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July-Aug 2018



James S.

Presidents Message!

Guys & Gals it is hot in AZ right now! We have lots planned over the next couple months. Some of us are going to Wapiti Weekend w/Arizona Elk Society on July 28 to talk predators w/kids. Anyone interested give me a shout. The PPCI Trail Clearing of the See Canyon Trail is Aug 4-5. We have done this for over 50 years. April B. she in charge. More info inside. Next up!! Who is ready to start Calling again? You don't want to miss the **PVCI** George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial Boot Camp. Aug 10-12. We are looking to get as many of you out there as Mentors as possible. Ron H. will be sharing the Hunt Rules at the Aug Meeting. Eddie M. will be doing a Bear Calling/Hunting Seminar & Wayne will be discussing things to bring for boot camp and the upcoming season.

THINGS TO KNOW:

****What happen to my Newsletter?** The **PVCI** Officers & Board of Directors decided Jan. 2018 to have this Newsletter be sent out by e-mail only thus eliminating the hard copy. Membership Chairwoman Ruth is going to need everyone's e-mail info. at pvcigroup@gmail.com Have you paid your Annual Dues?

****NEW MOUNTAIN LION REGULATIONS:** There have been several changes to the Mountain Lion Hunt Structure that all hunters should know about. More inside.

****The Arizona Trappers Association (ATA)** will hold their Annual Convention July 28th at Mormon Lake. Miss Rodeo AZ 2018 may be there to help raise funds. Seminars, vendors, games. ALWAYS a Good Time! More Info. Inside.

***The PVCI August Monthly Meeting Aug. 1** will feature the Annual Bear Hunt/Calling Seminar. A guest speaker is being worked on. Also learn more about the George Knox/ Ray Evridge Memorial Boot Camp.

**** Aug. 4-5, 2018 – Dates for the Annual PVCI Trail Clearing** of the See Canyon Trail, a hunter/survival trail on Rim. Work done on Saturday the 4th. Potluck Saturday night. Refreshments provided. Map inside.

****PVCI George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial Varmint Calling Boot Camp** is scheduled for Aug. 10-11-12 2018. The location will be Vincent Ranch in Unit 4A. This Boot Camp is designed to teach you about calling predators in an in-the-field setting. For both Youth & Adult. Meals provided. Cost is Free! You **MUST** Pre-Register! Map & more info. inside.

****To contribute stories, pictures, etc. to this Newsletter** send items to: coyotecaller@cox.net Share your stories/pictures, tips, recipes, etc. with us. We'd like to read them. These articles don't have to be about predators. **Join us on our Facebook Group** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PVCI.org/>

Join us on Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/pvci.org> **PVCI Website** <http://www.pvci.org>



Laura G. catches and holds her first fish ever!



2018 PVCI Fish Derby Participants



Bear Seminar /Aug. 1st!!



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PVCI ANNUAL FISHING CONTEST REPORT - 2018

by Eddie M.

Thank you all again for your help and support for this year's PVCI Fishing Derby. We ended up locating the Check-in Location near the town of Williams in the vicinity of Dogtown Lake. We had an excellent turn out, about 24 fine folks and families joined us on Friday and Saturday night. I knew things were going to be good when we caught 20 trout between Wednesday and Friday before the Derby began.

Saturday June 2, Free Fishing & PVCI Derby Fishing Day, proved to be a little tough for all. The biggest qualifying stringer was 5 trout, the second biggest stringer was 4 trout and a crappie and a tie happen between 3 people for third with stringers of 3 trout each. There were a total of 24 qualifying fish caught Saturday from Dogtown and Kaibab lakes, so it turned out to be a good day anyway. Oh my, did we have some good delicious grub Saturday night!! We cooked most of the fish plus there was a potluck with all kinds of tasty dishes! For those that couldn't make it, you missed out on some great eating with some great people! We had a BLAST!

The winners were as follows: Longest Stringer went to Ricardo G. with 5 trout & **Second Place** went to Eddie M. with 4 trout and a crappie. There was a **3-way tie for Third Place** with Kirk, James and Jerry having 3 trout each. After measuring, Jerry took **Third Place** in the **Longest Stringer Category**. These were Jerry's first fish in about 40 years! **Our Second Category was Longest Fish. First Place** went to Ruth S. with a 12.5" trout. **Second Place** went to Eddie M. with an 11.5" trout and **Third Place** went to Richardo's wife Laura with her first fish ever an 11-1/4" trout!!! We threw in a **Third Category this year, who had the Smallest Fish?** That would be Eddie and his 7-3/4" crappie.

A HUGE SHOUTOUT to Will H. & Jessica S. who donated a few Very Nice Trout they caught at a military-base pond! There were a couple of 3.5 pounders, probably 24-26 inches long & a few more that weren't much smaller. I want to thank ALL that donated and those that helped to get the donations. We had some cool prizes and oh so cool giveaways! I hope to see an even better turnout next year! **Here are some Donators: Camping World-Mesa, Ducks Unlimited, TCB Tattoo, Sportsman's Warehouse, Texas Roadhouse, Arizona Massage Therapy.**

The next time you see Eddie M., ask him, "What you do when your hands are cold?"

Again, **THANK YOU ALL** for making this an Excellent Event!!!

P.S. We have said it over & over, if you are not coming to the Club Events, you are missing out on a not so little thing called bonding. You will see some pictures below trying to capture what happen however unless you are there you have no idea what you really missed. We really hope to see you next year! Enjoy the pictures!

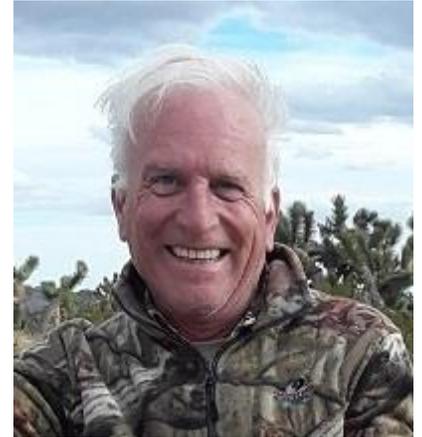
2018 PVCI FISHING CONTEST PICS



SANTA FE COYOTE ADVENTURES

by Rick M.

A visit to my brother Mike's house near Santa Fe usually includes a couple coyote adventures. These outings are within hiking distance of his home. Most mornings and evenings offer an opportunity for calling in the Pinon/Juniper covered hills. The first three days of my visit were spent hiking in Colorado with Donna (Mike's wife) hiking club. We were blessed with excellent weather and lots of wildflowers. I have never such an abundance of Indian Paintbrush. I saw a white/yellow variety in addition to the more common red/orange. Before leaving for Colorado I posted a trail camera on Mike's property in a spot Mike and Donna thought coyotes might pass. On our return we found a couple birds had tripped the camera but no other critters. Thursday evening Mike and I set out on a dual mission. First, we placed the trail camera in a wash where some tracks were present. Mike brought along a product called "Bait & Blast" to help attract coyotes in front of our game camera. Mike pointed out a tree in the wash close to our camera location. The bottom vegetation had been trimmed by elk. Later that week Donna told me of a Pinon pine that the elk thrashed from top to bottom along their driveway.



