

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS
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September 2010 **APC** **P.O. Box 1172** **Mesa, AZ 85211-1172**

The President's Message

by **Scott Francom, APC President**



Predator Hunting in Southern Arizona offers one of the most target rich environments in the state but also presents new dangers we all need to watch out for. As we all read in the newspapers we are receiving a huge influx of human and drug smugglers along the southern border of our state.

What was once people in just backpacks has now turned into well trained drug smuggling units carrying 2 way radios, binoculars, and AR-15s. As predator hunters venturing into this area of our state we need to raise our level of awareness and take a new more cautious approach to hunting these scenic landscapes.

In writing this message I called and spoke with a AZ Boarder Patrol supervisory agent and asked him about hunting in the Southern part of the state. His message was one of caution and included some practices we should all incorporate into our outings. His comments-

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Coming Events

- APC Meeting.....Sept 9, 2010
 PPCI Novice Hunt.....Sept 11,12, 2010
 Board Meeting.....Sept 27, 2010

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



1. It is never wise to engage human or drug smugglers on any level. If some are sighted, allow them to pass and then make a phone call to the boarder patrol and they will come and handle the situation. The number to call that will get the fastest response is 877-872-7435.
2. When away from your vehicle, do not leave valuable possessions unattended.
3. Hunt with a partner always. There are many dangers in the southern Arizona desert and having someone else along dramatically increases the chances of you quickly receiving medical attention if something unfortunate happens.
4. Let family and friends know where you going to be hunting. Give them the highways you plan to travel on and the general area you will hunt in.



Added to his tips I will add my own that are based on several years of hunting the area.

5. If you enter into certain high smuggling areas you will encounter signs warning you of the dangers. These areas are high traffic areas and not only will you find more smugglers there but also more boarder patrol agents. When you are

Continued on page 2

September Meeting Program "Reid Peterson"

Treasurer's Report

by Jerry Thorson, APC Treasurer

This Treasurer's report details all transactions from August 1, 2010 thru August 31, 2010

Checking Account

Beginning Balance..... \$1,467.48

Check #1756 Legend Express Printing(41.33)
Deposit Memberships.....360.00
Deposit Memberships.....100.00

Ending Balance 7/30/10.....\$1,886.15

Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....\$79.16
Call Sales\$0.00
Merchandise.....\$10.00
Dues.....\$250.00
Raffles.....\$55.00
Deposits to Checking.....(\$335.00)
Petty Cash End Balance.....\$64.16

Total Cash.....\$1,950.31

Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$2,366.75

Total Assets.....\$4,317.06

APC Video Library

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

- 8/12/10 S. Schepers...Alone in the Wilderness
- 8/12/10 C. Ensley.....Callers of the Wild
- 8/12/10 Dave Warren.....Calling Coyotes
- 10/8/09 Dave Cadwell.....Calling All Coyotes II
- 8/12/10 G.Malenfant.....Calling Predators
- 4/9/09 James Tucker.....Catastrophic
- 8/12/10 R. Malanowski....Crazy Like A Coyote
- 5/14/09 Leon Lee.....Exploding Varmints
- 1/10/08 Chuck Beshears.....Hunting Coyotes
East and West
- 8/12/10 S. Mark.....Mastering Predator Calling
- 8/12/10 Dave Warren.....Nail Em AZ Style
- 8/12/10 S. Mark.....Predator Pursuit 3
- 2/11/10 Scott Fribbs.....Select, Tune & Shoot
Compound Bows
- 10/8/09 Dave Cadwell..Texas Predator Pursuit
- 8/12/10 Dave Warren..Truth #1 Predator Hunter
- 8/12/10 R. Malanowski.....Truth #2 Calling All
Coyotes
- 8/12/10 S. Francom.....21 Days
- 5/14/09 Leon Lee....Up Close with Rich Higgins
- 3/12/08 Conner Griner.....Utah Raging Bull

Thanks

Jerry



The APC welcomes **Reid Peterson** as guest speaker at the September meeting. Reid is a founding member of the APC and has a great history in Arizona outdoor activities. Mr. Peterson will host a question and answer session, so be sure to come with questions about anything hunting related. It will be an informative session.

