

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS
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November 2009

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

The President's Message

by **Larry Walden**, APC Special Events Chairman



Mike Burris- Pres.

It is time to get into the field and test your calling skills. These cool crisp early mornings are prime time! The varmints are on the prowl and ready to respond.

APC Member Mark Miller and I spent a weekend calling on the Mollogon Rim in the middle of October. The Elk were bugling on the Rim and the weather was great. There were a lot of elk hunters on the Rim and ever so often throughout the day shots would sound across the canyons and valleys. What a great time to be in the field. We called three Gray Fox, two coyotes and one large native American. The coyotes managed to get between us where we had no safe shot and then slip away back into the woods. The native American responded to a "puppies in distress" call by stopping his loud diesel truck near our stand, leaving the engine running, walking to the edge of the embankment where we were set upand yelling to his partners back in the diesel "there are some puppies down there and something is kicking their butt"! Well at least I know the Minaska Bandit sound is genuine.

We have another novice hunt scheduled for Saturday November 14th. We always need some APC veterans to step-up and take a novice out for the day. I still remember meeting Mike Burris at 3:30 am on a Saturday morning to go calling for the first time. Mike spent the entire day showing me how to set up a stand, play the wind and conceal myself so I would maximize my chances of calling in a predator. To this day I still appreciate the time Mike spent with me in the field. APC Veteransremember what the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation promotes "Pass it on". Take a novice out and give them a good safe introduction to our sport.

The best contribution a novice can make to the hunt is to *listen*. Not just hear but *listen*. There is a difference. Do what the veteran asks you to do while on the hunt. For instance, if your mentor tells you to stay concealed in a particular location don't decide you will be better off somewhere else. Changing location on your own creates a dangerous situation that can be avoided by listening and staying where you are directed to set-up. Once you are on your own you can take what you have learned and develop your own techniques and style including picking your locations on the stand.

Last weekend I attended the Predator Professionals camp organized by Rich Higgins and Dan Carey. On Saturday night Gerry Blair and his wife drove down from Flagstaff, AZ and Gerry read to us around the campfire. What a great time! It was a chance to listen and learn from a predator calling legend. On another evening Kelly L. ,President of Xtreme Predator Callers, regaled us with stories about the raccoon population in Strawberry, AZ and his experiences hunting the critters in other parts of Arizona. Once Kelly gets going he gets more entertaining as the evening goes on. It was a great time for all of us and a chance to share experiences with fellow predator callers.

Larry

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Coming Events

General MeetingNov 12, 2009
 Novice Hunt #2.....Nov. 14, 2009
 Board Meeting.....Nov. 30, 2009

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



November Meeting Program “Fur Handling Techniques”

The Arizona Predator Callers are hosting a fur handling seminar at our meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The meeting features a presentation by Arizona skinning champion, **Jeff Serdy**.

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 President, at (480) 654-1411 if you have any questions.

Treasurer’s Report

by Jerry Thorson, APC Treasurer

This Treasurer’s report details all transactions from October 1 thru October 31, 2009

Checking Account

Beginning Balance..... \$129.03

Deposit Memberships.....390.00
Deposit AAF Save A Fawn Donation...500.00
Ending Balance 10/31/09.....\$1,019.03

Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....\$29.76
Call Sales\$0.00
Merchandise.....\$10.00
Dues.....\$145.00
Raffles.....\$189.00
Deposits to Checking.....(\$330.00)
Petty Cash End Balance.....\$33.76

