

PREDATOR'S PRIDE



ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

September 2009

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

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS 2009 Board of Directors

President

Mike Burris.....480-654-1411
president@azpredatorcallers.com

Secretary

Craig Barnett.....480-216-2166
secretary@azpredatorcallers.com

Program Director

Rich Higgins.....480-474-7767
program@azpredatorcallers.com

Hunt Chairman

Dusty Mosier.....480-899-1121
huntinfo@azpredatorcallers.com

Treasurer

Jerry Thorson.....480-831-8665
treasurer@azpredatorcallers.com

Membership Chairman

Kara Jensen.....602-309-2517
membership@azpredatorcallers.com

Awards Chairman

Craig Barnett.....480-216-2166
awards@azpredatorcallers.com

Newsletter Editor

John Albin.....480-988-2188
editor@azpredatorcallers.com

Webmaster

Scott Francom.....480-330-5029
webmaster@azpredatorcallers.com

Special Events Chairman, etc.

Larry Walden.....480-361-4745

The President's Message

by Larry Walden, APC Special Events Chairman

Another season is here and for all of our persuasion it is the most exciting time of the year. The hot weather will be behind us soon and the varmints will be on the prowl.

I begin each season by rereading one of my predator calling/hunting books along with some of the magazine articles I have collected over the last few

years. Along with the reading material I grab a couple of predator hunting DVDs of the shelf and throw them in the DVD player. There is nothing like hearing, what Gerry Blair calls the "Dying Rabbit Blues" and seeing "Ole Wylie" come on the run only to be met with the business end of a 12 GA. Between the books, articles and DVDs I get excited about the upcoming predator hunting season.

I was talking to Mike Burris over the weekend and he reminded me it is time to start checking out our equipment. Once you are stuck, four miles from nowhere, with mud or snow up to your truck doors it is too late to remember your "Hi-Lift" Jack is leaning against the wall in your garage. This is the time to check all your equipment including spare tires, maps, GPS, flashlights, truck battery, radiator hoses, fan belts, snow chains, tow straps, first-aid kit, H2O containers, extra petrol, jacks and shovels etc. You get the picture. All the stuff it is easy to overlook until you need it.

Fall is a good time to review the Arizona Game & Fish (AZ G & F) regulations. The regulations are detailed and frequently change season to season. For instance there are seasons for Predatory and Fur-bearing Mammals and some hunt units do not allow centerfire rifles to be used. During the season AZ G & F has phone numbers to call to check and determine if the hunt unit you are going to is still open for lions and bears. Please do not forget to check. Also, there are AZ G & F check-ins for harvested lions and bears. Take some time to review the regulations before going into the field. A little time spent studying the regulations may keep you from getting a fine or worse.... losing your hunting privileges.

Our Board of Directors working with Dusty Mosier, our APC Hunt Chairman, established dates for our 2009-2010 club hunts. Take a look at Dusty's article in last month's newsletter and mark the dates on your calendar. Everything is also listed on page 3 of the "Predator's Pride" under "Hunt and Events Calendar". We have some great hunts scheduled and welcome participation by all members. Even if you cannot hunt that day come to the evening check-ins. There are always a lot of great stories around the campfire and you will have a chance to meet other club members that share your love of calling and hunting.

Hunt safely and keep bringing in the predators, *Larry*



Mike Burris

Inside This Issue

President's Message.....	1
A Day in the Life, by Rich Higgins.....	2
Treasurer's Report.....	2
September Meeting Program.....	2
Hunt Report.....	3
Hunt & Event Calendar.....	3
Membership Report.....	3
Heads and Horns Award.....	4
Game and Fish Update.....	4
Raffle Info.....	5
On The Stand with Scott Francom.....	6-7

Treasurer's Report

by Jerry Thorson, APC Treasurer

This Treasurer's report details all transactions from August 1 thru August 30, 2009

Checking Account

Beginning Balance.....	\$1,114.35
Check #1714 Postage.....	(19.33)
Check #1716 Legend Express printing.....	(134.00)
Check #1717 ATA Convention sponsor.....	(100.00)
Check #1718 Meeting Food.....	(39.00)
Check #1719 AWF-June memberships.....	(78.00)
Check #1720 Outdoors Insurance.....	(1,015.00)
Deposit Memberships.....	486.00
Ending Balance 8/30/09.....	\$215.02

Petty Cash

Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....	\$82.76
Call Sales	\$0.00
Merchandise.....	\$0.00
Dues.....	\$185.00
Raffles.....	\$162.00
Deposits to Checking.....	(\$356.00)
Petty Cash End Balance.....	\$82.76