The Arizona Predator Callers meeting is on Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

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.

President's Message continued:

stopped by boarder patrol agents cooperate with them 100%. Your objective should be to get this routine stop over with as fast as possible so you can get back to predator hunting. I tell them up front I am a hunter in the area and I have firearms. I communicate with them respectfully and ask to be on my way as soon as possible. I have been stopped a dozen times and have never had any problems.

6. Always carry a sidearm when hunting down along the boarder. A holstered handgun provides an added level of protection if you find yourself in a dangerous situation.

7. If a situation seems uncomfortable. Hunting by myself I once walked up up on a vehicle at the crack of dawn that had been recently abandoned in the desert. The hood was up, the radiator overheating, and all the doors were open. It was in a thick area and I didn't have very good visibility and felt the hair on the back of my neck raise. I quickly retraced my steps to my truck and left the area.

8. If you ever do find a dead body in the desert (be it an illegal or otherwise) plan on a few hours of your day being tied up with law enforcement once you report it. We have waited until our hunting was over to make the phone call. Do not tamper with the body or the are surrounding it. It's often times considered a crime scene.

Lastly, if you are uncomfortable with hunting in southern Arizona- don't do it. There are thousands of miles of fantastic predator hunting all over the state that is far removed from the illegal activities along our southern boarder. What is important is getting out and hunting- wherever you choose to do it.

Good luck.

HUNT REPORT

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman



I worked up in Heber for several days last week. That really sucked, the working part I mean. The weather was great, cool rain showers every afternoon, even some hail.

Fall is in the air and hunting season is coming. I was able to get away and pattern two shotguns so the trip wasn't wasted.

Our "Caller of the Year" contest this year is starting to shape up, with some pretty simple rules. You MUST turn in a hunt record to even be considered as a contestant. I have plenty of blank forms available so see me if you need one. Remember to sign in at every meeting and any other club events that you attend. You will need to document everything and with some things you are on the honor system.

Good luck.

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill !

Dusty

Hunt and Events Calender

- General Meeting of APC.....September 9, 2010
- APC Club Shootout / near Superior.....Cancelled**
- PVCI Novice Hunt.....September 11&12, 2010
- General Meeting of APC.....October 14, 2010
- APC Novice Hunt #1.....October 16, 2010**
- General Meeting of APC.....November 11, 2010
- APC Novice Hunt #2.....November 13, 2010**
- World Coyote Calling Championship.....Dec. 2-3-4, 2010
- General Meeting of APC.....December 9, 2010
- APC Club Hunt.....December 18, 2010**
- General Meeting of APC.....January 13, 2011
- Fur Donation Hunt.....January 15, 2011**
- Multi Club Hunt.....January 22, 2011**
- General Meeting of APC.....February 10, 2011
- Save-A-Fawn Hunt.....February 19-20, 2011**
- Antelope Eaters Hunt.....March 5-6, 2011**
- General Meeting of APC.....March 10, 2011
- APC Club Hunt.....March 19, 2011**
- General Meeting of APC.....April 14, 2011
- Griffin Ranch Cleanup.....April 16, 2011
- APC Club Hunt.....April 30, 2011**
- General Meeting & Awards Presentations.....May 12, 2011

Please get these dates and events onto your calendar.

Club hunting events are in red type.

Dates and events are subject to change.

Stan Schepers has an open invitation to APC members or prospective members for one-on-one training on skinning and preparing your fur for sale. Stan can be reached at 480-461-8730 or by cell phone at 602-499-0505.

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Sportsmen Need To Support Prop 109

By: Don Martin, Outdoors Writer

Kingman Daily Miner Nature Page August 25, 2010

Now that the primary election is over, it's time for sportsmen to focus on supporting what may be the most important piece of legislation that we will vote on this year.

It is called Prop 109 and what it will do if passed is amend the Arizona Constitution to make hunting and fishing a right, rather than a privilege. Currently the ability to hunt and/or fish is a privilege in the Grand Canyon state.

In Arizona, and around the nation, only 10 percent of the general population hunts or fishes. There is another 10 percent who are rabid anti-hunters or anti-anglers, folks who just adamantly believe that nothing in nature should ever be harvested by man.