Total Cash.....\$1,052.79

Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$2,817.75

Total Assets.....\$3,870.54

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
- 2/12/09 Kara Jensen...Alone in the Wilderness
- 5/14/09 Leon Lee.....Exploding Varmints
- 5/14/09 Leon Lee....Up Close with Rich Higgins
- 4/9/09 James Tucker.....Catastrophic
- 4/9/09 John Albin.....Callers of the Wild
- 4/9/09 John Albin....Truth #1, Predator Hunter
- 10/8/09 John Albin.....How to Talk to Deer
- 10/8/09 Dave Warren.....Calling Coyotes
- 10/8/09 Dave Warren.....Hunting in the East
- 10/8/09 Bill Baber.....Operation Predator
- 10/8/09 Bill Baber.....Power Howling Coyotes
- 10/8/09 Dave Cadwell...Texas Predator Pursuit
- 10/8/09 Dave Cadwell.....Calling All Coyotes II
- 10/8/09 Steve Thompson.....How to Hunt the Majestic Elk

Thanks *Jerry*

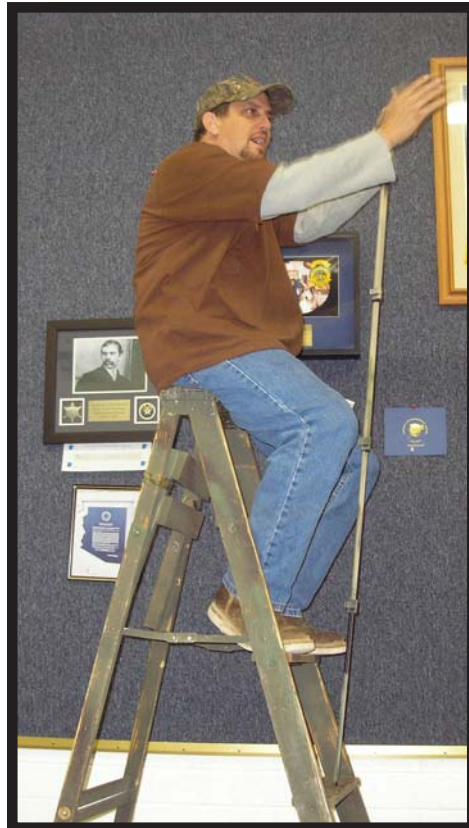


Ladder Hunting Tips

- A. Ladder Material - Wood
- B. Ladder Height - 6’
- C. Ladder Extras
 - 1. Padded Top to sit on.
 - 2. Carpet inside of legs to deaden sound.
 - 3. Paint - Flat, earth tones.
- D. Transporting ladder - carry on shoulder, ladder hooks on truck.

Words of Caution

- A. Nuts & Bolts need to be tight.
- B. Safe setup in the field - level, firm ground.
- C. Firearm safety on a ladder
 - 1. Safety ON while going up and down.
 - 2. Shoulder the gun to have both hands free when going up and down.



October’s Speaker, **Scott Francom** atop his 6’ ladder in a demonstration of his hunting technique.

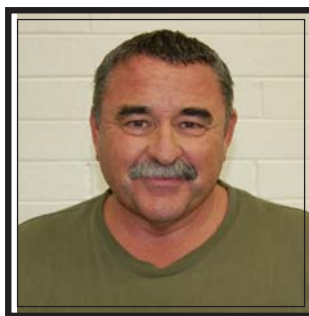
Read Scott’s latest hunting adventure on page 6.

Thick cover holds more predators. Placing yourself high up on a ladder takes you out of the “horizontal plane of focus” of the predator’s eye level. Elevation means better visibility for you as the hunter. Push the ladder up against a tree to break up cover. Ladders get you up-close and personal which is the most exciting type of hunting.

Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman

Our Novice Hunt this month will be on the 14th of November (the Saturday that follows our meeting). If you would like to participate, you must contact me at the meeting. As usual, I will need experienced club members to help out. Our check-in will be at the same spot as last month. I will have maps available at the meeting.



At our October Novice Hunt, we had 10 people show up at the check-in. The only animal brought in was a bobcat that my son Mike shot that was called by his novice, Christian Ensley. Congratulations, good job! (See Mike & Christian's hunt story on page 10)

Make sure that you are filling out your hunt records, I will be asking for them next April.

Dusty

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill !

