

PREDATOR'S PRIDE



ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

November / December 2008

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

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The President's Message

by Mike Burris, APC President

Hello everyone!

Well it's prime time again and that means the pelts are looking good and thick with fur. I personally like the time between Halloween and Valentine's Day. I feel this is a good spread of days for me to plan my season. I have been out seven times over the past month and called in 3 coyotes, 3 bobcats, 23 gray fox, and one quady. This is not a bad start for the first month of the season for me. With fuel prices being down and hopefully going lower I would like to get out even more often this year.

Jeff Serdy gave out a lot of good tips last month at our skinning demonstration on how to skin and take care of your animals. I think the best piece of advice he gave out was barely noticed by many of the people watching, that was "a shotgun works best!" I have put more fur over my tailgate with a shotgun than all of my rifles put together. I was asked by Rich Higgins at the last meeting what load I was using for my shotgun; the one that can shoot the range I shoot and put animals down. I guess there are some folks out there who do not believe a shotgun can kill past 60 yards, but I am here to tell you I have done it and I've watched my brother put coyotes down on the run at distances of 100 yards.

The loads I have worked up are not for the faint of heart or those that do not like recoil and should only be used in new style shot guns capable of 14000 psi, or greater. Older shotguns are only good for about 11000 psi and then bad things start to happen. Usually you can see a visible bulge right in front of the action. I have never had this happen to me but have seen other guns in this condition.

My favorite load for both of my 3 1/2 inch 12 gauge shotguns is Remington magnum hulls with 1 3/4 ounces of double B heavy shot. You can buy heavy shot from Ballistic products. 7 pounds delivered will cost \$100, that is .180 caliber shot. I use a Federal 209p primer with 38.5 grains of Blue dot and a multi metal wad that completely surrounds the shot column. If you shoot steel you should not let it touch your barrel or you will scratch it.



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Coming Events

General Meeting.....Dec. 11, 2008
Board Meeting.....Dec. 29, 2008
Fur Donation Hunt.....Jan. 10, 2009
Multi-Club Hunt.....Jan. 17, 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 November 1 thru November 30, 2008.

Checking Account

Beginning Balance..... \$1,691.17

Check #1677 T.Clement, shotgun.....(250.00)
 Check #1678 Legend Express.....(134.00)
 Check #1679 Dusty Mosier, WCCC.....(200.00)
 Check #1680 AWF - Nov Members.....(39.00)
 Deposit Memberships & Cash.....515.00
 Ending Balance 11/30/08.....\$1,583.17

Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....\$76.60

Call Sales / Merchandise.....\$29.00
 Dues.....\$90.00
 Raffles.....\$330.00
 Deposits to Checking.....(\$445.00)
 Petty Cash End Balance.....\$81.60

Total Cash.....\$1,664.77

Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$3,660.75

Total Assets.....\$5,325.52

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
- 5/8/08 Bill Virtue.....Calling Coyotes
- 5/8/08 Bill Virtue.....Calling All Coyotes II
- 5/8/08 John Albin.....Catastrophic
- 10/9/08 Stan Schepers.....Reloading II
- 10/9/08 Stan Schepers.....Production Line Bobcat Trapping

Thanks *Jerry*



Election of Officers for 2009

Elections for APC officers will be held in January. If you are interested in serving the club as President or any other position, please talk to Mike Burris.

December Meeting Program "Author Frank Turkowski"

Frank Turkowski, author of "COYOTES TRAPPERS SHEEPHERDERS and URBANITES" has held positions as a government trapper, wildlife research biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service, Director of Education and Research at the Phoenix Zoo. He holds a Ph.D Zoology degree from ASU. Presently he is an Adjunct Professor of Biology and Psychology with Central Texas College and teaches aboard U.S. Navy ships and has visited 6 continents. Dr. Turkowski will present a seminar he calls "TO CATCH THE PREDATOR — BE THE PREDATOR — OLD SCHOOL PREDATOR CALLING".

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.

Two Guns to be Raffled

Arizona Predator Callers are raffling off 2 guns this month. One is a Remington R-15 semi-automatic in .223 and the other is a Mossberg 835 12 GA shotgun chambered in 3 1/2". Both are perfect firearms for the up coming season. Both guns come 'dipped'. The Remington in the Advantage Max 1 Pattern and the Mossberg in Mossy Oak. 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).



Remington R-15



October guest speaker Les Johnson presented autographed predator calls to Grace Kennedy, Austin Kennedy, Taylor Simmons, Alex Thompson and Austin Morris during the October APC meeting.