Once our trail camera was set, Mike and I followed our wash to a large arroyo. We began looking for a place to predator call. After passing on a few potential sites, I selected a spot with favorable wind and visibility. Mike and I both backed into the shade of trees. I was on one side of a large opening while Mike kept eye on the other side. Mike had deposited my caller in the middle of the clearing. I selected a favorite woodpecker sound, then prepared to do some shooting with my cell phone camera. Mike's trigger finger was also on a camera. After eleven or twelve minutes I began to think of giving up. Half a minute later a coyote wandered into view. He trotted directly in front of Mike, then turned downhill toward the direction of the electronic caller and myself. He investigated the meadow in a leisurely manner. I was able to watch the coyote for a long time; much longer than most encounters. Eventually he moved next to a tree where he was soon joined by a partner. The two hung out for a minute and finally moved on. After I was sure the coyotes were out of the area, Mike and I moved onto another stand before darkness. The most noticeable event of our second stand was the rain that started falling. We were well soaked by the time we reached home. Inspecting our cameras, we learned Mike had captured the first coyote, while my attempts were total failures.

The next day we took a city bus tour of Santa Fe. Many places in town have fences made from Juniper stakes. Our guide told us they were called "coyote fences." He said coyotes stay away because they don't like the sap and can't jump over the top level. I wouldn't bet money on these statements, but I enjoyed hearing about coyotes on the tour. In addition to his coyote story, I will always remember our guide for two other items not likely included on other tours. First, he slammed the brakes causing all five rows of passengers to nearly land in the front seat. After deciding no one was killed, he mumbled about the new brakes and drove on. The brake incident caused me to spill coffee down my shirt and pants. Just about when I finished mopping up the mess from my clothing, our driver knocked a large city flowerpot about two feet from its original location. I didn't spill any coffee this time as I saw the crash coming.

Our calling the next morning was unproductive but we hit pay dirt with the trail camera. A coyote investigated the "Bait & Blast" providing us with a handful of photos. There was no question that the product captured the visitor's attention. Later that evening I did some mouth calling on our second stand. Mike heard pairs of paws pounding towards our direction! The visitors must have gotten our scent as they broke off and never came into view.

Mike had some military duties on Saturday, so I did my own calling that morning. On the first set-up I played, "Bay-Bee Cottontail" on my FoxPro unit. Results came almost instantaneously. A rabbit raced into view about 110 yards out. He kept zooming along, dropped down into a ravine, up the other side and never lost speed until he finally was in the clearing in front of me. He hung around awhile and finally moved to my right where trees blocked my sight of him. I have had rabbits rush in before, but this response topped all others I have seen! In the evening Mike and I gave things a last try. We first hiked to a cave on a rocky ledge. The shadow made the cave look deeper than it was. There was abundant rat sign all along the ledge, it was easy to understand why bobcats like to follow along such places. Not far past the rocky ledge we reached a fence bordering the Tusuqui Indian Reservation. Our calls along the fence did not produce but we saw elk tracks and scat in multiple places. In one place we could hear an elk but not see him buried in the trees. I am sure that if we sat with binoculars for a while we could have spotted the elk. On our trip back home two groups of coyotes began howling at dusk. We tried calling, with the result that I saw a coyote come out of some trees, then go back in. It was the last of our action. My other canine adventure did not involve coyotes. Mike & Donna had been bragging about their dog Monalisa and how great she was around others. The entire week I could never enter a room without loud barking and growling. I guess all dogs must embarrass their owners in one form or other. I still had a fantastic vacation and look forward to the next visit.

Off-Season Prep

by Wayne Wilson

We were recently discussing “Off-Season Prep” and what that might look like to me. I’m a very competitive person by nature, so for me it makes sense to address any distractions now that will cut into my hunting season so I can be more successful and harvest more animals. Off-season prep is an important part of my hunting regimen.

Being that when I hunt, I hunt hard, the off-season is a good chance to take a break from hunting, recharge my batteries, mark some items off my honey-do list, and make up for ignoring my wife for a season. Here are a few things from this last year’s list that I’ll focus on this summer so that when fall arrives, I can focus on my hunting and enjoying my time outdoors!

Vehicles - This is the time I go through each of my vehicles and replace belts, hoses, radiator flush, and battery checks, whether it is due or not. Replacing a \$25 fan belt or battery cable now could save you a long walk home, and who wants to leave thousands of \$\$ in equipment sitting in a broken-down truck on the side of the road? The reason I fix this stuff now is so that if there is an issue, I find it now, not the night before the hunt because I waited too long and now the auto parts store is out of stock on what I need. Off-season is also the time to consider upgrades to your trail rig. Where will you be hunting this fall, is it time for shocks, wipers, camper shell, a new winch? Maybe a bed liner to keep the leaky stuff off your paint??

Gear - Aside from the normal cleaning and maintenance on my gear, off-season is a good time to check everything else. It gives me time to re-camouflage my gear and not worry that the paint won’t dry or will still smell. It’s a chance to hang and air out my sleeping bag in the garage. Summer is a good time to pull out those owner’s manuals and learn how that extra button on your range finder works. Take it out, test it, see what works well and what doesn’t. Find the limitations on your gear, what you can use and where. If you plan to use an E-caller or other electronics, this is the time to learn the remote, what sounds do you like, how do you get there quickly on the remote. Can you manage a remote control, and hand call and a firearm all at the same time? Can you mute it the call or change to hand calls without looking? This last year I was reminded how much fun chiggers can be, so I invested in, and thoroughly tested a new set of gaiters. If Hell could only house one insect, I’m sure it would be the chigger! If you haven’t ever gotten into the chiggers in Arizona, I’d like to tell you about a honey hole....

Camping/sleeping - Last year I had the chance to hunt in the high country in a beautiful pine forest. Sleeping up off the ground in the back of my truck in the cool damp air was awesome – until I felt something scratchy in my sleeping bag. I didn’t remember putting peanuts in my bag...? Apparently, the beetles thought it was warm and comfy too and decided to climb through the hole in my bag. Had I checked that in the backyard before I went out, it could have saved me a lot of lost sleep. (I hate bugs!) Backyard camping is a good opportunity to check for tent holes and bad zippers.