Total Cash.....\$288.78

Inventory

Total Inventory Value.....\$3,113.75

Total Assets.....\$3,402.53

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
- 8/13/09 Bill Baber.....Calling Coyotes
- 8/13/09 Bill Baber.....Hunting in the East
- 8/13/09 Bill Baber.....Texas Predator Pursuit
- 8/13/09 Craig Barnett.....Operation Predator

Thanks *Jerry*



September Meeting Program

“Ladder Hunting and Fox Hunting”

The Arizona Predator Callers are hosting a predator calling seminar on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The meeting features a comprehensive seminar on Hunting from Ladders by **Scott Francom** and also Fox Hunting by **Bob Bogart**. Previously scheduled speaker, **Gary Clevenger** had to cancel due to the dangers posed to his home by the fires in California.

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.

A Day in the Life

(how pressure and environment influence coyote behavior)

by Rich Higgins



Part Two - And then there is Pressure.

Pressure changes coyote behavior drastically. Missouri placed a bounty on coyotes in 1825. Everyone took up arms and went after the coyote which immediately went silent and nocturnal. Hunters reported that there were no coyotes in Missouri.

In the early eighties I used to call coyotes in the Rainbow Valley region in Az. The coyote spent their days in the melon fields when the melons were ripe. They would eat until they were full and then lie down in the rows and nap. They spent most of their time in a relatively small area. My B-in-L's buddies found out about them and thought it was great sport to sit in their car on the road by the melon field and take 200 yard pot shots at the coyotes with a snub nose 38. and, incredibly, the coyotes ignored them.

As more predator callers began calling the valley in the nineties the coyotes became more nocturnal and it was rare to see a coyote out and about during the day. Within the last five years the valley has been pounded hard and we have blanked the last two times we called that area.

Because of heavy pressure it is rare to see a coyote out and about in daylight in much of Az. In contrast again, one fur harvester in northern Nevada drives the roads of two ranches and says that one forty mile stretch is good for thirty coyotes. Doesn't even have to call them.

Coyotes spend much of their time napping and resting. Pressured coyotes do that during daylight and go about their normal business at night. Food, cover and water determine where they spend their time and the caller has to locate them at various times of the day and night to find their core areas, travel corridors and certain areas of their territories where they spend the majority of their time for various reasons. This is necessary because a coyote with low security level is difficult to call out of its comfort zone.

Hunt Report

by **Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman**



Our novice hunts this year will be on the 10th of October, and on the 14th of November. If you are new and would like to participate please see me at the meeting. You must be a member and have signed a waiver. If you want to hunt with your child they must have completed the hunters safety course and have a current license, or they will not be allowed to handle any firearms.

While on this subject let's talk a little about the hunt itself. Plan on being out from before dawn until late (10 or 11 PM). I will pair you up with one of our experienced members and hopefully they will help you cut your learning curve. These club members are doing you a favor, listen to what they have to say. They want you to be successful and have fun, don't hesitate to ask questions. Make sure you bring food and water in a small ice chest and whatever else you might need for a long day.

Camouflage clothing is a must, also camouflage your firearms and any equipment you will be carrying. Buy a lion tag, you never know when one may show up and the season is open now. Make sure that you know your firearms! Know when it is on and off safe by feel, practice opening and closing the action as quietly as you can. Always be aware of where the muzzle is pointing. Remember, safety first, last and always!

Be prepared to pay for or at least split the fuel cost. At the end of the day we will all meet at the check-in and the club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and cold drinks. We will skin any animals that are brought in and show you how to handle the fur. This may be a long, exhausting, but informative day, so mind your manners and keep a positive attitude. A note to the experienced members, you were all novices once so be patient and be a good role model. Remember you are representing the club.

I will need people to step up and help so let me know at the meeting if you can. Fill out your hunt records, I will be asking for them next spring.

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill!
(But don't shoot the truck)

Dusty

Hunt and Events Calendar

(Dates are subject to change)

APC General Meeting, Mesa.....	September 10, 2009
APC Shootout and Sight-In, Superior.....	September 26, 2009
APC General Meeting, Mesa.....	October 8, 2009
APC Novice Hunt #1.....	October 10, 2009
Predator Professionals Hunt.....	October 22-24, 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:

David Warren, John Warren, John Albin, Larry Eichman, AJ Suscavage, Larry Walden, George Bargman and Stephen Crooks

for renewing their memberships.