Hunt and Events Calender

(Dates are subject to change)

- APC Meeting.....November 12, 2009
- APC Novice Hunt #2.....November 14, 2009
- World Coyote Calling Championship, Cortez, CO.....
December 3-5, 2009
- Fur Donation Hunt, Seligman.....January 9, 2010
- Multi-Club Hunt, Red Rock.....January 16, 2010
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt, Heber.....February 20-21, 2010
- Antelope Eaters Hunt, Seligman.....March 6-7, 2010

Membership Report

by Kara Jensen, APC Membership

Thanks to:

Kirk Griffin and David Cadwell for renewing their memberships.

Welcome new members **Adam Parker** of Chandler, **Rob Pickett** of Chandler, **John Harry** of Mesa, **Ross Shores** of Queen Creek and **Jason Mosler** of Phoenix

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

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Rifle Raffle in Memory of Fred Cronk

In 2008 we lost a great friend, Fred Cronk. Fred always supported the hunting, calling and trapping community in Arizona as well as allover the U.S. The Arizona Predator Callers along with the Arizona Trappers Association and Phoenix Varmint Callers have purchased a rifle to raffle in memory of Fred. The proceeds from this raffle will go to "Hunt of a Lifetime" in memory of Fred. We ask you support this raffle in addition to other club raffles to help send a youth on a hunt in memory of Fred.

Please feel free to make additional tickets and sell them to as many friends and family as you can. Fred was always very giving of his time, knowledge and much more. We would like to draw the winning ticket at the World Coyote Calling Championships in Cortez, Colorado on December 5, 2009.

The rifle is a Savage Stevens Model 200 in 22-250. The gun package iincludes a scope, sling and carrying case. Tickets will cost \$5.00 each. Please cut out and return tickets and money to AZ Predator Callers, P.O. Box 1172, Mesa, AZ 85211-1172 or contact Mike Burris at 480-654-1211.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Fred Cronk Riffle Raffle \$5.00 Ticket	Name: _____ Phone: _____ Fred Cronk Riffle Raffle \$5.00 Ticket
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Classified Ads

41 Mag Ammo and Dies

I have 100 + rounds for 41 mag, and dies for 41 mag for sale. I was looking at about \$40.00 for the ammo, and \$30 for the dies, and the sizing die is carbide. **Craig Barnett**
480-216-2166.

If you have something you would like to offer for sale that would be of interest to our fellow APC members, please contact the editor at: editor@azpredatorcallers.com



Predator's Pride To Go Electronic

The APC Newsletter, "Predator's Pride", will not be sent by mail starting with this issue. Due to the high cost of printing and postage, the board has decided to suspend mailing of the monthly newsletter.

If you would like the newsletter sent to you via email, you will need to give John Albin, Newsletter Editor your email address.

John can be reached at: johnalbin1@msn.com or editor@azpredatorcallers.com

The newsletter will, as always, be posted on the club website, www.azpredatorcallers.com

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Raffles

Arizona Predator Callers are raffling off a **Gamo pellet rifle**. 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).



The Remington Model 715 in .243 caliber was raffled off at the October meeting.

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Tom Dolbow

Fox Hunting Without the Hounds and Horses

by Scott Francom

There are some days where everything falls into place. Last Saturday the 10th of October was one of those days. My hunting partner, Andrew Kerns and I, teamed up for a hunt around the mining town of Oracle with the intent of targeting some foxes and if we were lucky a bobcat.

The morning was a crisp 58 degrees as we unloaded the quads from the trailer and started crawling the hills looking for rock outcroppings to call into. Our first stand began shortly a few minutes before sunrise. As soon as the GameTraks electronic caller began playing Grey Fox Pup by Johnny Steward the hill in front of us came alive with movement. I counted 4 foxes moving towards us. One bold male came into shotgun range 25' in front of me and I made the mistake of taking it before any others emerged from the thick foliage. We had no more takers on that stand so we scooted down the road a bit and gave it another go.