If Momma Ain’t Happy – I’ll start by saying my wife is a saint! She puts up with all my stories, supports my passion, makes me burritos for the hunt, and helps me get ready. The off-season is a good chance to make that up to her. I would be lying if I didn’t say I didn’t cheat a little bit (and sneak in hunting prep), but that off-season is when I make up for the 6-7 months that I go MIA. We have one night per week that is date night and we stick to it religiously. It doesn’t matter what we do, that night is hers. I’ve also found that when I include my wife in my hunt prep, I get to sneak in a few little extras that help me get ready for the season and she enjoys the time together. If your spouse likes to shoot, turn it into a fun date and see what she likes to do! You can make a lot of brownie points in an hour!! Whether that’s playing Battleship with 22’s at the rifle range, or a quick round to hone your shotgun skills at the competition clays. It’s all part of the prep and one way I can get my spouse involved in the excitement. Ben Avery is open Wednesday-Sunday starting at 7:00am (before it gets too hot). Make sure to check times before you go as they do change seasonally.



Firearms – The off season is a fantastic time to test and tune your gun, check your scope, reload some ammo, pattern your shotgun and PRACTICE your shooting. I would



estimate I probably put 600-800 rounds through my rifle and pistols every year, and I STILL MISS!!! But the more I practice, the better I am, the faster I can acquire the target, and it's fun! I tend to do most of my reloading and load testing during the summer when the days are long, and you can make that early morning or late afternoon trip to the range to accuracy test. I try to change up my targets so I'm always shooting at a different distance, a different angle, and keep it fun!

Research – is another key category. When the forests are all closed due to fire danger and it's too hot to do much else, that is when I try to spend more time on the Internet and other sources to research my prey. Since we have been blessed with successful hunts, we're always needing to find fresh areas to hunt. Where we hunted last year may not work this year. Animals move, weather changes, environments can change. An hour here and there on google maps is a lot cheaper than a tank of gas and set of tires. This is also when I research the animal. What are they eating, how dense is the population, what does their scat tell me and how do I identify it? Those are just a few of the things I do in the off-season, hopefully they're helpful to you!



COYOTE E-CALLER SURPRISE!!

by Preston M.



I was talking to Chris B. about hunting coyotes. There was a certain location that we thought might be a good place to be the first stand in the morning. What we decided to do was to go up on Friday night, sleep and hunt for half a day on Saturday. So, Friday evening we met, drove up and found a place to sleep. In the morning some javelina hunters driving by woke us up. Since we were awake we went ahead and got ready then sticking to the plan, walked some distance from camp before making a stand. About 10 minutes into the stand we heard more vehicles (javelina hunters) driving past on the roads. After ending the stand, we walked back to camp and decided to move to a new area, so we packed up and left. Upon reaching the Highway we noticed a fresh road-killed coyote that was facing in the direction that we had been calling from. We wondered if



perhaps it had been coming in when it got hit? Well since that coyote was hit here, why not go to the other side of the street where it came from and try calling over there? So that is what we did, driving in approx. 1 mile. On our 1st stand here I was set up in the shade of a Joshua tree looking upwind while Chris was next to another Joshua tree looking downwind. I hit the E-Caller and in less than a minute I caught movement to my right and saw a coyote running full-speed straight to the caller! When the coyote went down into a dip I got my shotgun up and tried barking to stop the coyote however when the coyote came out of the dip it didn't stop so I shot and knocked it down. I noticed afterwards that the E-Caller wouldn't go into the Ki Yi mode anymore which it is supposed to do when it hears a shot, so I switched to a hand call to finish my 15 minutes stand. After ending the stand, I found that not only had I killed the coyote, but I had also hit the E-Caller in the process knocking 2 batteries on the ground. The shot had dented those two batteries however the player still played once I re-inserted them.



***** NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: DO NOT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ANUALLY to stay a PVC I Member!** On Jan. 1st, 2018 the PVC I Officers & Board decided to do away with the hard copy Newsletter and go to an on-line only issue. To receive a Newsletter send me your info, at pvcigroup@yahoo.com Once you receive the E-Mail copy you will be notified by E-Mail when your Membership is due. Please submit proper payment to keep your Membership current. The fee to renew remains \$25 and should be made payable to PVC I. Send payment to PVC I c/o Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 87153, Phoenix, AZ. 85080-7153. For new members the fee is \$35. and forms are available at the Monthly General Meeting. Questions: Contact Ruth S. 602-524-3586.
PVC I MEMBERSHIP COUNT: 176 **PVC I NEW MEMBER in May: Bill H.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 30 – Mountain Lion Season closes.

July 1 – Gunnison Prairie Dog opens statewide. Tassel-Eared Squirrel Season opens in Unit 31.

July 4 – HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!!! There will be NO monthly Club Meeting this month due to it falls on the 4th.

July 12 – Arizona Elk Society 2018 Elk Clinic Elk Clinic, from 9am - 4pm (lunch included) at the El Zaribah Shrine, 552 N. 40th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85008.

July 17 – Elk & Antelope Hunting Seminars/Show – Largest Event of its kind. Choose either elk or antelope, both take place at the same time/separate rooms. Doors open 5 p.m. for dinner/vendors. Presentations 6 p.m. Raffles – auctions, hunt trips, guns, optics, more. Bring non-perishable food item. Calvary Church 12612 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Host: Christian Hunters of America/AZ Elk Society. Info: davidmyrick@christianhuntersofamerica.org 602-309-3430

July 18 – This is the 3rd Wednesday-PVC I Board of Directors Meeting – Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy.

July 26 – Web-Cast Drawing held for the Big-Game Super Raffle. at the AZGFD Phoenix Location/Carefree Hwy.

July 28 - Arizona Trappers Assoc. Annual Convention (ATA) at Mormon Lake. Main Fund-Raiser for Trappers. Trapping & Calling Seminars, vendors, auctions, games. Miss Rodeo AZ may be there to help raise money.

July 28 – Annual Elk Hunting Clinic. This Free Clinic runs from 9a.m. - 4p.m. includes lunch. Clinic will be full of info. on hunting elk w/ rifle or bow. Good for 1st time or seasoned hunter. Held at the Ben Avery Clay Target AZ One Credit Union Pavilion. More info. visit www.arizonaelksociety.org or call (602) 492-5319.

July 28 - **Wapiti Days PVC I** will man a booth. I-40 near Parks, AZ

July 31 - Fall Hunt Permit tags mailed out by now. If you were drawn for a fall big-game hunt you will know

Aug. 1 – This is 1st Wednesday/PVC I Monthly Meeting: 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale 7:00p.m. Bear Hunt/Calling Seminar.

Aug. 3-4 – AZ. Game & Fish Commis. Meeting, Region II 35005 Lake Mary Road, Flagstaff, AZ. 86001 (928) 774-5045

Aug. 10 – Rifle Bear Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 24 – Archery Deer, Antelope, Bear, Turkey, Javelina, Ltd. Buffalo & Rifle Bear Seasons open. Lion opens. Check Regs.