Welcome new members

Ron Day of Phoenix, **David Carpenter** of Mesa, **Ray Arreola Jr.** of Phoenix, and **John Misiaco** of Mesa

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

Elite

REALTY

RESIDENTIAL SPECIALISTS

Kara Jensen PC

kara.jensen.az@gmail.com

www.karajensen.com

1-800-756-7094

Office 480-813-8777

1237 S. Val Vista Dr. Mesa, AZ 85204

Sierra Golf Works

Dave Warren

Certified "Class A" Clubmaker

5846 E. McKellips Road #101

Mesa, AZ 85215

480-324-8144

Name Brand Clubs <> Custom Clubs
Accessories <> Giftware <> Apparel
On-Site Club Repair

A.J. Imports

Buy, Sell & Trade

Firearms * Knives * Ammo * Tools

A.J.I. Sporting Goods

Jeff Serdy, APC Member

10444 E. Apache Trail 480-984-8616

Apache Jcnctn, AZ 85220 Fax 480-984-8630

email: ajisports@msn.com

www.ajisports.com

Trading Post Taxidermy

Eric Loeffler, Wildlife Artist

Gilbert, Arizona

APC Member

10% Discount to all APC Members

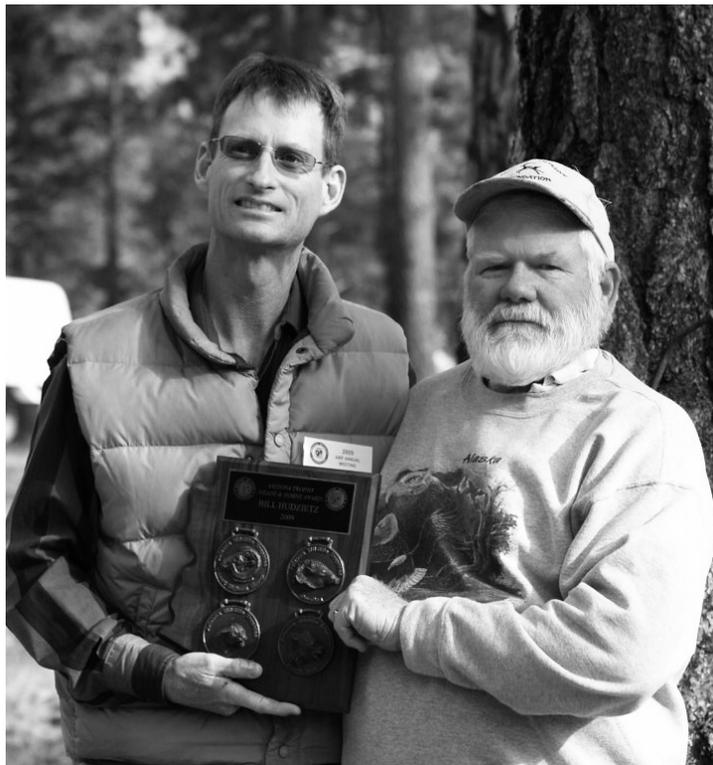
480-813-8625

480-363-5084 cell

email: tradingposttaxidermy@msn.com

Visit our website at:

www.tradingposttaxidermy.com



APC Member **Bill Hudzietz**, left, receiving the Heads and Horns award.

Rules and Requirements for the Arizona Trophy Heads and Horns Award

- A. A candidate must take four different Arizona animals from the following six categories: pronghorn, desert bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, bison, javelina, black bear, and cougar. The four animals may be taken with the use of guides and or dogs, as governed by the Rules of Fair Chase.
- B. The entries must consist of at least one animal which is scored by skull measurement and one which is scored by horn measurement.
- C. Two entries must meet the minimum score of Arizona Wildlife Trophies at the time of entry.
- D. The remaining two entries must be at least 90% of the minimum trophy book score at the time of entry.
- E. The Special Awards Committee will review each candidate's application for the Arizona Trophy Heads and Horns Award. Candidates may be asked to verify their applications.
- F. Upon approval of their applications, candidates will receive the Arizona Trophy Heads and Horns Award at the annual Arizona Wildlife Trophies awards banquet. The deadline for submission is February 1. The entry fee for award applications is \$40.

Arizona Game & Fish

MANAGING TODAY FOR WILDLIFE TOMORROW

azgfd.gov

Proposed hunt guidelines available for public review

Aug. 28, 2009

Guidelines to be considered at Arizona Game and Fish Commission meeting Sept. 12

The proposed hunt guidelines that will be used for developing the specific hunt recommendations and permit levels for the fall 2010 through spring 2013 hunting seasons are available for review on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Web site at www.azgfd.gov/huntguidelines.

