

PREDATOR'S PRIDE



ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

November 2007

APC P.O. Box 1172 Mesa, AZ

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS 2007 Board of Directors

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stan Schepers, APC President

HELLO EVERYONE

I am sad to say that APC and the state of AZ, has lost a GREAT SPORTSMAN, MIKE KANNAPEL. Mike will be deeply missed on the APC Board of Directors, just his contacts alone. There aren't too many people in the hunting community that didn't know Mike. He was involved with APC since the 1950's as well as many other organizations in AZ. When it came to predator calling Mike was a legend. His ability to call lions was unmatched, over 300 documented, by his clients. Also Mike was always there to help and answer any questions you had pertaining to hunting as well as mark a map to help you get started. Mike, we are going to miss you!!!!



I would like to thank Gary Cleavenger for demoing his electronic callers and decoys at the last meeting. His in-depth comparison of each one of them was unbelievable. Thanks, Gary.

Well the bear hunt was a nice way to start the season off. I called 5 foxes & harvested 3 of them with a 30.06. Did not see any bears or coyotes or wolves this year. There was one bear called but was not harvested, by Dusty. I'm thinking we need a new area next year, if anyone has any ideas let me know.

Novice hunt turn out was good. We had 8 teams hunting and about 30 people at check-in, which was nice. The trailer really made a great improvement.

One problem I see that needs to be discussed is GUN SAFETY. The novice hunt had 2 accidental discharges. At the check-in I was talking to Craig Gombos. When I turned to my right I was looking down a gun barrel. This just is NOT ACCEPTABLE. As an adult and sportsman, I feel we all need to be reminded of the consequences of not handling fire arms safely. I have taken Hunter's Education three different times, and can't wait until I can take it again with my grandson. Something everyone should know and practice is **T.A.B.**

- Treat every gun as if it was loaded.
- Always point muzzle in safe direction.
- Besure of your target and beyond.

Another thing that bothers me is when I see somebody handling a gun with their finger on the trigger. In the past when I have mentioned this to someone, they always tell me the gun was unloaded, I checked it. That scares me even more. Because if you practice handling a firearm with your finger on the trigger, sooner or later you will have an accidental discharge. You should NEVER have your finger on the trigger until your target is in sight.

Stan

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Treasurers Report

by Jerry Thorson, APC Treasurer

This Treasurers report details all transactions from Oct 1 thru Oct 30, 2007.

Checking Account

Beginning Balance..... \$5,845.11

- Chk #1594 Legends Express.....(\$111.99)
- Chk #1596 Mike Burris - WCCC.....(\$150.74)
- Chk #1597 Tournament Supply.....(\$340.11)
- Chk #1598 AZGF Ad.....(\$300.00)
- Chk #1599 AWF - 12 members.....(\$78.00)
- Chk #1600 Pitney Bowes Postage.(\$238.72)

Deposit.....Memberships.....\$755.00
Deposit.....WCCC.....\$3,430.00

Ending Balance 10/30/07.....\$8,810.55

Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance....\$89.12

- Merchandise Sales.....\$137.00
 - Dues.....\$125.00
 - Rifle & Knife Raffle.....\$170.00
 - Raffles.....\$71.00
 - Deposits to Checking.....(\$510.00)
- Petty Cash End Balance.....\$82.12

Total Cash.....\$8,892.67

Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$3,003.75

Total Assets.....\$11,896.42

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
- 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
- 9/14/07 Conner Griner..Prescription for Success
- 9/14/07 Conner Griner..Truth #2 Calling All Coyotes
- 9/14/07 Chuck Beshears..Truth #2 Calling All Coyotes

Thanks *Jerry*



November Meeting Program

The Arizona Predator Callers are hosting speaker Jeff Serdy who will be giving a skinning demonstration and discussing fur preparation. In addition, John Schwartzlow producer of "Hunters Guide To Wild Game Field Care" DVD will also talk on case skinning predators and preparation for tanning for the fur market.

When: Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 7:00 PM.

Where: 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.

Meet Your APC Board Members



Dusty Mosier
Hunt Chairman



John Albin
Newsletter Editor

Coming Events

- Nov. General Meeting.....8 Nov '07
- Nov. Novice Hunt #2.....10 Nov '07
- Nov. Board Meeting.....26 Nov '07
- Dec. General Meeting.....13 Dec '07

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

APC Classified Ads

Individual classified ads are listed free in the Predator's Pride to all APC members. For commercial ads, please contact the newsletter editor.