Sept. 5 – This is the 1st Wednesday, PVC I Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. Special Novice Meeting. The Novice/Expert groups will be chosen for Novice Hunt after a multitude of info. is heaped upon you. Start time 7 PM

PVC I Chance to Win a Firearm

How does your luck run, average, good, poor, you don't even know what luck is? Well I know a place where just \$5.00 gives you a chance to win a firearm every month! This place is the PVC I Monthly Meeting held the first Wednesday of every month (except sometimes July) at 6822 N. 57th Drive (the American Legion Hall Post 29) in Glendale, AZ. You see every month the PVC I Officers and Board of Directors choose a shotgun, rifle or pistol as the Gun-of-the-Month. Then where at the Bi-Monthly Predator Tales try to let you know ahead of time what that choice will be. This firearm is usually present at the Meeting and is chances are only \$5.00 each or lately 5 for \$20 with No Limit on how many you may purchase. If you do spend \$20 your name also goes into another Drawing usually for a Gift Card somewhere. You need NOT be a member to participate. The Drawing is held that night and if you played you have a chance to win that firearm. Some Lucky person will win!!! Winners MUST be of age and be able to Pass A Background Check! If you win Steve L. will call you and tell you where & when you may pick up your firearm.

The Gun for August will be a Remington Model 783 300 WIN MAG with Scope
Somebody is going to Win!!! Good LUCK to you!!!



UPCOMING EVENT: ARIZONA TRAPPERS ASSOC. CONVENTION - July 28 MORMON LAKE

(BIGGER & (BETTER SEMINARS-EXHIBITORS-ACTIVITIES-FREE FOOD)

The Arizona Trapper Association (ATA) will be having their Annual Convention on July 28, 2018 at **Mormon Lake near Flagstaff, AZ**. This is a GREAT Annual Event that brings together many trappers/predator callers from all over Arizona & beyond. There are usually trapping & calling demos, fur prep & handling tips. Free to enter Contests such as the trap setting, pie eating, musket throw & ladies frying pan toss & maybe a fun predator calling contest where you can win money for 1st Place. There are also trapping, calling & other supplies for sale (including cage traps), fur pelts, crafts, etc. plus a Silent Auction, assorted kid's competitions, great food and much more! Entry into the Convention is FREE! This Convention is the "Survival Event of the Year" for the ATA as this is their Main Fundraiser. *Consider donating something for their Auction.* Hope to see you there! This is one Event that I DO NOT LIKE TO MISS! **Miss Rodeo Arizona is usually there helping sale Raffle Tickets, participating in Events & presenting Awards.**

NEXT UPCOMING EVENT: PPCI ANNUAL TRAIL CLEARING AUGUST 4-5, 2018

Can you believe that it will soon be that time of year again? Time to head north and clear/maintain the See Canyon Trail, a Forest Service Trail that **our club has maintained since the 1960's!** What is the PPCI Trail Clearing? The See Canyon Trail FS184 is a hunter/survival trail that runs from the top of the Rim near Promontory Butte down to Christopher Creek & is used by many hikers, hunters, horse riders, etc. Basically, instead of taking the roads all the many miles around to get off the Rim and to the bottom, this Trail will get you off the Rim in only 3.2 miles!

PPCI members mark your calendars for the weekend of Aug. 4-5. This will be the dates for the Annual PPCI Trail Clearing. The actual work will take place on Saturday Aug. 4th however many members use this Event as an excuse to spend the whole weekend out of the Desert HEAT! The plan is to meet the Forest Service person or our person-in charge at the top PPCI sign off FS Road 300 (where the See Canyon Trailhead begins) at 9:00a.m. on Saturday morning. Here we will pass out the tools & take a PPCI Trail Clearing group shot by the PPCI sign then split into upper & lower crews. PPCI will be offering water/ Gatorade for refreshments. Volunteers need to bring all other supplies, gear, food & water for the weekend. **Fire restrictions permitting**, we will be camping off FS Road 84. This Road is on the Rim Road or FS300 past the Woods Canyon Lake Turn-off but before the Bear Canyon Lake turnoff. See the "Directions:" below. **This place IS different from where we have camped in the past!** If you show up Friday evening, expect a campfire but bring and cook your own meal. **There will be a PPCI Hot Dog BAR-B-Q/ Potluck Dinner on Saturday evening (5:00P.M.) with the Club providing the Hot Dogs! PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A DISH!** This Trail Clearing Dinner has really turned out nice over the many years & is most definitely worth sticking around for! We will also traditionally have a Potluck Breakfast on Saturday morning before the work begins. April is thinking of only having Coffee & Breakfast Snacks however if we can keep her from cooking and follow tradition let's have a real bacon -n-eggs, etc. breakfast. We'll need some extra breakfast items such as sausages, bacon & eggs, pancake batter, etc. Some extra frying pans, mixing bowls etc. would help, heck extra cooks too! As this event takes place in August during monsoon season be sure to take your raingear as brief afternoon showers in the high country are common! **This is a family affair so do PLEASE DO bring them. Friends are also invited. Don't forget the POTLUCK DINNER items! Hope to see you at Camp and on the Trailhead! Questions call April B. (623) 703-2894.**

DIRECTIONS: From Phoenix take Hwy 260 to FS Road 300 (the Rim Road), turn left. Take FS Road 300 to FS Road 84 and turn right. They say there will be marked PPCI signs to direct everyone. The campsites will be on FS84. The Brewer family may go up early, so they can secure sites to accommodate the Club.



MORE AUGUST HAPPENINGS

THE “GEORGE KNOX/ RAY EVRIDGE MEMORIAL” VARMINT CALLING BOOT CAMP – AUG. 10, 11, 12

The Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. (PVC) is planning its own Varmint Calling Boot Camp in conjunction with AZGFD & the AZ. Elk Society and the Arizona Predator Callers (APC) on – August 10, 11, 12. The idea being to make the



predator seminars an in-the-field experience, sort of like what Marvin Robbins did with his in-the-woods turkey hunting seminars. This Boot Camp is for both the youth & adult. Friday is really just for camp set-up & a late meal. On Saturday the 11th, members of PVC will give seminars related to predator-calling covering a variety of topics & answering your questions. The AZGFD may also say a few words. Then around lunchtime the different groups will be paired with a mentor for a hands-on predator hunt! Sunday morning will feature more hands-on hunting if desired. The idea of having predator instruction in the outdoors was thought about by our own beloved, the late George K. More recently the late PVC member Ray E. who worked tirelessly cooking, doing

seminars & working on the relationships between the various Clubs trying to get them all to work with each other especially when it came to promoting youth activities, (Ray passed in 2017) his name was also added to the Memorial. The AZ. Elk Society & APC will also be on hand & will provide meals & other support during this Event. So, if you’ve any interest in learning how to successfully call-in predators, then this Camp’s for you. More info at www.pvci.org

WHO: PVC will conduct a “Varmint Calling/Hunt Seminar” covering all aspects of calling in critters.

WHEN: August 11-12, 2018. Please Pre-Register: More info: www.pvci.org

WHERE: The Boot Camp campsite will be at Vincent Ranch (See map & directions below).