President's Message continued from page 1

My Remington 11-87 super MAG gets 1420 fps through my chrony and my Mossberg 835 ultra MAG is over 1450 fps. But they both kick really hard with my 835 being over 60 foot pounds of rearward pressure. Even with it being ported and over-bored it is not one you want to take to the range and target practice with.

The Remington has a Hastings choke and the Mossberg has a mad thunder choke. Both give me a pattern of right at 30 inches 50 yards, so if they are close you must aim or you will miss. I have definitely found this out first hand. So if you are looking at a fox and he is what you think is a long way out, your shot gun might not think so. At 60 to 70 yards I aim about what I think is a foot high and let it go even if you are shooting factory predator loads. I think they will surprise you if you aim high, just remember a shotgun drops a lot but still has energy at these distances. Good luck, next month I will let you in on my 10 gauge load. If I don't see you in the field I hope to see you at the next meeting.

Mike

Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman



October's novice hunt was a success, thanks to all who participated. The president's article has all the details. November's hunt had a smaller turnout and had less animals taken. It was very windy, but a good time was had by all. After the meal we got into a discussion about the politics in hunting. Thank you Mike Burris for the update on what's going on at the state level.

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving, I had 38 sit down to eat at my house last Thursday. I was up to my eyes in in-laws and out-laws, what an exhausting holiday. I'm going to have to go back to work just to rest.

Remember to mark your calendars, December 13th is my annual Christmas party. I will hand out fliers at the December meeting. It's finely cooling off, so get out and go calling. You can't kill anything from your couch except time so get out there.

January 10th is the fur donation hunt at George and Cindy's in Seligman. January 17th is the multi-club hunt; the check in will be on Park Links Road south of Picacho, north/east of I-10. We will have more details at January's meeting. We need everyone to participate in this one since we are competing against the Phoenix club.

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill!

Dusty

Hunt Calendar

(Dates subject to change)

- World Championships, Cortez, CO.....December 4-5, 2008
- Fur Donation Hunt, Seligman, AZ.....January 10, 2009
- Multi-Club Hunt.....January 17, 2009
- Antelope Eaters Hunt, Seligman, AZ.....March 7-8, 2009
- APC Shootout.....April 11, 2009
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt, Heber, AZ.....May 2-3, 2009

Membership Report

by Kara Jensen, APC Membership

Welcome new members:

Ron Phillips, Neil Pitcher, Jerry Arnel, David Cadwell, Steve Thompson, Levi Adamson, Randall Jorgensen and Casey Clark

Thanks to:

Alfred Suscavage, Susan Frabotta, Oren Wallace, Thomas Dolbow, Scott Fribbs, Craig Barnett, Ed Temerowski and Larry Walden

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

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2009 Multi-Club Hunt

January 17, 2009

This hunt pits the Arizona Predator Callers against all other Arizona clubs. We need all of our APC members to participate in this one in order to keep the trophy in our club.

Check-in is 9:00 PM at Park Links Road

Point values are:

Lion....100 Bobcat....50 Coyote....10 All the rest....5

Proof of kill is the whole animal, if skinned you will also need the carcass. All participants will follow the rules of their sponsor club. If your club allows electronics, then you follow those rules. If your club does not allow electronics, then you cannot use them.

The Skinning Contest will start at about 9:30 PM. Contest will be judged by fastest time with adjustments for mistakes.

Camping is available around the check-in area and all participants are welcome to camp together. At check-in Saturday night, the Phoenix Varmint Callers Inc. will provide dinner. Hamburgers, hotdogs and chili will be served.

Check-in is located at 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'

Map will be posted on the Arizona Predator Callers website, www.azpredatorcallers.com



Preparation for the Taxidermist

by Eric Loeffler, Wildlife Artist

When preparing to go hunting, also think about what you will need to do to prepare your just killed trophy for mounting.

Take frozen 2 liter soda bottles as ice packs to keep your trophy cold. You can place the soda bottle up into the neck cavity of your caped deer. The great thing about using frozen soda bottles is that they don't leak and get your hide wet.

Cape out your deer or elk and keep it cool and dry. For shoulder mounts, cape out to at least the mid body, keeping half of the front legs. Give the taxidermist more than you think he will need.

For small game, freeze whole and don't gut the animal. If you must, tube out if unable to freeze. Don't use salt on the hide.