Arizona Liquid Graphics
Quality Hydrographic Imaging
Specializing in Camo Designs

Bob Bogaard 602-769-5019
rbogaard@cox.net

Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman

The club bear hunt over 5-7 October was a success, at least for me anyway. I called a bear; unfortunately it was late afternoon Thursday and the season didn't open until Friday. But it was still pretty neat to call one in. I went up Wednesday morning vowing to call my special spot twice a day the entire time I was there. I have called two lions, coyotes, fox, and a skunk from this rock, and now a bear.

Thursday night I was pumped, knowing that I was going to call again the next morning and that the bear might still be in the area. Well, before dawn on Friday I drove my quad out of camp. As I turned down the little road into "my spot", there where I park my quad, were several trucks, tents, pop-ups, and a travel trailer. To my shock a whole circus of people had set up camp during the night, not a hundred yards from the best rock in the whole area. Well, so much for plan A, on to plan B. I spent the rest of the hunt calling all over the place and not seeing anything. There is always next year.

The novice hunt last weekend was a success. Out of seven teams, five went out (two novices canceled at the last minute). We also had several other teams of members hunt and come to the check-in, around thirty people in all. Stan skinned three fox and a coyote. The other coyote was missing a large section of back, so it didn't make the cut. We had lots of food and drinks and stories to tell. I believe a good time was had by all. Our next hunt is this Saturday (10 November). I hope to see more members there.

As you've probably heard we had a couple of accidental discharges by novices on the hunt. It is your responsibly as a hunter to know your weapons and keep them in top working order. You should be able to tell by feel whether the safety is on or off and whether the action is open or closed! It is your weapon, your responsibility, period. We do not want any more "accidents". This is the reason why I sometimes have a tough time getting enough experienced club members to take novices out. Safety First, Last, and Always!

BE SAFE, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill !

Dusty

Hunt Calendar

- Novice Hunt #2.....November 10, 2007
- World Championship Hunt...
.....November 29, 30, 2007 & December 1, 2007
- Fur Donation Hunt.....January 5, 2008
- Antelope Eaters Hunt.....March 1-2, 2008
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt.....(New Date).....March 15, 16, 2008



Membership Report

by Kara Jensen, APC Membership

Welcome new members **Thomas Dolbow**, Scottsdale, **Nathan Mendenhall**, Mesa, and **Ed Temerowski**, Wickenburg.

Thanks to:

Randall Jorgensen, Mark Verdejo, Forest Kirchner, Gordon Dolley, Larry Walden, John Schwartzlow, Tom Harrison, Louis Wilcox and Craig Borsheim

for renewing their memberships.

Memberships Expiring Now

Name	Expiration Date
Bob Allen	11/1/2007
Mark Allen	11/1/2007
Gary Allred	11/1/2007
Craig Barnett	11/1/2007
George Buethe	11/1/2007
Sid Chalasani	11/1/2007
Gordon Dolley	11/1/2007
Bob Lewis	11/1/2007
Andy Musacchio	11/1/2007
Mark Plowman	11/1/2007
David Sherwood	11/1/2007
Todd Sherwood	11/1/2007
Mark Verdejo	11/1/2007
Devan Vowell	11/1/2007
Michael Zaccardi	11/1/2007

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 **1-800-756-7094** or you can e-mail me any time at: membership@azpredatorcallers.com

Kara



On the Stand

by Larry Walden, APC Special Events Coordinator

This month - On the Stand with: APC Program Director **Rich Higgins**

Rich is our current APC Program Director and has been predator calling since 1959. His predator calling experience is, to say the least, extensive. Rich has been published in 16 different books and magazines. He has done predator damage control while living in Missouri. These days Rich heads into the field toting a digital recorder as often as a gun. Rich and his son Tyler have captured some extraordinary footage of coyote behavior.



Rich Higgins

Check out Gerry Blair's newest book Predator Calling with Gerry Blair 2nd Edition. Rich's picture with Gerry is on page 50.

1. How did you get started predator hunting?

I read an article in Fur, Fish & Game when I was 16 years old, and ordered a call through the mail and started calling.

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

Dan Hesse, Jim Daugherty and Murry Burnham.

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

I call year around -every single weekend. I like it when it is cool enough to be comfortable and the time of the year when we have the great Arizona sunrises.

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

Units 37, 41 & 17.

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

Sceery – AP6, Krusty Krier (by Jeff Savoie) & Arizona Game Calls Jackrabbit Distress – closed reed.