Cost: Free to all, adult, youth & family. Come on out & learn instructions from hunters who have harvested many critters.

We plan to go hunting too! Camping is free but there is only enough room for tents & vehicles on the Ranch. The Ranch is NOT big enough for the big camp trailers & such. You may find a spot to camp outside of the Vincent Ranch area on National Forest land which is public land. Bring a stool for use in class & hunting. Bring your camouflage, calls & if you have a shotgun or rifle bring them also, as the plan is to go hunting sometime during the weekend.

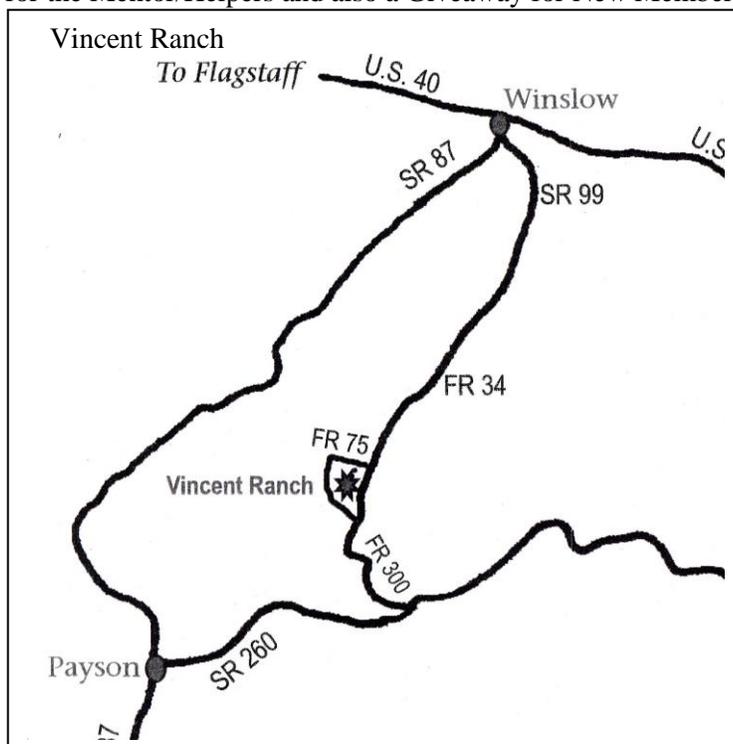
FOOD: Meals provided Friday evening, Saturday morning, afternoon & evening & Sunday morning.

***** REGISTRATION:** Please do pre-register so that we have an idea of how many to expect. To pre-register as a participant <http://bit.ly/pvcibootcamp2018> The plan is for a limit of only 75 students. Mentors we need you also. Please pre-register as a mentor or helper at <http://bit.ly/pvcibootcamp2018-mentorshelpers>

*******There is talk that there will be an Incentive Drawing for the Mentor/Helpers and also a Giveaway for New Members.

MAP & DIRECTIONS TO VINCENT RANCH

Vincent Ranch Directions: From Phoenix take State Route 87 to Payson. From Payson, take State Route 260 east to the top of the Rim. Turn left at the Woods Canyon Lake turnoff onto FR300 (the Rim Road). FR 300 intersects with FR34 at the T. Turn right at the T onto FR34. FR34 intersects with FR75 twice. Turn left onto FR75 at the second intersection. In less than a mile you will see a road on the left. Turn left and take this road (a two-track) to Vincent Ranch.



MOUNTAIN LION HUNT CHANGES for 2018/2019 SEASON

The 2017/2018 Mountain lion season will close on June 30, 2018. The first summer closure will be in effect from July 1, 2018 to Aug. 23, 2018. The 2018/2019 Mountain Lion Season will open with the archery deer season on Aug. 24, 2018 and run through May 31, 2019. Beginning with the 2018/2019 Season the Mountain Lion Harvest will be managed using 15 Management zones consisting of one or more Hunt Units. The total number of lions harvested (harvest thresholds) has been established per zone. When a harvest threshold is reached in a management zone that zone will close at sundown the Wednesday immediately following & stay closed the remainder of the season. Hunters will be responsible for calling the Mountain Lion Line (877-438-0447) before hunting to determine if any Mountain Lion Management Zones have closed. The bag limit is one lion per year statewide. Hunting Hours are Daylight Shooting Hours Only. Pursuit Only Season, where dogs can pursue only but lion can't be killed or captured will run from Aug. 24, 2018 to May 31, 2019.

PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR REPORT by Eddie M.

The town of Payson, Arizona held the Annual Payson Wildlife Fair on May 12th, 2018. This Wildlife Awareness Fair held at Green Valley Park in Payson came alive with a multitude of wildlife & outdoor fun activities for the whole family, yet is really geared towards the youth. The Lake was double-stocked & Free to fish during the 9am to 3pm Event hours with fishing poles provided. You could learn to kayak, shoot a bow, fire a pellet rifle, see hawks, owls, snakes & other reptiles, learn animal identification, visit the Bighorn Sheep, Deer & Predator Calling Booths, say hi to Smokey Bear, etc. Amy Burnett of the AZGFD oversaw this Event again this year and did a fine job. PPCI did have a booth again this year run by PPCI Member Eddie M. to promote the art & make the masses aware of varmint calling. Member Shaun Y. also helped. This Event is worth the drive and I hope the Club can keep getting invited back for many years to come.



PVCI ANNAL CAMPOUT & BARBECUE REPORT

The 2018 PVCI Campout & Barbecue was CANCELLED due to a Big Fire close to the area. This Fire actually shut down Hwy. 87 from just past the Clint's Well turn-off to most of the way to Winslow. It will be interesting to see what burned.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:
Mike & Tricia Y.



Married 25 years –Aug. 28

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:
Lew Early



Turns 93 Years Young on July 3rd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:
Tim & Eunice N.



Married 11 years on July 7

Would you like for your Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event to show here? Send your info to coyotecaller@cox.net

PURCHASING ANY TYPE OF VEHICLE?

(SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR YOU & PPCI)

by Scott Banner

Most dealers pay out what is called a referral fee. This is true for anything requiring a State License including **New or Used** Boats, Trailers, Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, ATV's, etc.

Let the Club refer you to the dealer of your choice.

Just give Scott B. a **call at 623-214-5091** let him know where you want to shop & the type of vehicle you're interested in. He will contact the dealers & try to obtain employee pricing for you. He'll then call you with the point of contact at the dealership. You then go into the dealer & ask for the contact telling him you are a Phoenix Varmint Caller & pick out the vehicle you are interested in. They will give you the best price. The Club will receive the Referral Fee.



- THE LATEST ON THE TRAIL CAMERA RULING -

GAME & FISH COMMISSION MODIFIES PROPOSAL RULES ON TRAIL CAMERAS

Ban on use of live-action trail cameras remains in place; prohibition on use of other trail cameras within one-fourth mile of a developed water source is lifted

In a 5-0 vote, the Arizona Game & Fish Commission agreed to retain the provision that prohibits the use of live-action trail cameras for the use of taking or aiding in the taking of wildlife but removed the provision that prohibits the use of other trail cameras within one-quarter mile (440 yards) of a developed water source.

