

# PREDATOR'S PRIDE



## ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

March 2009

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

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## The President's Message

by Craig Gombos, APC President



Well, it's already March and only about 28 days till the end of fur harvesting! It's getting a little hot too early this year, so check your animals like fox and bobcats for rubbing or thinning of fur. If you see this I would stick to shooting coyotes and leave the others alone unless you see a lion. This also reminds me! There will be no fur auction this year due to lack of buyers and low fur prices as well.

I will be gone starting March 20th. for spring bear!!! I hope others can get to go as well, remember it's mostly over the counter this year, and goes on until around the end of April. This is a great time to go for bear for a couple of reasons: 1. no hound hunters and 2. the fur is a lot nicer to have mounted for a rug or what ever kind of mount you would like.

Looks like the shotgun will be raffled off this meeting, only a few tickets left. This brings up a good question for all of you: What kind of rifle would people like to see as one of our next raffles? (remington 300 win mag, 270, 7mm and so on.) Please send emails so we can pick the most popular round.

I almost forgot, I went on my javelina hunt in unit-10. I was with Sid on Thursday scouting, we didn't see any but found a little sign here and there. We went to Lilo's for dinner and had a great meal. Everyone was friendly and a lot of other people were out looking for pigs. While talking, Sid and I met a lady named Brenda Bryant. She is the daughter of the owner of Lilo's. It just so happens her husband runs a guide service out of Seligman, she called Randy up and he met up with us at the restaurant. He was happy to help us out and point us in the right direction. Sid had to bail out on Friday opening day due to a death in the family. He is on his way to India for his grandmothers funeral, keep them in your prayers... After spending all day Friday glassing and hiking I met up with Randy Bryant that evening again and ended up spending the night at his house talking about all kinds of hunting. Randy ended up taking me out Saturday morning and putting me in a good area to glass and call. I ended up calling a coyote on 1 stand and then drove down another road. While driving very slowly a javelina darted in front of me about 50yds. I grabbed my 22-250 and ran after him. The pig was just in the tree line so I layed down and took the shot! Then the work started, I had never got a javelina in my life or even been close to a dead one. This gland they have on there back is foul and looks wierd. I would like to thank Randy and his family for having me over and turning me onto some pigs. Thanks Randy!

Randy's info for anyone ever interested is ( RANDY BRYANT Guide and outfitter 928-422-4045 and cell 928-853-0317 )

Thanks

*Craig*

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### Coming Events

Antelope Eaters Hunt...Mar 7-8, 2009  
General Meeting.....Mar 12, 2009  
Board Meeting.....Mar 30, 2009

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

### Treasurer's Report

by Jerry Thorson, APC Treasurer

This Treasurer's report details all transactions from January 1 thru January 30, 2008.

#### Checking Account

Beginning Balance.....	\$1,769.34
Check #1689 WCCC Dues.....(100.00)	
Check #1690 D.Burris, Fundraiser.....(300.00)	
Check #1691 Kara Jensen, Postage....(84.00)	
Check #1692 J.Albin, Meter Cartridge..(30.72)	
Check #1693 AWF, Jan Memberships..(97.50)	
Check #1694 C.Gombos, Mtg Food.....(20.00)	
Check #1695 Tempe YMCA, Donation.(250.00)	
Deposit Memberships & Cash.....	995.00
Ending Balance 12/31/08.....	\$1,882.12

#### Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....	\$85.60
Call Sales .....	\$16.25
Merchandise.....	\$7.00
Dues.....	\$330.00
Raffles.....	\$573.00
Deposits to Checking.....	(\$870.00)
Petty Cash End Balance.....	\$141.85

