy and print your license out at the time of purchase. The department does not mail out licenses that are purchased online.

For more information, visit www.azgfd.gov/draw.

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Michael Munroe
APC Member
480-788-5518

michael@munroerealty.com
3850 E. Baseline Rd., #119-120 Mesa, AZ 85206

Your Display Ad could go here. If you are an APC member, send your business card or display ad information to: johnalbin1@msn.com



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www.azgfd.gov



Jan. 30, 2013

PHOENIX - The Arizona Senate on Jan. 29, 2013, confirmed Gov. Jan Brewer's appointment of Edward "Pat" Madden of Flagstaff as the newest member of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.

Mr. Madden is an avid outdoors enthusiast and has an extensive law enforcement background. He joined the Arizona Department of Gaming in 1999 and is currently in his 14th year as a special investigator. Earlier, he spent more than three decades working for the Flagstaff Police Department - beginning his career in 1966 as a patrolman and retiring as chief of police in 1999.

Mr. Madden has been an active member of the Flagstaff community and has served on multiple boards and committees, including: Flagstaff Big Brothers; Flagstaff Route 66 Rotary Club; Northern Arizona Fallen Officers Memorial Committee; Flagstaff Leadership; and Citizens Against Substance Abuse.

He also has received numerous awards and commendations for his work and community service. He was recognized as Officer of the Year by the Flagstaff Police Department; received the Outstanding Service Award from Big Brothers Flagstaff; and Rotary International honored him with the Paul Harris Foundation Award. Mr. Madden graduated from Northern Arizona University with a master's in Criminal Justice (1978) and bachelor's in Police Administration (1967). He also is a graduate of the Northwestern Traffic Institute, in Evanston, Ill., (1977), as well as the FBI National Academy, in Quantico, Va. (1979).

"Pat has hunted and fished all over our beautiful state for more than 50 years," said Gov. Brewer. "I know his love of the Arizona outdoors and expertise in wildlife issues will be a tremendous asset to the Commission and to the long-term health of wildlife in Arizona."

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is composed of five members (serving staggered five-year terms) appointed by the governor and confirmed by the state senate. The governor is assisted in the appointment process by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission Appointment Recommendation Board.

No more than one commissioner may be from any one county. No more than three may be from the same political party. The commission is the policy-setting board overseeing the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Since its inception in 1929, this organizational structure has served as a buffer for the best interests of science-driven wildlife conservation during eight decades of back-and-forth political change.

To learn more about the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, visit www.azgfd.gov/commission.

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Stan Schepers, APC Member
602-499-0505 cell 213 E. 10th Dr.
480-461-8823 FAX Mesa, AZ 85210

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 **602-499-0505**.

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ATA Fur Sale

Saturday, February 2, 2013

The Arizona Trappers Association will be putting on their annual Fur Sale on Saturday, February 2, 2013. The sale will be held at the Gila county Fairgrounds, just North of Globe Arizona on US 60. This is a great opportunity for our Arizona Predator Callers member to sell their furs at auction.

You can bring your furs Friday evening or anytime after 6:00 AM on Saturday morning. They stop taking in furs at 10:00 AM, so be in line by ten.

The ATA has two new big buyers interested in coming and want furs, so contact **Mike Huffer** at **480-970-5904** with your fur counts. Mike can also be reached by email at: **mjwildlife1@yahoo.com**

It looks like they could have even another new buyer if they can get some good coyote numbers at the auction. Not a lot of information on fur prices. Mike thinks they should be good. He heard that the last two big auctions sold all of their furs. So, the supply of furs to the demand could drive up prices.

Mike urges you to do your best in skinning, cleaning, fleshing, sewing holes, putting them on the stretcher, and drying your furs. The better your furs look at auction, the more you will get.

The kitchen will be open at the sale for your breakfast and lunch needs.

The ATA will be giving out one raffle ticket to each seller that is for a shotgun. The shotgun will be a Mossberg 500 12/20 HDWD-GRN with sling. This is a pump action 12 gauge with shortened barrel (20") for easy handling, lighter weight alternative to the more traditional 24" barrel lengths. X-Factor turkey tube included. Windage/elevation adjustable fiber-optic sights. Ambidextrous thumb-operated safety. Black rubber recoil pad. Wide ventilated rib. Includes gun lock. The drawing will take place at the auction.