The provisions were in the amended Article 3, "Taking & Handling of Wildlife," Notice of Final Rulemaking which was submitted to the Commission for consideration during the June 13, 2018 Meeting in Payson.

A live-action trail camera is defined as an unmanned device capable of transmitting images, still photographs, video or satellite imagery, wirelessly to a remote device such as but not limited to a computer, smartphone or tablet. This does NOT include a trail camera that records photographic or video data for later use (such as on an SD card), provided the device is NOT capable of transmitting wirelessly.

The unanimous decision reached following a through public input process by the Commission and the Department has prompted a Supplemental Rule Making process that will include a 30-day public comment period beginning in July. The Final Rule will be presented to the Commission at its Sept. 21 Meeting at the Navajo County Heber Complex. 2188 W. Country Club Drive in Overgard. The Commission then could take action on the remainder of the Article 3 Rulemaking Proposals. To track the progress of this rule, view the regulatory agenda and all previous Five-Year Review Reports and to learn about any other agency rulemaking matters, visit www.azgfd.gov/rulemaking

PVCI'S MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The winners of the membership drive are:

- **1st place - Ray Keenen got a gun**
- **2nd place - Ruth Strang got a life time membership**
- **3rd place - Frank Salle got a 3 year membership**
- **4th place - Dave Shuler got a 2 year membership**
- **5th place - Sean Yates got a 1 year membership**

THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM

by Jim A.

Hunting is like a lot of things that we try to do; what you get out of it is relative to what you put into it. I am not saying that I deserve what happened; just real glad. The challenge was there, and I sure am thankful that I had help to pursue it. I had chosen to hunt a unit that isn't loaded with bears. In the AZ. Game & Fish, "Where to hunt" guide, bears aren't even on the list. I had found some tracks though and asked my friend Eddie to hunt with me. I knew from the Meetings at **PVCI**, that he was successful and really had a passion to hunt bears.

The fall bear hunt was to start Friday, so we drove in Thursday night and pitched tents just as it started to rain. To me it's amazing how a thin piece of nylon can give you so much comfort and imagined security. I like to be right under the stars too but tonight that tent was a good thing. Eddie started glassing as soon as he came out of his tent. He said if they weren't spotted early, then we wouldn't see anything until they started to feed in the evening. I had my coffee in the dark and was ready for a walk to go check out a tank that was showing up on my GPS. I found the tank dry & returned to camp.

Soon Eddie came back and said that he had found fresh sign just above camp. We hiked up and took some pictures of the evidence of a happy bear. I was encouraged by Eddie when he suggested I find a vantage point and to call for at least 30 minutes. So, I got up close to the shady side of a juniper as if I was there to protect it from the possible attack from a beast that could tear the tree's limbs off and bury them for a later meal and then return to feed on the trunk until it was gone. Or was it the other way around? Could I be the intended meal and have to rely on the tree to protect me? Not to worry, after 40 minutes of wailing, we both survived the ordeal unscathed. It's Eddie's turn to call. That's how it went the rest of the first day and most of the next. We always talked in whispers when we had to converse, even in camp. After almost two days in that area we both suspected that we had probably gotten too close to the dining room of this bear. The second day we also found a bed that overlooked the pear field near the dry tank, probably used by the same bear that had left so much evidence. We broke camp and left to find a spring in an area that had another good food source; acorns. After a mild hike we found the spring and the acorns. There was a trail leading to the spring and the soft dark dirt preserved the dimples left behind by the last raindrops that had fallen Thursday night. Upon close inspection, tracks of a bear could be seen. The dirt had been disturbed but it was unlike the usual impressions made by a hoofed animal or even a member of the canine family. It was compressed and smooth with the outline of several toes that appeared to have been placed ever so gently. The subtleness of these tracks certainly belies the weight and power of the one that left them behind, an animal that at this very moment could be watching us as HIS tracks were being scrutinized; an animal that warrants much respect.

This particular species can climb trees real good, swim well, sprint 35 mph, see as good as me and is able to see in color. He has hearing that is excellent and his sense of smell is even better! Besides having all his going for him, he has the heaviest brain relative to body length of any carnivore, which has enabled him the status of being smarter than a German Shepard. No wonder I have been having so much trouble getting close to one of these great animals. Luckily, they have some weaknesses and, on this trip,, I had Eddie to help me capitalize on these. After much scouting and seeing very few pears and fewer yet juniper berries, he says, "I'll bet some protein would be appreciated." Too bad they don't make a caller that can mimic prickly-pear- although someone will probably make a caller that proposes to do just that (and be studio quality)! For now, I'll have to settle for some plastic and old fashioned hot air, which I'm sure you can tell by now I have no shortage of. So, after we inspect the area, it's my turn. It was a confined area with large trees and several trees coming to the spring. I settle on a spot like a dog wanting to lie down and begin to call for about 15 minutes. I signal when I'm done and with a whisper I'm told, "That was short." I'll have to learn to remember to carry a clock and time my stands. Even though we found tracks, water, acorns, shade and rust-colored hair in the barbed wire fence, my calling produced no results. Or was he just not falling for it as he watched from the shadows.

We climbed out of this canyon and found ourselves on a ridge. It's Eddie's turn.....we sit back to back. I have a great view and can see the evidence of water in a distant canyon with large trees that rise up with their contrasting bright green leaves. They are noticeably different than their fellow junipers that blanket the remainder of the landscape. We know that some of the tall trees are oaks because we had stopped to look at that drainage on the road below. Maybe this will be the stand when Eddie will call in a bear. It starts: kind of soft at first, like maybe the fawn doesn't really want to be heard. Or maybe it's hoping that Mom is close enough that the faint sounds will be enough to get her attention. [Help, help, heelp] the sound gradually gains momentum and urgency to the point that it sounds like it is now or never. I either get some help fast here or its going to be too late and I know you are going to miss me when I'm gone. Sure, enough it works, Eddie has managed to get a whitetail doe all upset and worried to the point that she is convinced the new objects down there are



causing bodily harm to someone she loves. We let her hear a variety of fawns hoping that she will be comforted and that maybe it wasn't one of her fawns after all. But she still hangs on and lets us know she is unhappy about the situation. The fawns are quiet now & she disappears as her kind can do so easily. We are out of here!