Then there are the 80 percent of the population who are neither for nor against hunting or fishing. It is these folks who will ultimately decide if our children and grandchildren will be able to choose to hunt or fish in the future.

If passed, Prop 109 will mean that hunting, fishing and the taking of wildlife will be a constitutional right. It will prohibit regulations that would ban the use of traditional methods of take.

But of course, like any right, a person could still lose it.

A good example of this concept is owning a firearm, a right guaranteed under the Second Amendment.

However a person can be convicted of a crime and can lose their right to own a firearm.

It is the same with Prop 109. Violate some wildlife laws and a person is subject to loosing this right too.

Prop 109 would specify that hunting and fishing and the harvesting of wildlife by the state's sportsmen and women will be the preferred means of managing and controlling the state's wildlife populations.

Hunting and fishing as a right is not a new concept in America. Currently there are 10 other states that recognize hunting and fishing as a right. Those states include Vermont, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Virginia and Wisconsin. Other states that are looking at making amendments to their state constitutions to make hunting and fishing a right this year include Oklahoma, Arkansas, South Carolina and Tennessee.

A question has been asked, what would happen if Prop 109 does not pass?

According to the Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club, who has come out in support of Prop 109, "organizations whose goals are to eliminate hunting and fishing will perceive Arizona as weak and uncommitted to the heritage of hunting and fishing. These organizations are constantly studying the country looking for weak spots. These are places where they can bring forward an initiative to restrict one form or another of hunting and/or fishing."

The Board of Directors of the Mohave Sportsman Club, the largest outdoor recreational organization in Mohave County has also come out in support of Prop 109.

The bottom line is that sportsmen will never change the minds of the rabid anti-hunting and anti-fishing groups.

What we can and must do, is to show the 80 percent of Arizona voters that sportsmen are the preferred way to be used not only pay for all of wildlife management, which we do now, but we (sportsmen) are also the preferred method to manage wildlife populations.

Hunting and fishing are part of the American heritage, and as such should be preserved.

Management of wildlife populations in Arizona is currently being accomplished by professional wildlife biologists and our state game management agency working in concert with the state's sportsmen. Management should not be based upon emotion.

Sportsmen are the state's real conservationists and we must continue to show the general public that it is us, and not the antis who are the ones who pay for wildlife management.

It has been shown time and time again that the antis never spend a dime on managing wildlife or improving wildlife habitat in Arizona. All they ever do is litigate.

We as sportsmen pay for wildlife so that all citizens, not just hunters and anglers can enjoy them in their own way, whether it is hunting, fishing, photography or sightseeing.

If Prop 109 passes, then future generations will be able to choose to participate in hunting and fishing and will continue to support wildlife management.

In my opinion it is the right thing to do, and for all the right reasons.

We must ensure that every sportsman or woman goes to the polls and votes in November.

It is not only for our future, but that of our children and grandchildren that we must vote yes on Prop 109.

Attached you will find a link to a website: <http://outdoorheritagearizona.com>

PVCI Novice Hunt

Phoenix Varmint Callers Inc. is hosting a novice hunt September 11 & 12. Arizona Predator Caller members are invited to attend. This is not a competition between clubs, just an opportunity to meet at check in on Sunday evening and brag a little.

More information will be available at the September 9th meeting and also keep checking our website. Check out the PVCI website at: www.pvci.org

New Call Review

by Scott Francom

My name is Scott Francom and as I am a member of the Minaska Outdoors field staff, I do not get much of a chance to use my hand calls much anymore. After seeing the new Griz-N-Gray fox distress call and promptly receiving it in the mail I decided I would leave my electronic call home for this once and put this call to the test.

Saturday, 8/21/10, at day break I walked up a desert canyon and set up in a sandy run off wash and began calling with the Griz-N-Gray. Within 8 minutes I had called in four different grays, all of which converged in the wash within a few minutes of each other. When the dust and sand settled, I was able to harvest two of the four with my rifle. I collected my gear and drove to the next wash a mile down the road.