Be sure to contact Mike Huffer with your fur counts. 480-970-5904 or email to mjwildlife1@yahoo.com



2012 ATA Fur Sale consignments



2012 ATA Fur Sale. This is an \$800 Bobcat

1st Annual APC Novice Callers Workshop and Family Campout

The Arizona Predator Callers will be hosting our first ever **APC Novice Callers Workshop and Family Campout** on February 23, 2013. This event is the greatest opportunity for our new members and also those of us that have been wondering what it takes to get these animals to respond to our calls.

Location: **Park Links Road**, which is between Picacho Peak exit and Red Rock exit on the Northbound/Westbound side of I-10 between Casa Grande and Tucson. GPS coordinates are: N 32 36.709' and W 111 18.934'. The **Red Rock Exit** is the shortest travel distance on the frontage road.

Breakfast will be served starting at 7:00 AM with classes starting at 8:00 AM and finishing up at 4:00 PM. when novices will be paired up with an expert to go out and use the techniques you have just learned.

We will cover as many subjects pertaining to calling as possible with experts on the following topics:

Close cover shotgun tactics
Tips, tactics and techniques for beginners
Firearm safety
Skinning
Hand Calling versus E-callers
Behavioral responses to predator calls
Rules, regulations and law enforcement.

Please call one of the following to let us know you will be attending:

President

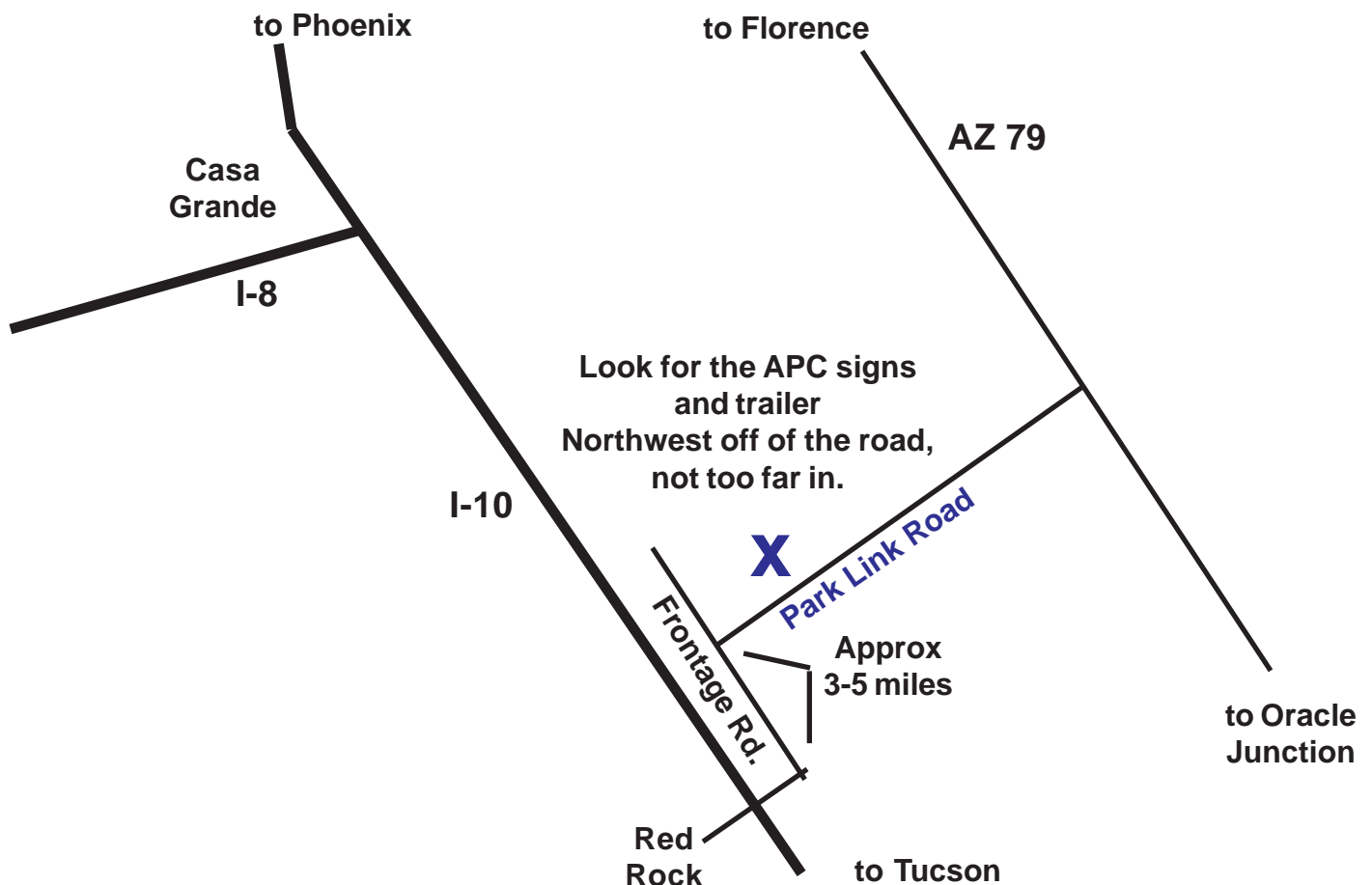
Rich Higgins...480-385-9722 richaz1221@aol.com