It's been fun, but you can't be a proud bear hunter with no bear. Knowing that you only have one day left, makes you start second guessing yourself. Should we stay or go to another unit? A place that in your mind has many bears, lots of big oaks trees and we think maybe even some snow. What happen next is so elementary, but it proved to be the key to my success. I should say our success because it is always rewarding to share a trip like this one. Driving back in the dark toward the direction we had come from three days earlier, it was tempting to both of us to keep going to new country. The GPS showed a tank off to the side and Eddie asked if I had checked it out on my scouting trips? For some unknown reason I had not. So, we circled the tank with flashlights and found bear tracks on two sides. We knew then that there was no good reason to be leaving this area. After a Coleman tailgate supper, we bedded down under a clear sky and distant juniper trees. Trees far apart were chosen because one or both of us makes a lot more noise when asleep. Luckily, we're parked about ¾ miles from the tank. My dreams consisted of visions that one of us would call in the *track-maker*. We talked it over and Eddie said he would do the first stand. Another parting agreement was made as we separated ourselves with a canyon between us. We would only shoot a cat(s) or a bear. Once we settled, that same fawn had gotten itself into trouble again and once again there were those out and about who wanted to help out. Within minutes of the first signal of distress, Mr. Fox races past and about falls all over himself. At four feet he must have gotten a slight whiff. My last shower was three days ago with a few hills in there. Soon I see Eddie raise his rifle and I assume the fox has made it through the bottom and appeared ready to help. That wasn't the case. He told me he was checking out a smart coyote, out about 100 yards upwind. I can't believe that Mr. Coyote could see him because he is still in the shade and I need my binoculars to find him. I look and look for Mr. Fox who I found out later has set up camp a little below me; must have been the sardines! Anyway, the coyote probably circled and is now telling his kids to stay away from fawns. I admit the next stand was supposed to be my turn. It wasn't a very good place anyway and I was trying hard to stay awake let alone alert. That was about to change.....as we walked quietly across the mesa to reach the southern edge. I knew from looking at my GPS what lay below. We had a canyon to our East where we had just done a stand and the one on the west was the same one that the fox and coyote had been in. These two canyons were going to meet below us and go into a single canyon. IT'S MY TURN (I think). As we reached the edge, it happen' again. Eddie whispered another elementary practice; "Make sure you can see right below you."



Had I not gotten this advice, the outcome probably would have been much different. I was going to sit back from the edge thinking I would be able to see all I needed too. WRONG! It was now a beautiful day with just a few clouds. Noon would be here in 40 minutes but what happen in the next 10 minutes I will never forget. This just doesn't happen every day. I eased out as far as I could on an outcropping of rocks. I stood my pack frame up in front of me. It was to double as a blind and a rest for my rifle. With the wind raising up and towards me it seemed like a perfect setup. It was one of those stands that just feels right.



It seemed everywhere we went there was a fawn in trouble. This one just wailed. He wasn't bashful, and he wanted the whole world to know about it. After about seven minutes? (no clock) I see a real black bear come out of that single canyon and drop down into the one that goes to the east. She was 200 yards away and then went out of sight, so I motioned to Eddie that a bear was coming. I caught his attention and signaled for him to come on down and get closer to the upcoming action. It took a little time for it to sink in that she was actually coming to meet me! I have never had a bear respond, so when she did, it caught me off guard. Yeah, I know that I am supposed to keep calling or else she will stop coming, for some reason my fawn got real quiet and when it did finally make a squawk it just didn't sound like the same fawn. That's when a friend can really help out. You see, Eddie had a fawn with him and I sure was glad because now the bear is 20 yards below me next to a juniper tree, but I can't shoot. Now she is on the move again having satisfied her curiosity that this is the real thing. As she goes behind some cactus and some

rocks directly below me, I reposition my rifle. I am on her with the crosshairs of my low power scope when she climbs into the open. The 165-grain triple shock does its job instantly and only had to travel 10 yards. All is quiet, the fawn quit crying; the impossible dream had become a reality. I still can't believe it! It will probably take a while to sink in, most things do with me. The drive back home was a slow one. I didn't want this hunt to end. Building memories is a good thing. Thanks Eddie. Who'd want to live anywhere else? Thank You Arizona!

BEAR CALLING/HUNTING SEMINAR at AUGUST 2018 PVC I CLUB MEETING



The Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. (PVC I) will hold their next Monthly Club Meeting on August 1st, 2018. This August Club Meeting has been their Annual Bear Hunting Seminar for many years. This year Yours Truly/PVC I Member Eddie M. will be the featured speaker and will talk about ways to find & hunt the Arizona black bear including using the predator call. I will try to make the Seminar interesting. The Meeting begins at 7:00p.m.



LEARN OUTDOOR SKILLS: HUNT, TRAP, FISH, SHOOT, WILDLIFE RECREATION

The Arizona Game & Fish Dept. is dedicated to introducing children to hunting by offering a wide variety of juniors only hunting & shooting programs. These programs are designed to get children in the field with a parent or guardian who can focus on the kid(s) & provide the guidance needed to teach the next generation of hunters how to be safe, ethical & responsible stewards. To provide plenty of opportunity, Game & Fish has partnered w/various Sportsman's clubs, groups & organizations to provide mentoring for beginners to help assure positive experience hunting in the great outdoors. Listed below are some of these events. Look on pages 22-27 of the 2018/2019 AZ. Hunt Regs. You'll note that there are also some events for the ladies. Visit www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills for more information. Consider helping at these Events as a Mentor. You'll usually be fed & your help is greatly appreciated. I go as a PVC I member & often wear my PVC I T-Shirt. It doesn't have to be varmint calling related for me to volunteer to help get someone hooked hunting.

July 17-18 – Elk & Antelope Hunting Seminars/Show CHA: This is the largest Event of its kind. Choose either elk or antelope, both seminars take place at the same time in separate rooms. Doors open at 5p.m. for dinner & vendors. The presentations start at 6p.m. Extensive raffles/auctions: hunt trips, guns, optics, bows, camping/hunting gear, art work, furniture, taxidermy, kids-only raffles, door prizes, etc. Seating limited. Bring a non-perishable food item to enter into a special raffle. Location: Calvary Community Church, 12612 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Phoenix, west entrance. Host: Christian Hunters of America, AZ Elk Society. Info: [davidmyrick@christianhuntersofamerica.org](mailto: davidmyrick@christianhuntersofamerica.org) 602-309-3430.

July 20-22 – Bowhunter Happening 3D Shoot at Mormon Lake: Family fun 3D animal archery target shoot w/7 courses with one extreme and 1 kids course. Raffle prizes for various shoots plus many general raffle items (bows, backpacks, optics, coolers. Location: Mormon Lake Rodeo Grounds, Mormon Lake. Host: Arizona Bowhunters Assoc. Pre-Register online: <http://arizonabowhunters.org> Info: Hunter Wall (480) 529-3871 [hunter.wall@cox.net](mailto: hunter.wall@cox.net)

Aug. 10-12 – Predator Hunting Boot Camp- George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial: Adult focused, families & youth welcome: Beginners can learn about predator calling, hunting, life history of predators & fur-bearers, other outdoor skill activities, food provided, camping. Location: Vincent Ranch, Woods Canyon Lake area, Unit 4A. Host: Phoenix Varmint Callers, AZ Elk Society. For more Information contact James Strang, [pvcigroup@gmail.com](mailto: pvcigroup@gmail.com)

HUNT PICTURES

Reminder of how Big Taylor's 1st bull was!