The next stand was much the same, calling in two foxes and taking them both. This pattern continued over and over. By the end of four early morning stands, the Griz-N-Gray had called in a total of nine gray foxes that presented themselves in front of me. Of those nine, I was able to harvest six of them.

For the predator hunter looking for a change of pace from their electronic caller this hand call was easy to work. I was able to simultaneously have a good cheek weld on my stock, putting the scopes crosshairs on my target, while still working the call on my leg drawing them closer in. The call did not require excessive movement to create sound and was loud enough to carry out into the terrain I was calling in.

Many calls are put out each year by companies, but few are unique in design and purpose. The Griz-N-Gray Gray Fox distress call will revolutionize the way predator callers call in foxes. It will defiantly be found in my shirt pocket each time I go gray fox calling.

See photos on page 6.

APC Shootout Cancelled

The APC Shootout near Superior that was scheduled for September 25th has been cancelled.

Arizona State Calling Championship

by Rich and Tyler Higgins

The 2010 Arizona State Calling Championship was held at Cabela's Saturday, August 28th. 18 adults and 5 youths competed for trophies, prizes, and bragging rights.

The competition began at 3p.m. on the stage at the mountain in the center of the store. Each entrant had 90 seconds to present to the judges their best howls, puppy distress, bird distress, rodent distress, rabbit, and anything else that screams bloody murder.

After the first round the top seven were called back and had to do it all over again. The top four were then called back for the finals.

The MC of the event was Mory Tait, World Champion in 1966 and 1967. Judges were Mory Tait, Kelly Lewis, the president of Xtreme Predator Callers, Mark Cain, owner of Modern Calls, JC Reeds, and Rich Higgins, president of PVCI and member of APC.

The judging was consistent because the four finalist were all past state champions, Eddie Murdock who won in 95, Jeremy Donafield who won in 2004, Jerry Gollubier who won in 2008, and Tyler Higgins who won in 2009.

After the finals the awards were presented to Eddie Murdock 3rd place, Jerry Gollubier 2nd place, and Tyler Higgins who lucked out with 1st place.

Five youths signed up four were 7 to 8 years of age and Jerry's daughter who is 12. The first youngster started with a voice howl which was surprisingly realistic, the other four did almost as well. Prizes then were awarded to all four children.

It was a fun event, very interesting, lots of spectators, and Cabela's Pat Zeman did a great job promoting the event. All that was needed were some more APC members to compete.

A Wrong Turn That Turned Out Right

by Craig Barnett, APC Member

I was sitting at home Monday morning and cabin fever set in so I headed out for a morning hunt. I grabbed my AR15, shotgun, ammo, a woodpecker decoy with woodpecker tape and my Crit'R•Call.

I only made two stands; my first stand was a bust with the wood pecker set up. On my way to my next stand I took a wrong turn and passed up my exit. As I was looking for my turn off I noticed a canyon that I have never seen before. It looked like a good stand I had elevation so I could see over a large canyon with a large thicket of trees in the bottom and a cross wind.

I grabbed the Crit'R•Call and AR15 and set up just over the edge. In about five minutes I bagged a young female fox looking up in my direction trying to locate the noise. I called another ten minutes but nothing else came in.

My next feat was to find a way down, so I headed down the road to find a way into the canyon. After retrieving the fox I saw a western diamondback in the wash that I shot. After skinning the fox and snake I started looking for my exit that I missed and in doing so I was able to bag two more rattle snakes.

A wrong turn turned into a fox and three snakes, not a bad morning.

If I was to recommend a call it would be the Crit'R•Call. I have called in more predators with that call then any other that I have.

Scott Francom's fox harvest 8/22/10 using the Kettle Creek "Griz-N-Gray" Fox Distress call.



Classifieds

Rifle: .300 Win Short Mag. Mauser action, camo stock, scope rings and mounts. Needs head spacing done. Shoots fine. \$300
Call Craig at 602-619-0750.

If you have any items you would like to offer for sale to our membership, please get them to the editor of Predator's Pride by the deadline at the end of each month.

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Primary Annual Membership.....\$30.00

Family Membership add \$5.00.....\$35.00

Lifetime Individual Membership.....\$350.00

New Membership

Renewal

Amount Enclosed _____

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