Total Cash.....\$2,023.97

#### Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$3,599.75

Total Assets.....\$5,623.72

#### APC Video Library

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

- 1/10/08 Chuck Beshears.....Hunting Coyotes East and West
- 3/12/08 Conner Griner.....Utah Raging Bull
- 5/8/08 Troy Simmons.....Hunting in the East
- 1/8/09 Kara Jensen.....Alone in the Wilderness
- 1/8/09 Leon Lee.....Beyond Belief, How to Shoot Long Range
- 1/8/09 Louis Scott.....Calling Coyotes
- 1/8/09 Louis Scott.....Calling all Coyotes II
- 1/8/09 Louis Scott.....Power Howling Coyotes
- 1/8/09 Jeff Heinze.....Texas Predator Pursuit
- 1/8/09 Jeff Heinze.....Up Close & Personal with Rich Higgins
- 2/12/09 Dave Warren.....Operation Predator

Thanks *Jerry*



## March Meeting Program "David Bergman"

The Arizona Predator Callers are hosting a predator hunting seminar on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The meeting features a presentation by **David Bergman**, Arizona Wildlife Services State Director

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.

## Shotgun to be Ruffled

Arizona Predator Callers are raffling off another shotgun chambered in 3 1/2". This is the perfect firearms for the up coming season. The shotun comes 'dipped' with a Mossy Oak pattern. Tickets can be purchased at all monthly meetings. For more information on the raffle contact Mike Burris (his email address is located on the front page).



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# Hunt Report

by **Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman**



Our season is coming to a close and I hope all of you got a chance to get out and do some calling.

My brother-in-law, Dave, his two sons and my daughter and I all had Unit 22 HAM javelina tags. We set up camp Thursday afternoon for a four day hunt with great expectations. Friday morning at daylight we all climbed the steep hill behind our campsite and spread out to do some glassing. A couple of hours had passed when shots rang out, Dave had decided to move to a new spot and while wading through the brush he ran into a small herd. He managed to get off several fast shots which woke up everyone. Within a few minutes my daughter, Lisa spotted 15 to 20 pig moving through a small basin below us. We quickly descended and tried to catch them but they melted into the brush never to be seen again. Saturday was uneventful with a warm wind blowing under bright blue skies. Sunday morning we woke to a steady rain that rarely broke, in fact it was still raining Monday morning as we broke camp.

We came home with no javelina but everyone had a great time even with the rain. You know what they say " the worst day hunting is better than the best day working".

Hope all of you are filling out your hunt records, they are due at Aprils meeting on the 9th. If you don't turn one in, I will be calling you! You can give me one at the meeting, Fax it to me at 480-899-0975, or E-mail me at [mosierds@yahoo.com](mailto:mosierds@yahoo.com). Weather you killed anything or not I still need to hear from you. I combine all of your records and print out a summery, by hunt unit how many predators we as a club have taken. Please turn in your records.

Be Safe, Have Fun. Shoot to Kill !

*Dusty*

# Membership Report

by *Kara Jensen, APC Membership*

Welcome new members:  
**Chris Davis** of Phoenix, **Joseph Vielle**, **Bob Jeffery**, **Mark Allen** and **Jose Montijo** of Mesa, **Mike Baier** of Chandler, **Jimmy Stewart** of Queen Creek and **Phillip Jones** of Valley Farms

Thanks to:  
**Sid Chalasani**, **Dave Frank**, **Bill Baber**, **Ron Segal**, **Kara Jensen** and **Frederick Kotar** for renewing their memberships.

*Your Arizona Predator Caller membership expiration date is on the mailing label at the right of your name. Make a note of it and please renew before it expires. You don't want to miss a single issue of Predator Pride.*

If you've let your membership with our club expire, please contact us. If you have any questions regarding your existing membership, please give me a call at **602-309-2517** or you can e-mail me anytime at: [membership@azpredatorcallers.com](mailto:membership@azpredatorcallers.com)

# 2008 World Coyote Calling Championship Results

The WCCC took place in Cortez, Colorado with 128 two-man teams participating. There were a total of 391 coyotes checked in. **Al Morris** of Utah and **Garvin Young** from California repeated as champions, with a take of 18 coyotes. This was five more than the second place team.