Trail cam pic



Trail Cam Pic



PVCI TOP AWARDS FOR 2017-2018 SEASON



TOP CALLER (EXPERT): Wayne W. – 690 points
TOP CALLER (NOVICE): Nathan S. – 170 points
TOP SHOOTER: Wayne W. – 57 kills

TOP CALLER & SHOOTER



TOP NOVICE

6-MONTH HUNT TEAM RESULTS (EXPERT)

1ST PLACE: Craig B. & Wayne W. – 1100 Calling Points
2ND PLACE: Mark S. & Tim L. – 810 Calling Points
3RD PLACE: Ken E. & Chris B. – 570 Calling Points

6-MONTH HUNT TEAM RESULTS (NOVICE)

1ST PLACE: Nathan S. & John S. – 170 points
2ND PLACE: Sean Y. & Ian D. – 20 points



Wayne W. & Craig B.

**TOP 6-MONTH HUNT
EXPERT TEAM**



Nathan S.



John S.

**TOP 6TH MONTH HUNT
Novice Team**

(BEST OF 7 FOR 7-MONTH TOTAL)

1ST PLACE: Wayne W.

2ND PLACE: Craig B.

3RD PLACE: Ken E.

TOP 5 CALLERS FOR THE 2017/2018 SEASON

These are Calling Points for the 7-Month (Sept – March) Totals.

- 1) Wayne W. – 68 Coyotes, 1 Fox
- 2) Tim L. – 13 coyotes, 8 Bobcats, 8 Foxes
- 3) Craig B. – 37 Coyotes, 2 Badgers, 2 Foxes
- 4) Mark S. – 23 Coyotes, 1 Bobcat, 10 Foxes
- 5) Ken E. – 28 Coyotes, 6 Foxes

TOTAL PVCI CLUB HARVEST for the season: 229 COYOTES, 31 FOXES, 10 Bobcats, 2 Badgers, 1 Bear

Each of the Top Winners above also received a (John Toner??) knife. Hunt Chairman Bob B. then raffled off the remaining knives ONLY to those hunters who participated in the 2017/2018 Monthly Scramble Hunts. For every Hunt that you participated in, your name went into the Raffle that many times. In addition, if you received 1st Place in these Monthly Scramble Hunts your name was entered 3 more times, 2nd Place received a 2 more times name entry and 3rd Place received a one more time name entry. For all of you “Hunting Members” who did participate in the Monthly Scramble Hunts – THANK YOU! This is a Hunting Club and as such should have Members that go out and Hunt. We are constantly trying to think of ways to get more PVCI members out hunting. If you have any ideas please let the Hunt Chairman, President, etc. know. All ideas will be considered.

**** HUNT RULE CHANGES:** New Hunt Chairman Ron T. wants more members to hunt. New for the 2018/2019 Season, there will be a Top E-Caller in addition to the Top Caller/Top Shooter. Coyotes go up to 15 points. Fox will be 10.

PREDATOR HUNTING STORIES: I thought we might go back in time a little bit and re-visit a (My 1st Coyote Story) The 1st Member is now the current PPCI President James S. Then read another Member 1st predator-hunt story.

My First Successful Called Coyote

by James S.

I've been in the club for over 5 years and Ray E. asked me how close I was to my 5-pin. My answer was 5-short. His reply was let's go out and see if we can change that. Ray and Chris A. picked me up Friday after they got off work and we headed to Tim-buck-too, another term for really far away. On the way out, they would give me 5-minute lessons on how the call should sound and I would proceed to show them what a call should not sound like. This went on forever during the trip to Tim-buck-too. We reached our destination late that evening and proceeded to set up camp in the dark, listening to the coyotes calling in the distant and discussing the plans for the morning. Next morning pre-dawn we geared up and headed out. It was the 6th stand of the day, a shot gun stand, my 2nd time being the caller. I was about 5 minutes into the call trying my best to sound something like Chris or Ray taught me the night before. With Gun in my lap (wrong), head facing the ground (wrong), it was time to take a breath. I looked up and to my surprise there was a coyote standing 10 feet in front of me looking at me like, "that's not a rabbit". At that point I got really stupid and could not decide if I should keep calling or shoot. When I finally decided to reach for my gun it was off to the races, coyote gone before I had a chance to shoot. Chris had seen it come in and was waiting for me to shoot and as soon as it turned Chris got on it, my first successful called coyote. By the end of the weekend I was only 1 shy of the coveted 5 pin. Too bad, I heard that may take another year if I don't coax Ray & Chris into taking me out again LOL. Thanks to Ray E. & Chris A. for helping me with my 1st successful Called Coyote. P.S. I found Brady's ear plugs in stool.



FIRST COYOTE HUNT TRIP with BRADY

by Preston M.

Okay, let's go hunting. I was talking to Chris B. The next morning started early with me waking up around 4:00A.M. Chris came by the house at 4:30A.M. and we packed up and headed out. We arrived at the hunt location and waited inside the jeep some then headed out to the first stand before dawn to a spot we had in mind. Since I drove I had the first stand. We got to our spot and got set-up. I kept my 5-year-old son Brady beside me. When I reached to give him his ear plugs, I couldn't find them, so I had him put his fingers over his ears. I had an E-Caller setup and turned it on to play the distress sounds. Ten seconds later, here comes a coyote! I whispered to Brady, "I see a coyote coming." It was loping in moving in and out of the bushes as it came. Brady of course asked, "Where is it!" I told him to stop moving and be quiet, that is was right in front of us. "Get your fingers over your ears" I whispered! I barked at the coyote to stop it then shot with my AR-15 in .223. however, my eye was still in the scope and I thought the coyote was running away so I shot it again. What really happen was that the first shot hit the coyote in the head, then I shot it again in the body as it was falling and not running away. I continued the playing the sounds for another 10 minutes then ended it and we all walked towards the coyote. Brady was amazed! This was the first coyote that he had ever seen up close. So, on the first coyote with son Brady, on the first stand I called and killed the first coyote that he was able to touch.



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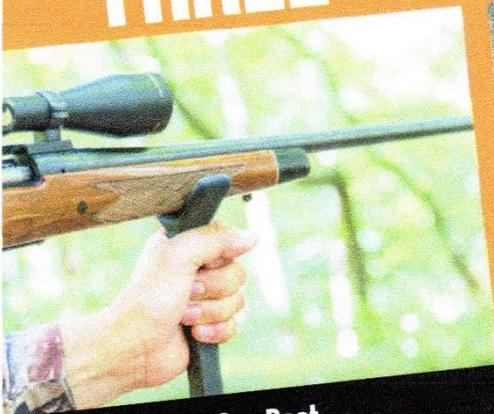


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