About 3 stands later in a small meadow with a cattle watering tank in the middle I called in a fox double. Andrew saw them leaping down the wash first and lip squeaked alerting me to their presence. Only one made it all the way down into the meadow and ran up to the caller. Unfortunately he positioned himself 15 feet away from me with a large bush exactly between us. I stood up trying to get a bead on him with my 12 gauge shotgun he zipped back up the same way he came in. Out of frustration I shot three times at him and missed each time.

Suddenly I heard Andrew's AR-15 sound off repeatedly to my left. The 2nd fox had responded to his lip squeak and rushed up to him emerging a few feet in front of him. Andrew had made the gray fox dance a jig to evading his .223 bullets and scampered off unscathed. Those 2 foxes should have bought lottery tickets that day as they were extremely lucky, we'd decided afterwards.

2 Stands later we positioned ourselves overlooking a dry creek bed. I had put the GameTraks in the low branches of a tree and sat uphill from it. 5 minutes into the calling sequence I



see movement by the tree 20' down the hill. To my shock I see a big bobcat standing below the tree looking straight up at the caller. I swing my rifle down and drop that tom with a shot between the shoulder blades. He weighed a nice 27 pounds and had the nice beginnings of a winter pelt.

We packed up headed of up the hillside riding in another dry creek bed. Coming to another giant meadow we parked and snuck around the outside positioning so as to get a full view of the meadow and its surrounding landscape.

Two minutes into our gray fox distress sound out comes a beautiful fox who runs right into the middle of the meadow. She stopped and gave me a perfect quartering shot and was promptly dropped by a .223 slug. I continued playing the fox distress sound and shortly later heard Andrews rifle discharge. I saw nothing in the area and looked over at Andrew.

"It's up the slope 200 yards," he mentioned as he jogged toward it with his rifle in hand. Apparently the foxes had shown up as a pair and had separated just above the meadow. My shot has frightened the 2nd back up the hill and Andrew had followed it in his scope until he was presented with a good shot. His time spent at the range was paying off.

After that it was around 10:30 and we decided to pack it up and head back to the valley. We'd only hunted in 4 or 5 of the dozens of dry creek beds that mountain has to offer and knew in the following months we'd visit it again and again hopefully with the same success we had this time.

Arnold's Predator Hunting Adventures

by Arnold Cason, APC Member

Editor's Note: Arnold Cason wrote this letter to his sister explaining his love of predator hunting.

Hi Sis,

Well I will try to answer you on the subject of coyotes and predator hunting there is an awful lot to talk about they are very complicated and intelligent animals. Just a note that might cause you to fall into thought over is that I relate some people to coyotes. I started being interested in calling coyotes back when I was a teenager. One of dad's friends used to talk about it, I think his name was Ray Anderson, he used to live by Florence and called coyotes in the fields around there. It sure sounded exciting and I really wanted to give it a try but we never did.

Well then came my Army years during that time I never forgot about calling those coyotes and did as much research as I could which did not amount to much. I did buy my first predator rifle a .223 Remington Model 700 ADL. I never got a chance to use it on coyotes until I got out of the Army and never even got a chance to shoot at a coyote with that rifle before I sold it in about 1992. I did take a couple deer with it though.

A little on finding information about predator calling back when I first found an interest in calling predators literature and information on the subject was very hard to find it just was not available, those who new how kept it to themselves and those who wanted to learn had to find someone with experience from whom to learn. Just in the last 5 or 6 years has the sport become very popular and information is everywhere.

I think the main reason people are sharing more these days is because they are realizing that the future of hunting is in jeopardy unless new young hunters are brought into the sport with open arms and plenty of education. Now days you can get magazines devoted to the sport of predator calling of coarse there is internet and hunting clubs are popping up everywhere, and it seems like videos and books are in every sporting goods store. I have learned more about calling in the last 5 years than I did in 20 years prior to that.