The win was the team's third, the most by a team in the World Coyote Calling Championships. Al and Garvin also won in 1997 and 2007 and are the first team to win back-to-back championships.

The 19th WCCC will be hosted by the Four Corners Rifle and Pistol Club in Cortez, Colorado on December 3, 4 and 5, 2009. For additional information or to register, contact Bill Countess at 970-533-7493 or 970-533-7117.

## Hunt Calendar

(Dates subject to change)

- Antelope Eaters Hunt, Seligman, AZ.....March 7-8, 2009**
- ATA Fur Sale .....Cancelled**
- APC Shootout.....April 11, 2009**
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt, Heber, AZ.....May 2-3, 2009**

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## From the Arizona Trappers Association

February 25, 2009

As of February 24, 2009 only 200 furs have been called in to the fur manager and the fur buyers are not willing to come for so few furs so the fur sale, scheduled for March 14th, is cancelled.

Below is a list of buyers that you might be able to ship to directly:

Terry Montgomery - 1-801-394-4686  
Michael Pappus - 1-310-285-0832  
Cox Fur - 1-505-242-4980  
Globe Hide & Fur - 1-928-425-9455  
Loren Covington - 1-928-521-3700

I am very sorry for the inconvenience, but we feel it is in the best interest of everyone at this time due to the economic strain we are all experiencing.

If you have questions give me a call at : 928-300-8684 (cell) or 928-757-3860 (home). My email address is [rgvan@npgcable.com](mailto:rgvan@npgcable.com)

In regards to the Trappers Ed class please contact Kurt Bonnewell at 928-636-2763.

Sincerely,

Rick Van Horn  
President, Arizona Trappers Association

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Send your hunt photos to:  
[editor@azpredatorcallers.com](mailto:editor@azpredatorcallers.com)  
and we will show fellow members your  
"Success In The Field"

## "Success in the Field"



This is a picture of a coyote taxidermy mount called in and harvested by Craig Gombos.



Hard to believe, but this cat is wearing a coat made from a coyote hide. Kara Jensen has quite a sense of humor.

Kara says, "I skinned a small coyote on one of the novice hunts and made a coat for my 20 y.o. cat. She seems to like how warm it keeps her!"

## Hunting With The New APC President

by Sid Chalasani

This was the day after our January meeting, when Craig Gombos was announced our club president. It is always a wonderful experience to go hunting with Craig. Craig's selection stand locations and his calling are both truly amazing. I am writing about this day as it is one of those rare days when something exciting happened at most of the stands.

Well, the day started with alarm going off at 4:00 AM and the wife getting extremely upset that I was getting up so early for a waste of time hobby (this is how all my hunts begin). I left my home and met Craig at his house and transferred the guns and gear to his monster truck. We planned to call in Unit 23 as I had an archery deer tag and there is a good chance to see a nice buck.

We pulled on to a dirt road at about 6:40 AM and saw a Grey Fox trying to cross the road in front of us, it saw the truck and darted back into the brush where it came out of. We stopped the truck and waited in the truck till there is enough light. Both of us picked up our shot guns and went to the stand and Craig started calling. The Fox never showed up but a Coyote showed up after 10 minutes. Craig shot him at about 40 yards and we went to the spot looking for him. We could not find him but found his blood trail, we tracked the blood trail for over 200 yards in the thick brush, it reminded me of my first Elk hunt.

We gave up after about 200 yards of tracking, as we were very excited and did not want to loose early morning hunting time. Craig blamed the shot gun and said that he would have dropped the Coyote if he had his 17 fireball.

Nothing showed up on the second stand so we moved on to the third one. On the third one, I had a shot gun and Craig had his 17 fireball with him. I heard a bang after about 5 minutes of calling, couldn't figure out what Craig shot. Craig asked me to stay where I was and he walked over to the next hill to recover the Fox he shot. He shot a Fox at about 300 yards, I still can't figure out how he saw a Fox in such thick brush at 300 yards when I could not see the Fox even after he was holding it up.