Trading Post Taxidermy

Eric Loeffler, Wildlife Artist

Gilbert, Arizona

APC Member

10% Discount to all APC Members

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480-363-5084 cell

email: tradingposttaxidermy@msn.com

Visit our website at:

www.tradingposttaxidermy.com

Bob Brinkley holds a female bobcat that was called in by APC member **John Albin** on November 29. Bob and John bagged this cat near Stanton about five minutes into their second stand at about 4:15 PM. Bob used a 12 ga shotgun with #4 shot and downed her at 40 yards.

CLASSIFIED ADS



Eric Loeffler of Trading Post Taxidermy, LLC gave APC members some insight into preparing our game for the taxidermist at the November meeting.



Jeff Serdy demonstrated how to skin a coyote at the November meeting.

APC Member **Craig Barnett** has trapping equipment for sale.

3 Havaheart 1079 traps 32x12x10 (Raccoon and smaller)
3 Havaheart 1081 traps 42x15x15 (Bobcat / Fox and smaller)
2 cage traps 36x18x12 (Bobcat/Fox)
4 cage traps 36x18x10 (Bobcat / Fox)
2 traps in the making 36x23x12 (Bobcat/Fox)
Decoys, cage calls, lures and scents, and assorted items needed.
Around \$800.00 invested, for sale \$500.00 takes it all. email: cbarnett5@cox.net 480-649- 0980

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

Hunting tags for spring javelina, turkey, bear available on first-come basis

PHOENIX - There are plenty of leftover hunting permit-tags for spring javelina, turkey, and bear now available on a first-come, first-served basis from the Arizona Game and Fish Department starting today.

There are more than 9,000 javelina tags, more than 250 turkey tags, and just over 70 tags for bear remaining from the spring big game draw process (announced Nov. 10).

Applications will be accepted by mail only, on or after Dec. 1. For a detailed listing of leftover permits, regulations, applications, and instructions on how to apply, visit www.azgfd.gov/draw.

For those who qualify, there are military hunts available for Fort Huachuca. Call (520) 533-2549 for additional information. Nearly all hunt types are available for javelina, including juniors-only, general, HAM (handgun, archery, and muzzleloader), and archery-only. For turkey hunters, the tags available are for general hunts, the available bear tags remaining are for archery-only hunts.

A 2009 hunting license is required to apply for a permit-tag. When applying for a license via the tag application, be certain that all required information and additional payment fees are correct and enclosed. In addition, youth hunters ages 10-13 are required to have completed a certified [hunter education course](#) to hunt big game.

Yep. I Can Believe It

by John Albin

My wife and I were drawn for fall turkey in units 8 and 10 this year. We scouted out a water hole on Thursday with plenty of turkey tracks and set up our blind early Friday morning. We also set up two full size turkey decoys about 30 yards in front of us.

Our blind was at the base of a large ponderosa elevated above the cattle water tank and the decoys were positioned to the left of the tank on our side of a road skirting the tank. The wind would blow just enough to make the decoys move around like a weather vane.

About an hour into our stand, calling and not seeing anything come in, a polaris type vehicle came slowly down the road toward us. This is one of those four wheel, larger than a golf cart things that has the driver and passenger setting side by side. There was a male driver, female passenger and another male sitting in the rear.

As they neared the tank, they began to slow down. We could see them eyeing the decoys and thought they were going to drive by. About 30 yards from the decoys, the driver suddenly pulled off of the road (the opposite side of the road from the decoys) and the woman passenger whipped out her shotgun while still seated in the vehicle. The guy in the back jumped out and sprinted across the road approaching the decoys with his shotgun ready to fire.

Jane and I sat there watching this and we both thought that it was pretty funny. Upon further thought however, I realized that we were coming closer and closer into the line of fire from the guy that jumped out of the vehicle.

Now the decoys did not fly off, nor turn and make a run for it as the guy got within about 15 yard's of them. (I don't know why they didn't). I figured I better get Jane and I out of this predicament so I hollered "They're decoys" as loud and as sarcastically as I could.

The guy put his shotgun down and the woman did the same as they waved at us. The driver smiled and waved also. The guy got up on the back of the vehicle and they started up and turned back the way they came. I guess they were too embarrassed to come up the road in front of us.

That livened up our morning and made us chuckle. Good thing, cause we didn't see any other turkeys besides those three hunters.