Believe it or not I called my first coyotes in one day when I was with dad 7 of them came running in; in one pack I waited and waited till I could wait no

more they were at about 100 yards I took aim and let the safety off that same rifle as I mentioned above click went the safety and before I could squeeze the trigger those coyotes turned tail and ran as fast as they could over the ridge. They heard that safety go click and that was all it took to scare them away. Needless to say neither of us got a shot. From that day on when I set up in a stand the safety goes off before I start calling. That happened in 1990 I think just after I got out of the Army. I considered it quit an accomplishment to call them in for us. But I got even more hooked on calling coyotes after that experience the rush I felt with so many coming so close and the feeling of accomplishment I got from out smarting 7 of the smartest animals god ever created sure was a exhilarating feeling. Just a quick note 7 is the most coyotes that have ever come in at one time to me the highest number since that day to come to me at once is 3.

You asked what I think about when I am hunting well it varies a lot between stands who knows what's going through my mind while driving or walking. When I choose a stand all my thoughts are on my quarry. I concentrate very hard on my calling and on everything I can see and what I can't see. I pay very close attention to the wind the weather the sun. I try to memorize every bush and every rock or odd looking thing I can see. I will put my face mask on pull my gloves on. I might spray some dazed coyote (a mixture of several predator urines and rabbit urine and glycerin oil, it is used to help mask human odor) if I think a coyote might catch my scent. I will pull out my binoculars and scan the land in front of me looking for routes a coyote might choose to take and make mental notes of these places then pay closer attention to these places when the calling starts. After doing all this I set my rifle upon its bipod get it in my groin where I feel safe that it won't get away from me if something shows up. Then I usually get my pistol out and set it down within very easy reach incase one comes very close before I spot him. All this takes about 5 minutes or so now I decide which call to use. I ask myself what do you think will make them hungry today a jack rabbit, a cotton tail, a deer fawn ECT. Should I play

Arnold's Hunting Adventures - continued from page 7

something loud or soft should I do a long series or a short one, or should I try coyote talk (coyote talk is trying to sound like a coyote) of course I'm thinking about this the whole time I'm setting up. By having my mind completely consumed by hunting I get a break from all the other junk that clouds my thoughts during the rest of my life it is like going on a little vacation.

You asked about how it feels so I will try to describe it I am not too good at describing my feelings. If a coyote comes to the call and I get to see it I get very excited, which is exciting in itself because not much excites me anymore getting old I guess. My adrenalin gets to pumping I have to concentrate very hard to make a good shot if I even get a shot. If I do get to see a coyote whether I get a shot or not I get a very strong feeling of accomplishment and it is all mine no one else can claim any part of it because I made every bit of it happen from beginning to end. There is no team to share in the glory and very seldom a hunting partner except for my dog Bear and he is just as happy as me. I guess that is a big part of it for me, doing it all myself no help of course I study and listen to people but I get to have the accomplishment all to myself.

A lot of my friends go hunting and take as many people with them as possible and bring everything including the kitchen sink video cameras TV's they might as well stay home and watch the outdoor channel in my opinion. To me it is much more fulfilling to do everything myself maybe that is selfish I am not sure but that is how I feel about it.

I have always enjoyed teaching people and really enjoy teaching about hunting but only one or two students at a time. I hope I get the opportunity to teach Tim about hunting and hopefully Pat too someday. I have a very strong feeling of being robbed in that when my sons were born one of my strongest hopes was that I would be able to raise them as hunters or at least be able to introduce them to hunting as children. Because of divorce that was not possible. Maybe I can still have that opportunity with them as young adults.

I like big game hunting as much as anyone I guess in case you did not know big game is what most people hunt most of the time and includes animals such as deer, elk, sheep, buffalo, turkey, javalina and you get the idea basically an animal

you would consider eatable. I get a thrill when I get to hunt them but I get a much greater thrill out of hunting predators. I think it is more exciting because I am hunting the hunter.

You have to realize when a predator comes to a call he is coming to eat what ever is making that noise so I am being hunted by a very well endowed hunter, a killer. I have not tried calling in bears or mountain lions much because it is very dangerous since these animals are at the top of the food chain and have very little if any fear of humans and are big enough to kill me and eat me if they happen to be in a bad mood and get upset when the rabbit they were hunting turns out to be me, it could get nasty. So when calling these large predators it is very wise to have a partner and to sit back to back in case one comes up behind you, you are covered by your partner.