We moved on to the next stand, there was a nice wash flowing with water and it was beautiful, but nothing showed up. There were lot of people on their Jeeps, so we decided to get out of there.

We parked at the next spot and started walking towards the stand and we saw a herd of about 10 or 12 Javelina coming down a mountain. We sat down and watched them from about 30 yards distance for about 20 minutes till they went down into a little cave like area

to bed down. This is the first time I have seen Javelina for such a long time without disturbing them. The Javelina froze and the hair on their back was raised when ever Craig made a huffing noise but they couldn't figure out what we were even when we were so close to them. We walked away from that spot and made a stand and nothing showed up but seeing so many pigs was cool.

We drove down to another spot about 10 miles North and started calling. Craig was about 30 yards behind me and was sitting on top of a rock about 8 feet high and I was standing on the ground. After about 10 minutes of calling Craig whistled at me and I turned around and he was pointing to the ground under the rock he was on, there was a Javelina there staring at him. We watched him for a little bit and he started the caller again and the Javelina started coming towards the caller. The caller was closer to me and he started coming towards me. All excitement in me was replaced with fear that he will attack me, I was signaling to Craig to stop. I remembered my Texas hunt where Javelina tore up 4 dogs and almost killed them. I pointed my gun at him when it was about 5 yards from me. I was scared to move as I was afraid that he will be startled and will attack me. I gathered enough courage and waved my hand and that worked, he ran off and stopped at about 20 yards and walked away. Craig came down from the rock and asked me why I scared him away, I was like, heck with you man. This will be a memorable stand for me.

We went further down the road and pulled over for another stand, we saw a whole bunch of Javelina prints and we saw the muddy area where they probably rolled and had a mud bath. Nothing showed up at that stand but we saw a carcass of a Javelina. It probably was a road kill. Seeing so many Pigs on one day never happened to me, I want to name this Friday, "The Pig Friday". This was the last stand as we hunted only till about 2:00 PM.

I hunted Javelina for 4 days last year and didn't see even one, I was frustrated and decided never to put in for a Javelina tag. After this Pig Friday, I can't wait for Javelina season to open up.

Thanks to Craig for picking such good hunting spots.

**Have a safe hunt, Sid**



# Alaskan Ram Hunt

By Lewis Scott, APC Member

I stepped out from a rock outcrop. There they were. None full swirl rams about 20 yards away standing in single file. It all started the year before at Ft. Ord, California where I was stationed in the army. My enlistment was almost up. I had 5 or 6 years service. I told my unit I wanted to go to Alaska. It didn't make any difference if I was in the military or as a civilian. A week or so later I was informed that I would be assigned to a maintenance unit at the Ft. Greely, Alaska. I accepted the assignment and had 13 days travel time to get there.

I am the son of a Pennsylvania coal miner and hunting and fishing was a way of life for our family. We lived out of town on about 15 acres. Dad worked in the coalmines and farmed and was into Beagles. He had a kennel with about 70 dogs at any one time. He bred, trained, boarded and sold dogs. He used to run them in field trials. He started me hunting rabbits, then grouse and then deer.

After I graduated from high school I wondered around a few years and finally went in the military. I spent a tour in Germany and wrote home to a gunsmith to build a 30-06 on a Savage 110 left hand bolt-action rifle for me. He finally sent the rifle to me after I got to Ft. Ord, California. He told me it would shoot as good as I could hold it. I got a box of Remington 150 grain bullets and hit the range. I was upset with the 6" groups I got. I talked to a friend in my unit and he told me we had a young fellow that was TDY to Texas and would be back to the unit in a month. He was a gunsmith. When he came back and I met him we hit it off right at the start. He said come to my house this weekend and we will load some shells. When I got there we went to his car, a 1952 Ford Station wagon. He dropped the tailgate got a Herter's press and a drill out. He lined the press up on the tailgate drilled some holes bolted it down and we were in business. He loaded a box of shells with 53 grains of 4064 and 125-grain Sierra bullet. Off to the range we went. Was I surprised to shoot  $\frac{3}{4}$ " groups now. Before the sun set I ordered a Herter's press and still have it today.