Hunt Chairman

Dusty Mosier...480-899-1121 mosierds@yahoo.com

Special Events Chairman

Dennis Slade..928-499-8445 dwslade@gmail.com



Antelope Eaters Hunt

March 2 & 3, 2013

The Mohave Sportsman Club, Northwest Arizona's largest outdoor recreational group has announced that the dates of March 2 & 3, 2013 are the Antelope Eaters XXIV coyote suppression hunt in Northern Arizona.

Purpose & Rules:

The purpose is to reduce the coyote population in prime antelope habitat in Northern Arizona. Hunters, AZ Game and Fish rules and regulations apply. We suggest you hunt in any game management units with antelope: 7, 8, 9, 10, 16A, 18A, 18B, and 19B; however, you can hunt in any game management units with antelope. Team members must hunt as a team and not in separate calling stands.

Information: Cash Prizes

This hunt will be conducted over a two-day period, March 2&3, 2013. Drawing for cash prizes will be as follows: each team member that enters will receive (1) red ticket. Total prize monies are split in half for the two days and are awarded through random drawings of red tickets starting on Saturday night, 9:10 PM.

This process will be repeated on Sunday at 2:10 PM with remaining prize money being dispersed.

Teams must check in each day to be eligible for these cash prizes! Final check-in times are Saturday night, 9:00 PM and Sunday, 2:00 PM, in the parking lot of the BlackCat Bar, Seligman, AZ. No coyotes will be checked in after these times! No exceptions!

More raffle prizes on Saturday Night. See the flyer for more details.

Questions

For information, contact:

Bob Shaw at 928-757-0796 or 928-530-4630
stickflinger65@yahoo.com

Linda Bell at 928-758-2355 or 928-234-4645



Fees:

Entry fees must be paid PRIOR to start of the hunt. The completed form, with a check made out to Mohave Sportsman Club for \$50 for 2-person team or \$75.00 for a 3-person team, must be postmarked by February 22, 2013. NO REFUNDS. Late registrations: cash only and will be accepted at the Black Cat Bar in Seligman Friday, March 1, until 10:00 PM.