As for calling in the animals I have had coyote come to a stop within 2 feet of me before they realize they made a mistake. I usually don't get a shot at these as they turn and run tail between their legs as fast as they can and I usually don't realize what happened until they have disappeared which takes about 1 second.

I have had coyote that are skittish and stay out there several hundred yards and yap at me. These usually have been called and shot at before. It only takes one mistake with a coyote to educate them.

Last year I was calling with a partner, I was doing the calling, anyway a fox came in unnoticed. We had made our stand in a boulder pile me in front and he was about ten yards behind and above me. Anyway this fox came and sat down inches from him, he was scanning the area around him then he turned his head to the right saw the fox and jumped and yelled like a little girl. We both got a good laugh out of that one the rest of the day.

Another time I was out alone on a snowy day 3 or 4 years ago. It was the same year we lost power here in Globe for 3 days. Anyway, I just had to get out and look for coyotes. I finally found one when I was almost back home, he ran across the road in front of me. I ran up the ridge after him panting. When I reached the top I saw him about 250 yards away sitting looking at me. I got a shot at him and missed, still panting. He took off running again. Now you have to realize the snow is about 3 foot

Arnold's Hunting Adventures - continued from page 8

deep. I took off after him again. I saw him running across the next ridge about 350 yards away. I sat down, took aim and fired a shot, then looked to see if I got him. Where did he go, he disappeared, I was confused, he was there a second ago.

I walked over to where he was when I shot still scratching my head, where could he have gone. I found his tracks in the snow followed them looking ahead still no sign of him I kept following the tracks until they disappeared. Where could he have gone? Then I saw his hind feet sticking out of the snow.

He had been running so fast that when my shot hit him he was completely buried in the snow. I felt kind of foolish then I thought I bet the guys up north would have known what happened to him right away but this desert dweller had to figure it out. By the way that is the only predator I have ever taken without using a call.

I recall the first fox I called up it was about 15 years ago. I had decided to take a ride on a new road I found at Top of the World about 15 miles west of Globe. I really had no idea what I was doing but also new if I didn't try I would never get to see anything. I was on about my 3rd stand of the day starting to get frustrated from not seeing anything when all of a sudden I looked up and there stood a gray fox at about 40 yards. Well I took him before fox fever set in, the amount of time between the time I saw him and shot could not have been more than half a second. I went to check my prize and he was absolutely beautiful. I only wish I had known about taxidermy back then, I would have had him mounted. I have not seen one that pretty since. If I ever do I will have him full size mounted.

I think it was this same year I had made a trip to the Green Backs, which is a mountain range north of Pumpkin Center, the foot hills of the Sierra Ancha Mountains. I made a stand in some tall grass with heavy brush cover and called in an animal I had never seen before. It was a funny looking fox like animal but very small about 12 inches tall and 12 inches long with a fox tail. I had no idea what it was, it came to the call and was at about 10 yards when I saw it. I tried to shoot it but of coarse missed at that range. I started asking questions and found out it was a Kit Fox. It was so small I was glad I missed and was not very pretty so at the time it did not

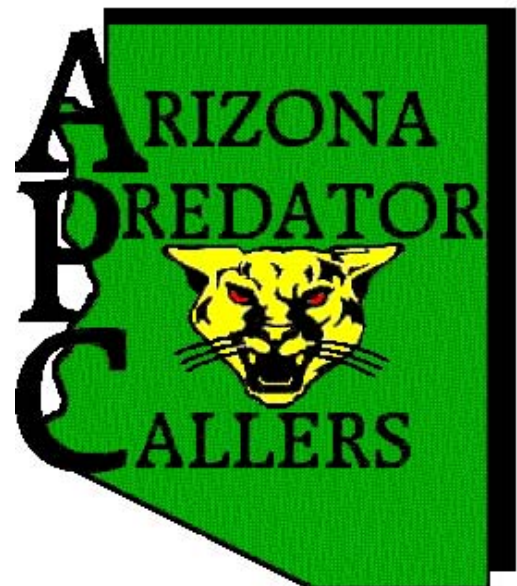
seem like much of a trophy but I have not seen one since.