While at Ft. Ord we spent a lot of time training in the desert about 70 miles south. It was heaven for me for a year. There were many ponds and lakes with a lot of bass in them along with a lot of black tail deer, quail, jackrabbits, ground squirrels, crows, coyotes, and domestic pigs gone wild. I had a field day. While at Ft. Ord I bought a 13' travel trailer. I was single and living in the barracks and I was getting too much hunting and fishing gear and needed a place to put it.

Well time to head north. I cleared base, loaded up my gear, hooked up to the trailer and away I go. This was March 1965 and I drove hard until I got to the start of the Alcan Highway in B.C. I wanted to fish all the way to Alaska. By the time I hit the Alcan Highway, it kept getting colder and everything was frozen solid all the way north. It was a great trip. I took all 13 days of travel time and meet many fine people on the trip up. I never saw a head of game the whole

trip up. It was a lonely trip being by myself with so much empty land all the way. Finally got to Ft. Greely, which is 105 miles south of Fairbanks, right in the heart of the Alaskan Range. I reported in and got settled down and went to work in the shop.

When Memorial Day came we had a long weekend. A few of us packed up and drove down to the coast to Valdez to hunt bear. We camped outside of town on a snow bank. There was a lot of snow and the black bear were still in hibernation. It was a great trip for me in beautiful country that I always dreamed about hunting in. I returned to the same area about a month later and killed by first bear at about 20 yards. About the first part of July the snow was about gone, I went down to Bear Creek and took a trail up to the high country were the sheep were. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile up from the road you got out of the timber. With a light pack you could make it to a canyon at the base of the Black Rapids Glacier with a long days hike. I would always see about 150 sheep in that canyon but no rams. What a beautiful sight. I spent many days and many hours glassing those sheep. It would not be until next year August 1966 were I would be in Alaska a year and be legal to kill a ram.

The summer of 1966 I was again in the high country looking those sheep over. I finally spotted a  $\frac{3}{4}$  ram on top before the season opened. That ram was less than 100 yards. I felt the wind change and hit the back of my neck. That ram got my scent and jumped straight up in the air. When it landed it was running and I never saw it again. I made up my mind I would hunt for that ram when the season opened the first of August. I spent as much free time as I had up in the high country looking for rams but never saw another one until the season opened in August.

I took a 30-day leave and drove down to the Bear Creek drainage. I parked my car, shouldered my pack and found the game trail and up the mountain I went. On the second day going in I ran into a fellow coming out and we chatted a while. He said he did not see a thing. I spent a lot of time in that country and it was the first time I saw another person. It was late in the afternoon of the second day I made it back to the top of the canyon where the Black Rapids Glacier was. When I looked down into the canyon below the glacier there they were about 100 to 150 lambs and ewes. They were always there. I found a nice spot to set down and rest a bit. I then set my spotting scope up. I was looking the sheep over which were about a mile below me and for the first time I counted 9 full curl rams. I really got excited and my heart was pounding. Finally after all that time I spent up in the rocks, there they were. It was a long hard day for me in rough country but when I saw those rams I really got pumped up.