"The hunt guidelines were formulated through an extensive collaborative effort between department biologists and the public," said Brian Wakeling, the department's chief of game management. "During many stages of this process we have asked the public to provide input to help shape these guidelines, using many venues including statewide public meetings, direct mailings, surveys (mailed and online), and general comments via mail or email."

The department regularly reviews and revises the existing hunt guidelines according to the commission-approved schedule and recommends changes that address the current direction of the commission. The direction for the 2009 package is for standardization, simplification, and increasing hunter participation. The hunt guidelines set the framework, social and biological, that the department uses to develop specific hunt recommendations and permit level guides for commission orders (elk, deer, antelope, etc.).

Wakeling added, "The guidelines are based on sound science, but ultimately the social desires are also critical to crafting the document that will guide our hunt recommendations into the future."

The proposed guidelines will be presented to the commission for approval at its Sept. 12 meeting at the Arizona Game and Fish Department headquarters on 5000 W. Carefree Highway in Phoenix. For a full agenda, visit www.azgfd.gov/commission under "Meeting Agenda."

"Anyone still wishing to provide comment is encouraged to attend the Sept. 12 meeting when the commission considers the final package," added Wakeling.

To learn more about the hunt guidelines process, visit www.azgfd.gov/huntguidelines.



John Albin shot this beautiful female bobcat back in February. **Eric Leffler of Trading Post Taxidermy** did this magnificent wall mount. John's wife Jane, is still not sure about being in the room alone with it.

Raffles

Arizona Predator Callers are raffling off a Remington Model 715 in .243 caliber and 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).

Classified Ads

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

10% Discount on Accessories to APC Members



*Sega Custom
Gunsmithing*

NEW & USED GUNS • SHOOTING ACCESSORIES
TRADES • CASH FOR USED GUNS

CUSTOM GUNSMITHING • REPAIR ALL MAKES
PARTS • REBLUE

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9-6 Sat. & Sun. 9-5

RON SEGA, Owner

(480) 963-4311 • FAX 899-4808

2156 N. Alma School Rd.

Chandler, Arizona 85224

www.gunsetc.com

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

Ken R. Waddill Jr.
992 E. Cottonwood Lane, Ste 103
Casa Grande, AZ 85222
(520) 836-7004 Office
(520) 836-7114 Fax
(520) 483-8599 Mobile

My clients are my friends, not a policy number.

T&S SECURITY

Reloading Academy

Learn to reload ammunition
Rifle - Handgun - Shotgun
Private Tutor with 60 Years Experience

Call for Appointment

480-990-2492

602-549-7894 Cell

454ssblk@cox.net

Tom Dolbow

The APC would like to thank Craig Gombos for his service as President and time spent as board member of the club. Craig moved to Oklahoma due to his job situation. We wish him well and happy hunting in OK.

Jeff Porath
734-819-1372
P.O. Box 96
Milan, MI 48160

PORATH
Game Calls

Never Quit...

www.porathgamecalls.com

On the Stand

by Larry Walden, APC Special Events Coordinator



This month's - On the Stand with:
Scott Francom

1. How did you get started predator hunting? I began very informally back in the early 1980's with some high school friends. We really didn't know what we were doing. Someone bought a Circe handcall and we took turns wailing on it out near Florence. Due to sheer numbers of coyotes in those days we called in a few and got a crack at shooting at them. Skip forward 24 years and I get the itch to do some calling again. I find Predatormasters.com and connect with Rich Higgins who graciously gets me back up to speed on the art of predator hunting. I am very thankful that Rich took the time to reacquaint me with the hobby of predator hunting.

2. Who has had the most influence on your predator hunting career? To date I would have to say Rich and Tyler Higgins. I spent just about every single weekend with them for the first two years I predator hunted. By watching how that father and son team worked the wind, the terrain, and ultimately the coyotes themselves, I began to understand not only how to hunt coyotes but how to understand the behavior of the coyote itself. I have hunted with many people I consider to be fantastic coyote hunters but have chosen to adhere to the vast majority of the techniques the Higgins have shared with me.

3. What is your favorite time of the year for hunting predators? I enjoy the late fall before all the state's predator hunters get out and begin spoiling the desert with their calling and shooting. The cooler temperatures combined with the eager and uneducated coyotes makes for some exciting hunting by anyone's standards!

4. What is your favorite Arizona hunt unit for predator hunting? If you were to draw a horizontal line through the Phoenix Metropolitan area out to the

neighboring state's borders, I hunt everything below that line all the way down to the border of Mexico. If it's thick desert I will stop my truck and hunt it.