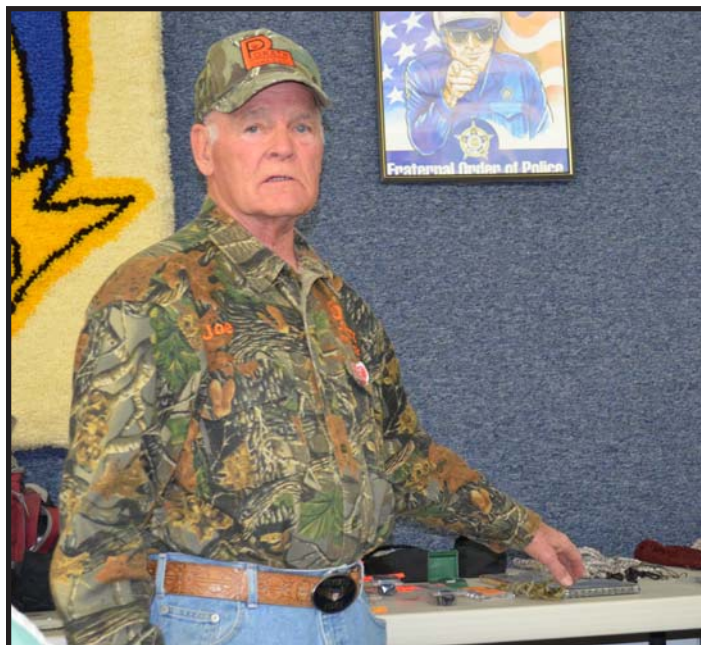
Please go to the Mohave Sportsman Club website for more information and the registration brochure. www.mohavesportsmanclub.com. You can also go directly to the flyer/registration and information brochure by going to: http://mohavesportsmanclub.com/pdf/AE_Program_2013.pdf

Let's have some great representation from the Arizona Predator Callers. Please register for this hunt and help thin out those coyotes up north.

January Meeting Highlights



Gary Christensen, Legislative Director of the Arizona State Rifle and Pistol Association, spoke on gun control issues. To join the ASRPA or get more information, contact Gary at 480-225-9454 or legislative@asrpa.com



Joe Porath of Porath Game Calls, displays some of his items for sale at our meetings.



Jerry Thorson won the Savage Axis bolt action 22-250 rifle at our January meeting. Raffle tickets go for just \$5.00 apiece.



John Arterburn of **Pinnacle Peak Ace Home Center** supplies our raffle firearms. See his ad on page 5.



Predator Hunting Basics 101

by Rich Higgins

I. Basic Equipment

1. Rifle

a. Any centerfire that you are comfortable with is an acceptable starter. I hunted exclusively with a .338 Win Mag for an entire year. It did no more damage with proper bullet placement than my .243. A rimfire is not acceptable for coyotes under calling conditions.

2. Shotgun

a. A 20 ga. in any configuration that you are comfortable with is an acceptable starter. A 12 ga. is preferable because of its denser pattern due to more shot. Coyotes are very tough animals and birdshot just will not penetrate properly. Copper coated BBs, Hevi-shot T, and #4 buck are the most popular shot sizes for predators. The larger buckshot such as 00 has too few pellets to provide a pattern that is dense enough at the ranges that predators are commonly shot.

3. Scope

a. A good quality optic is essential. Generally you get what you pay for. It is common to see hunters with scopes that cost as much as, and even more than, their rifle. A low power variable, such as a 3X9, 3.5X10 or 4X12 is fine. Keep the scope turned to the lowest power when calling to maximize the field of view.

If a long shot is required there is almost always time to turn the power ring all the way up.

4. Shooting sticks

a. Shooting sticks are a very effective aid for precise shooting, but of equal importance they keep the rifle up and pointed in the general direction that the caller expects the animal to approach from which reduces movement that will surely be seen. In addition the lines and shapes that the stick and rifle combo present help to obscure the human form.

5. Electronic calls

a. There are a number of good ecallers available. Your budget is probably the biggest influencing factor. Shop, see what is available in your price range. Make sure it provides rabbit, rodent and bird distress sounds in addition to coyote howls and puppy distress.

6. Hand Calls

a. The number of different calls available from

factory and custom makers can be overwhelming to a novice.

A closed reed, an open reed and a bite or variable call should be on the lanyard of an experienced caller.

The beginner should start with a closed reed call, practice at home, in the truck and on stand until he masters it then begin again with a different type.

A lanyard with 4 calls on it will provide all of the distress sounds that a caller will ever use. Howling is a very effective tool for the more experienced callers.