I started planning my stalk. The wind was good as it was late in the day and the wind currents were coming up the mountain. In Alaska in August there is only about 4 hours of darkness, so I had very long days. I had to work my way down that mountain and hope those sheep would not see me. I made it down to the area were the sheep were. I was in a creek bed about 500 yards from the sheep. I happened



to look up and there on a bank above me was a ewe looking down at me. I don't know where she came from. Well she spooked and I never saw so many sheep disappear so fast. I ran to the top of the bank and the 9 rams stayed together. I fired 4 shots to no avail. The rams ran down the canyon and then up the mountain that I just spent hours coming down. I took a break for a couple hours to let things settle down. Finally I started to work my way up the mountain where the sheep went. I was going up a step shale slide about 1/2 way up the mountain and I looked up and there was a ram about 40 yards above me. I jacked a round in the chamber and put the scope on him. He was huge and a full curl ram, but the horns were broomed real badly. I put the rifle down and let him go. I looked up the mountain and on the very top was another ram just like him looking down at me.

When the horns block their eyesight they rub them on the rocks. This is done so they can spot wolves or the grizzly bear that may be stalking them. I let that ram work itself up the mountain out of sight. I then climbed up to where it was and turned to my left to where it came from. I walked a short distance to a rock outcrop. I stepped out from the rock outcrop and there they were, 9 full curl rams 20 yards away standing in single file facing up the mountain. I jumped back behind the rocks and took my pack off and chambered a round and stepped out again. I put the scope on the lead ram, and then the second in line then the third. Bang, down he went. The 8 rams milled around for a few minutes and then went up the mountain. I was very excited. What a beautiful ram after a hard hunt and a long stalk. It was a curl plus 1/4. Now the work began to get the meat boned out and the cape and horns. By the time I got done the darkness closed in on me. All my gear was at the bottom of the mountain. The wind was now coming down the canyon off the glacier and it was cold. It was out of the question to go down the mountain in the dark.

The next 4 hours or so I walked back and forth on a trail to keep warm until it got light enough to see. I got my pack on and went out to the shale slide I came up. When I looked down it was really steep and I thought wow, I came up there? I tried to go over the top of the mountain but it was so steep

and rough I could not make it. I had to pack the load down the mountain the way I came up. It took me a few hours to get back to my gear. I dropped my pack and kicked some rocks away and rolled my sleeping bag out. I was pooped. I was sound asleep for I don't know how long when something hit my shoulder hard and woke me up. I was terrified as I heard a sow grizzly was in the area with 2 cubs and I thought she found me with fresh meat. I was afraid to open my eyes. When I opened my eyes there was a Ptarmigan that flew off the mountain and hit my shoulder when it landed. That is a type of grouse, which is a native bird in Alaska. They turn white in the winter and brown in the summer. I was happy to see it was a bird and not a bear that hit me. What an experience.

When I finally got up and was fixing something to eat a fellow walked up and said, "A nice ram and I hope we get to mount it". I wondered where he came from. After we got something to eat we loaded our gear, shouldered our packs and he helped take the meat out. I had to let part of my gear on the mountain and go back for it later.

When I got back to base and measured the horns, one was 39 3/4 and the other was 40 inches with 9-inch bases. It was officially scored for the book February 1968 and was 13 points shy of making the record book. Of the rams I don't know if I took the biggest but I'm happy I got the ram I wanted.

The fellow, Frank, that helped me pack out took the cape and horns and did a beautiful mount. They were in Fairbanks. I had to pack in and get the rest of my gear and we had an early winter snow in the mountain but my gear was down below the snow line. I now figured those sheep sensed that storm was coming so they had moved to their winter area early. I would have had a hard time finding a ram in that country had it not been for that storm coming. I can't begin to describe how rugged those mountains are and you can see a long way but getting from point A to point B can be a real challenge. Back then I was in the best shape in my lifetime. I kept the back strap and gave Frank the rest of the meat. After I tasted it I wished I had kept more meat. It was the best meat I ever ate. The sheep have hair just like a deer. They are kind of short and stocky. Alaska is a young man's country and if you don't respect the weather it will kill you. What a beautiful place.



**If you have a hunting story  
you would like to share,  
please send it to:  
editor@azpredatorcallers.com**

## Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hm Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Additional Family Members

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



Address Correction Requested