I have since found out the Kit Fox is more of a desert dweller, hanging in dry washes mostly. I guess he did not know he was lost and should not have been in the mountains where I found him.

Well I hope you enjoy my predator hunting adventures. I have told only a few of my stories here. I have a lot more stories about misses and seeing animals without taking shots than I do about making successful shots. If you want to hear about more of my adventures, I will try to put my adventures and thoughts into words.

**If you would like to share a hunt story with your fellow APC members, please email your adventure to:
editor@azpredatorcallers.com**

We are always looking for pictures of your hunt success. Please get them to us for publication.



New Life Member?

by Michael Mosier, APC Member

The crack of dawn was approaching while I waited in a parking lot for my novice, Christian. After swapping pleasantries & tossing my equipment in his truck, we headed out. Hunting his own backyard today, my goal was to show & teach him how to make effective use of the area in He hunts regularly. Our first stand was along a fence line, I left him atop a hill while I called where the wash crossed the road. His view was great, since he could easily see that nothing was coming for miles, I'm sure he enjoyed the sunrise over the Superstition Mountains. For our second stand, we moved farther down the road...again, the view was better than our outcome. As the sun climbed, I continued filling his head with advice & useful or not-so-useful tips.

Our fourth stand was at a spot I've had past success. After directing him where to sit & which way to call, I began the not-so-quiet climb to my favorite rock. I got comfortable, scoped out the 200 yard rise that coyotes traditionally run, then gave the signal for him to start calling. Less than 10 minutes in & growing restless, I feared this stand too would be a bust; then remembering my previous success here, I scanned the mouth of the small canyon to my right & there she was...sauntering in with the least sense of urgency...a bobcat. I slowed my heart rate, resisting the early shot, knowing that she'll come closer if I stay patient. After watching her for more than 15 minutes, I picked my spot & waited. She stepped out from behind some prickly pear & fell hard as my .223 sang out at 10 am that morning. Christian kept calling, as I instructed, regardless of the shot fired. I scoped again, finding all the scenery quite nostalgic & realizing that nothing else cared about the calling so we ended the stand. I directed my novice to his prize while scaled my way down the treacherous hill. We carried her back to the truck, while my head spun with thoughts of this being the third bobcat I've killed, for someone else, from the same rock...wow. We finished our photo shoot & brag-right phone calls, iced her down & continued our trek.



We made four more unsuccessful stands, & then stopped by his home to pick up his son. Our final stand was made at sundown while the boy waited in the truck; then we headed to the check-in. The hotdogs & burgers were great, but with less than half the teams having showed up, it seemed a little empty. Even if we were the only successful team, I was expecting a better turn out, especially for the experience of his 10 yr old. With no one to share stories with or brag to, check-in was kept short. Despite the lack of attendance, Christian & I had a great hunt, with our success his believe is solid.

Two days later, while at work, I get a text from Christian that he called AND killed a grey fox, by himself. Such a feeling of accomplishment, for me, knowing that I had taught him something that he's comfortable using on his own...WOW. A week later, we went out again, this time taking the park-n-walk approach. First stand felt right but to no prevail. Second stand was quite exciting, after climbing a tree & standing in the-most-uncomfortable position, I proceeded to miss a 30-yard off-hand shot at a coyote. Then, much to my disbelief, on our third stand, I called the same naïve dog less than 10 yards from me before dumping a load of #4 buckshot up his rear. Again, Christian's belief is up, stronger now through his own success & our combined efforts with positive results. I think we just got ourselves a Life Member!

STRENGTH & HONOR -MJM