7. Camouflage

a. The purpose of camouflage is to help the caller blend into his surroundings and escape notice. Canine eyes have evolved to detect 1. movement 2. contrast 3. shape 4. reflectivity 5. color and in that order of importance. Camo manufacturers would like you to believe that you must buy a certain type of camo clothing in order to vanish, to disappear from sight. In reality any clothing or piece of material that does not contrast with the surroundings, disguises the human form, does not shine and is not in the blue spectrum of color will be good.

8. Binoculars

a. Not every caller uses binos, especially those that call in heavy cover.

They are very useful in big open country or when checking under brush for cats.

9. Cover or masking scents

Beginners should concentrate on reducing their personal odor and using the wind to their advantage.

II. Stand Selection

1. Wind

a. Enter the calling area with the wind in your face if possible or approach cross wind from a direction that will pollute a quadrant with the fewest coyotes.

b. Set up with the downwind open whenever possible. If allowed to do so most coyotes will wind up there.

2. Sun.

a. Setting up with the sun at your back often isn't possible. Do not sit in the sun. Sit or stand in the shadows of bushes, trees, ledges, farm machines,

Predator Hunting Basics 101

hay bales, telephone poles, etc.

3. Visibility.

a. Choose a stand that provides the best field of view without exposing yourself. Elevation is your friend, but do not skyline yourself unless you disguise your human form..

b. Thick cover can provide very productive stands even though visibility is severely limited. Make certain that you set up so that coyotes cannot get downwind without being seen.

4. Scouting and locating

a. Information from ranchers, farmers, hikers, field workers, and hunters regarding sightings and howling locations is invaluable.

b. Tracks and scat (droppings) are a sure indicator that coyotes have passed that way.

c. Food, cover and water are essential needs for the coyotes and human activities provide that. Agricultural operations, livestock operations and human residences all attract coyotes.

III. Calling Techniques

1. Electronic Calls

a. Set caller at a distance from your position, preferably upwind, so that an approaching predator's attention is on the caller and not you.

IV. Stand Discipline

1. Stealth

a. Stalk your stand. Approach it as if a predator is very near.

b. Limit all movement. When you must move do so as if a predator were watching you.

2. Awareness

a. Pay attention.

b. Listen for movement and for a change in bird and squirrel sounds.

c. Scan the edges of your field of view. Look for shapes that weren't there before and watch for any movement.

3. Time on Stand.

a. Most callers spend 10-15 minutes on a stand before moving to the next.

b. Pressured coyotes respond on their time schedule and not yours. Sometimes they require a lot of patience.

The length of those stands will be determined by

your patience and attention span.

V. Handling Approaching Coyotes.

a. First calm yourself. The sight of a coyote coming in still sends a spurt of adrenaline in even the most seasoned caller.

b. Reduce the volume of the call and switch to coaxing sounds.

c. Remain calm. Watch the coyote. If he stops and looks behind him you will know that he has company.

Remain calm. When he is moving you can position your rifle or shotgun slowly. Remain calm and look for the other coyotes.

d. As long as the coyote is willing to approach let him. Remain calm and do not shoot yet.

e. Remain still when the coyote stops.

f. If a coyote sees something that he does not like he will look for a way out. Shoot when he looks away from you. Remain calm.

g. When you break stand retrieve your coyote(s) leave as quietly as you entered. It will be easier to call the resident coyotes the next time.

Editor's Note: APC would like to thank Rich Higgins for this great piece. If you want to read it on-line, follow the link provided here.

<http://predatorhuntingforums.com/forums/index.php?/topic/1060-calling-basics-101-for-the-novice/>

Be sure to attend the APC Novice Callers Workshop on February 23, 2013 to get more insight on the subjects mentioned in this article.

Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: _____ Hm Phone: _____ Wk Phone: _____
Address: _____ Fax #: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ DOB: _____
email address: _____

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS LIABILITY RELEASE: by signing below I understand that I will not hold APC and/or APC board of directors, officers, committee Members, Judges, Members, and volunteers responsible in any way for accidents, losses, judgments, or any Act of God that may happen while participating in any APC sponsored or co-sponsored meeting or event. APC policy is to promptly report to law enforcement all suspected abuse and sexual molestation. Have you been convicted of a Crime? ____Yes ____No.

Signature: _____

Additional Family Members

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

Amount Enclosed _____

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

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Address Correction Requested