TIPS AND TACTICS

from Les Johnson

You can make a Coyote Drag from a curved antler tip. Drill a hole through the center of the antler tip and feed the end of a 12" piece of rope through the hole and tie off. Tie a loop in the other end. The loop goes around the front legs and under both upper K9 teeth. The curve of the antler makes an easy-on-the-hand handle.

When hunting with both shotgun and rifle, Les recommends placing your rifle at your side on the down wind side and your shotgun ahead, usually in your lap if laying down.

Call sequence is 30 to 45 seconds calling, wait 2-4 minutes and repeat using a Jackrabbit call, then coax in.

If calling and you think you had a kill, stay on stand. Let the coyote lay and keep calling. If you shoot and it runs, do a kai-yai distress coyote call / wounded sound. Don't howl.

Les Johnson can be seen locally on the Pursuit Channel on DirectTV, now channel 608. His show "Predator Quest" is shown on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM and is repeated on Saturdays at 1:00 PM. Also look for Les on the Sportsman Channel on COX Cable.

www.predatorquest.com

Helpful Predator Related Websites

www.huntingcoyotes.com
www.predatormasters.com
www.coyotehuntinginfo.com
www.varmintal.com/ahunt.htm
www.coyoteclub.org

News From Arizona Game and Fish Department

The Bobcat

Found throughout the state in broken and brushy country, the bobcat, sometimes called wildcat, while rarely seen, is Arizona's most common wild feline. Usually an overall orange to gray in color with black markings, these medium-sized cats have a length of from 2 to 2 ½ feet and weigh between 12 and 30 pounds. The underparts are whitish, and small ear tufts are usually present. The bobcat's most distinguishing characteristic, however, is its short, 5- inch tail, which is always less than 1/4 of the length of its head and body. This feature, coupled with the animal's black spotting, can be used to distinguish bobcats from any other feline in Arizona, wild or domestic.

Natural History

Little is known about Arizona's bobcats. Their principal prey are cottontail rabbits and jackrabbits, but they also take both smaller mammals such as pack rats and larger mammals including the young of some big game species. Snakes and lizards are also part of the bobcat's diet.

Bobcats require two years to mature and attain breeding age. The breeding season in Arizona is poorly documented, but appears to be mostly in late winter or early spring. The gestation period is from 50 to 60 days so that the one to three young are usually born in spring or early summer. As in most cats, the female raises the kittens alone, nursing them for two months before teaching them to hunt on their own.

Hunting and Trapping History

Sport hunters report taking between 1,200 and 1,300 bobcats a year. Most of these animals are taken while pursuing other game or by predator calling. This harvest appears relatively stable when compared to the numbers of bobcats trapped and tagged for export. Ten years ago the numbers of bobcats reportedly harvested and trapped were about equal, and 20 years ago the number of bobcats trapped was approximately seven times that taken by sport hunters. As recently as 1987, the number of bobcats trapped was reported to exceed 6,500, and more than 5,000 export tags were issued to trappers and fur dealers wanting to ship bobcat pelts out of state. Fewer than 500 bobcats have reportedly been trapped each year since 1994.

January 2009 Hunter Education Class in Mesa, AZ

Basic and Combo Hunter Education classes will be held at the Poston Jr. High auditorium (located at 2433 E. Adobe in Mesa) starting January 13, 2009 and continuing through February 12. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:45 to 9:00. There is a 4 hour required field day on Saturday, February 7 at the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club on Utery Pass Road. In-person registration for both classes will be held at the first class session (January 13) from 6:30 to 7:00pm.

Pre-registration for the Combo Class is required and can be done by calling (480) 834-1791 and leaving your name, phone number and the number of students in your group for the Combo class. Total cost for either class is \$8.00. Checks should be made out to MHEIA. Please bring your Social Security Number or AZ Hunter ID number to registration. Maximum basic class size is 250 persons and 25 persons for the Combo class.

These classes are for all ages. Parents are encouraged to attend with their youth. This class is required for all persons 10 - 14 years old to hunt big game in Arizona. It also qualifies the graduate for a permanent bonus point. For further information contact Mike at (480) 834-1791. Please do not call Poston Jr. High for details. See Arizona Game and Fish Hunter Education class schedule at: <http://www.azgfd.com>

Mike Zaccardi
Mesa Hunter Education Instructor Association (Chief Instructor)
1747 E. Mallory St.
Mesa, AZ 85203
(602) 803-1862 C
mike_zaccardi@msn.com



APC's Stan Schepers and Dusty Mosier did a presentation at the September Hunter Ed Class

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

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Address Correction Requested