5. Name a couple of your favorite predator hunting "mouth" calls? Mark Zepp's Pup squawler, CritR Call's Peewee, Sceery AP6 just to name a few.

6. Do you use electronic calls? If so, what brand/model do you use and what are the three most effective "sounds"? I have been field staff for Minaska Outdoors and am currently on the Pro Staff team for Gametraks. Currently I was given a GameTraks Ultimate electronic caller to use this season. I also own a Foxpro Fury that gets some time on stand periodically. As for the most successful sounds I have used in the past few years I would have to say woodpecker distress, cottontail distress, and coyote pup distress.

7. Do you use decoys? If yes, what kind? I have tried many different decoys and tend to shy away from them as they tend to frighten more coyotes than they attract. If I do use one I would use something very small and feathery without too much motion.

8. Do you use cover scent? If so, what cover scent do you use? I do not believe in using cover scent when hunting predators. I do subscribe to the idea of confusing a coyote for a short period of time with an overload of sensory information. I mist my downwind often when on stand. I use a combination of various animal urines I mix myself in my garage and carry in a tightly sealed spray bottle.

9. Name 3 important factors to consider when on or approaching a predator hunting stand? Of the three which is the most critical?

- Sign
 - Wind direction
 - Silence
- Wind direction.

10. Describe your most memorable predator hunt. I had sold my Minaska electronic caller and was sitting on the ground with bushes all around me with a Verminator Tweety hand call blowing it intermittently. All of a sudden I hear footsteps of a coyote running into the stand. Without a warning a coyote jumped through the bushes and landed on my lap. I was so startled I fired my shotgun and yelled. The coyote, who was also quite startled, kicked up a cloud of dust and took off trying to get as small as possible.

11. What is your favorite predator to hunt?

Why? I think bobcats are great to hunt due to the oftentimes extreme methodical way of coming into a stand. It requires you be 100% quiet and motionless on stand. Move a muscle when the bobcat is approaching the caller and all you'll see is its tail and it runs away.

12. Describe your single most successful predator stand?

I have called in 4 coyotes on a single stand three times and three coyotes on five individual stands. I have taken a number of doubles myself and last week, with a friend, called in 7 gray foxes in 3 consecutive stands.

13. Describe your most disastrous predator hunting adventure?

I once stood up with a shotgun in my hands after a stand without putting on the safety. The shotgun slipped from my grip and upon grasping it again it fired and narrowly missed a hunting partner. I still have nightmares about that incident over a year ago. It has cemented into my mind the importance of gun safety all the time.

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

I do a lot of my hunting with a shotgun on a 6 foot wooden ladder in thick desert cover. I currently use a Remington 1187 12 GA Magnum Predator Edition. I like this particular shotgun due to the pistol grip, fiber optic rifle sites and the 3.5" shell capabilities. I use #4 buck exclusively. When shooting a rifle I use a Remington R-15 in .223 and shoot a Federal 55g VMax Tactical round.

15. What is your favorite camo / pattern? I own a number of camo patterns but recently have been using Mosset Oak Brush a lot. It is a little light in color if I am trying to hide in the shadows but blends in perfectly with the desert floor and foliage if I am in the sun. In my opinion more important than a particular camo pattern is keeping your movements to a minimum when on stand.

16. Name your favorite annual APC hunt or activity. The annual tri-club hunt.

17. What is your number one predator hunting goal? Mountain Lion

18. What development (equipment, strategy or tactic) has most influenced predator hunting during the last 5-10 years? The most influential development in the predator calling industry in my opinion is the electronic caller. The development of 2-way communication technology makes predator

hunting easier than ever before. Fantastic speaker and remote technology enables a predator hunter to broadcast a sound clip of a wounded rabbit for hundreds of yards without having to hardly move a muscle. The storage capabilities enable a quality electronic caller to store hundreds of sounds to fit any particular type of hunt or predator.

19. What Arizona Game & Fish hunting regulation would you change?

I would change the limitations we encounter with night hunting in our state. With so many other states in the Southwest successfully regulating night hunting there is no reasonable excuse to limit our opportunities to experience night hunting.

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

I feel that a giant threat to predator hunting are hunters themselves. Hunters not following the AG&F regulations and using poor judgment in situations is bad for everyone who values their hunting rights.

21. Describe your dream big game/predator hunt.

I would enjoy hunting coyotes and wolves in Alaska. I would also enjoy going to Africa to hunt jackals and the wild cats they have there.



Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: _____ Hm Phone: _____ Wk Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ DOB: _____

email address: _____

Additional Family Members

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