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

Yes. For contest hunts, excluding Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. events and sometimes when digitally recording Coyote behavior, I use electronic callers. I am a field representative for Minaska Outdoors and I have a Bandit - M1.

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

Yes, everything from battery powered kid's toy animals to feathers on fishing line. Favorites - Predator Enticer and the 'new' Sidewinder by Minaska Outdoors.

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

No such thing as cover scent! I use a mix of several things (coyote urine and many other ingredients) to create a 'mist' which causes the coyote to experience sensory overload.

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.
 - Visibility – shooting/filming lanes.
- Wind direction is the most important.

10. Describe your most memorable predator hunt.

In June of 2005 I was invited to call for some university researchers who were studying coyote behavior. Several coyotes were radio collared and sent signals to a satellite every 5 minutes. While I called, the researchers recorded the coyotes' behavior. Later on, I was able to view the coyotes' response to my calls on the researcher's computer displays.

Seeing my son Tyler call in a coyote when he was 4 years old.

When I am able to video the exact coyote behavior I am hoping to capture.

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

Coyotes. They are fascinating.

12. Describe your single most successful predator stand?

Years ago I was with my brother-in-law and we called in 12 to 16 coyotes on one stand at the same time.

13. Describe your most disastrous predator hunting adventure?

Haven't had anything happen I would consider a disaster.

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

I like my TC Contender - .223 Remington for fur and in 6mm JDJ for contests when I want the "bang-flop" to occur. Remington Special Field grade 2 3/4" 12GA.

15. What is your favorite camo / pattern?

No favorite pattern but I do like Leafy Wear 3D ponchos.

16. Name your favorite annual APC hunt or activity.

APC novice hunts.

17. What is your number one predator hunting goal?

To continue to enjoy calling as much as I do now ...forever.

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?

None come to mind.

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

Nice people with good hearts and no understanding.

21. Describe your dream big game/predator hunt.

Make a 6 month trip and call a coyote in all 48 contiguous states.

A Learning Experience by Kara Jensen

I got invited to tag along on a limited opportunity archery cow elk hunt. Having not been drawn for anything this year and that my 2 hunts were guided rifle hunts, I looked forward to a different experience. My partner had purchased a left over tag that covered several units and those units had low or zero success rate in the year prior. I was warned this wouldn't be an easy hunt and I looked forward to it!

This also would be my first experience in hearing the bulls bugle. I knew I was in for a treat! After several technical delays when we attempted to leave town at noon, we found our camp spot at about 10:30 pm Thursday night. Fortunately it was a balmy night and we pulled out the cots and slept under the stars. 4:00 am came a little too early but luckily for me my hunting buddy also liked a cup of hot coffee before starting out!

The first morning was quiet with no bugling. This morning was our exploring time. We did see a male antelope and some mule deer. We spent a few hours that morning on the quad on roads that seemed to be laid over the biggest rocks and roughest terrain in the area. We came across some young mule deer bucks with small velvety antlers. One only had one antler so I dubbed him Elliot for the one antlered deer in the animated movie 'Open Season', which if you haven't seen, rent it, it's hilarious.

Later that day I sat in my first blind at a water hole and hoped for the elk to come in. Here I learned some watering habits of creatures. Elk prefer to come in right at dark. As soon as the last bit of light is gone the elk come in like ghosts. Ok, they come crashing in making all kinds of noise, it just seems ghostly. Mule deer, I learned, come in the mornings and early to mid afternoon to drink. Coues deer prefer mid-day between 10am to 2pm and antelope have no day time preference but will not water at night.

Unfortunately nothing came into our water hole but, while we were sitting there something was making a God-awful racket of screaming. It sounded like one of the wailings on an electronic predator call. We gave up on the elk and took down the blind and it was pitch black. My partner left me with the stuff and took his bow to the other side of the water hole to bring the quad around. I stood in the dark and realized that eerie screaming stopped and I can't see anything!

I hear some strange noises, sort of like something breaking twigs on the ground not far from me. I admit I was getting scared. I held back from calling out and shortly afterwards I heard the quad. I realized later the noise I heard was the snapping shut of the latches on the bow case. And he was way over on the other side of the dyke! Note to self, little sounds really do matter in this hunting business. On the ride back we saw three little javelina run out in front of us.

We heard a few bugles that night but they didn't seem to move and we figured that it was probably hunters. The cot seemed awfully comfortable after the rough day on the quad. Good thing I didn't know what was yet in store for me!

Saturday was another long day of scouting for water holes with sign. We were baffled by late afternoon. We were questioning if there really were elk in this unit. After two hours of rough quad riding and no sign we backtracked to a water hole we found earlier and scurried to a spot under a tree near some rocks. We had no time to put up the blind so we sat predator caller style. Thank goodness for the face netting as those tanks are breeding grounds for mosquitoes. This was really fun though, as I could then watch the colors in the sky and landscape change, hear the different noises and watch the bats come in as dusk fell.

I was looking to the right of the pond when something caught my eye. A little head was bobbing up over the rise. Then another, and another. Turkeys!! My first sighting of turkeys! There were 7 hens traipsing around the waters edge heading right for us. I remembered from a turkey seminar that they have excellent eyesight and hearing so I froze as they came nearer. As they rounded the waters edge and walked in front of us, just 5 feet away, I could hear them make that funny little noise. Wow, I thought, those little boxes and chalk board things DO sound like turkeys. This was way cool, I wanted to smile and giggle but knew I couldn't. One hen was a little



A Learning Experience - continued

suspicious. She kept stepping a little closer and seemed to be eyeing us. After they had wandered away I realize she was probably looking at the brightly colored vanes on the arrows. Alas, still no elk.

That night on the hour long drive home I saw a bull elk standing off the side of the road. When I was asked how many points, I had to admit that I didn't know how to count them, but I knew that he seemed to have a small but decent rack. So my next lesson was how to count elk antlers. Starting with the longest tine off the main beam, that point is number four, then count each past that. I was then informed about eye beams and non-typical and illegal points that get subtracted and on and on. Serves me right to ask an official measurer. I don't remember all the details, but now I know the bull I saw was a small 6 point.

The next morning after sighting a skunk (another first) and a couple of coyotes, we ran into a pair of hunters we had met earlier and they told us about the one antlered deer they saw. They too had named him Elliot! It turned out they had a bull tag and had shot one the morning before and spent 3 hours tracking it and lost him.

We traveled some serious countryside on that quad and my elbows were rubbed raw from trying to balance on the arm rests. One of these days I really need to buy a truck and my own quad. The last morning I bailed and slept in. Later in the morning I decided to do some creeping around behind our camp and down to the creek bed. I had on my camo and moved slowly, stepping only on big rocks so as not to make any crunching noises. Within minutes my stealth paid off. I glimpsed movement in front of me and stopped.

A doe was walking across my path from the right. There were junipers between us. I slowly stepped closer to the bush and stood still watching her as she stepped and crossed the bush between us. Luck have it she decided to turn left and when she rounded the bush she was 4 feet in front of me. She was beautiful, her fur was a little mottled in color and her huge ears shadowed those big doe eyes. She paused looking right at me. I grinned and she bolted.

I later learned that what I was doing is called 'still hunting' and when you have spotted your animal and go after it then it's called stalking. I learned also that deer are a little more curious and will stare at you until they verify what you are with scent or their hearing. Once they figure you out then they will bolt. Elk have shorter attention spans and won't spend the time to figure something out, they'll just leave. Antelope will sometimes come right up to you if they hear you.

After five days we never did hear any bugling and we never saw any cow elk. I learned that if they HAD been bugling we would find out where they were coming from early in the morning and then try to stay ahead of them. Where they are headed is where they will bed down for the day. The elk are habitual in returning to the same bedding area and if they encounter a disturbance on the way there they may change the route they take. However, if they are disturbed in their bed it's common that they won't return at all to that area for a season.

It was a great trip though and I was able to identify javelina, deer, elk and antelope and a mountain lion track at the water holes. In five days I saw five big game animals. I also am getting better at spotting the animals too! It was quite the learning experience, and I am fortunate to find people willing to share the experience with me. I look forward to being able to share the knowledge and experience I have gained.

If you liked this article by Kara Jensen, we could print more. All it takes is YOU to write it. Arizona Predator Callers "Predator's Pride" is always looking for interesting things you have experienced. Don't worry about punctuation and grammar.

PC challenged? Hand write it and I'll do the typing. That is why they call me the "editor". Please send your article to: editor@azpredatorcallers.com and don't forget to send photos.

If all you have are photos, send just the photos with a description of who you are and where you harvested the animal. We are always happy to print pictures of your adventures.

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

Amount Enclosed _____

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

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



Address Correction Requested

