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Nov-Dec 2018



**James S.**

### Presidents Message!

We are all hunters/conservationist, not just predator hunters. I believe predator hunting makes us better hunters of deer, elk, javelina & any other species we enjoy hunting. Make sure to share your harvest on the PNCI Group no matter what species, please keep it respectful. Also, I am sure Eddie would love to add your pics & stories to the Predator Tales. I hope your all excited for the upcoming holidays. Make a difference this year at our Christmas Party, invite someone new, be it family or friends. It's Potluck Style & we do ask you also bring an item or 2 for the Desert Mission Food Bank. Happy hunting & family time!

### THINGS TO KNOW:

**\*\*\*THE DEADLINE TO ENTER THE 2018-2019 6-MONTH HUNT** will be by **the end of the 2018 November Monthly Meeting**. Entries allowed are 1 or 2-man teams in either Expert or Novice Categories & the fee is \$20 per person. For more information, refer to Page 2 of this Newsletter.

**\*The PNCI Christmas Party will be Dec. 5th, 2018 at 6822 N. 57th Drive, the American Legion Hall Post 29 in Glendale, AZ. The Christmas Party** taking the place of this regular Monthly Meeting. ***This is a Potluck affair, so please do bring a dish/dessert. The entry fee is at least one can of food or water per person for the Food Drive that Gary A.M. & Ginger do yearly for the Desert Mission Food Bank.***

**Some Remarkable Amounts of food & liquid have been donated!** Also, this year, probably more than Any in the past, we NEED Donations from you the Member! This Christmas Party is also a Club Fund Raiser & Event Organizer Ruth has had a Very Rough Time receiving Donations from outside sources! Your Donations of ANY kind be it New/Good Used Gear, Goods or Services will be Greatly Appreciated! Please let Ruth know in advance what you have before the Party. Contact: **Ruth S. 602-524-3586**

**\*\*Well it looks like PNCI will NOT be having a State Varmint Calling Championship in 2018 either!** We need both somewhere to have the Event, some interested people to participate who are not intimidated & also someone to run it.

**\*\*PNCI MEMBERS do set aside one Saturday in January for the MULTI-CLUB HUNT. This Hunt pits our Club against the other Predator-Calling Clubs in the state for bragging rights as to who is the BEST! We had a "Show of Force" & Won last year! If you hunt no other Hunt all year, please hunt this One Day! More information once check-in location/date has been made.**



Ron P's First Bull Elk



Dave M's First Big-Game Kill, A Cow Elk



Eddie M's Bobcat !!!



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## **THE PPCI 6-MONTH HUNT ENTRY DEADLINE is Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> by end of PPCI Meeting!**

**THE DEADLINE TO ENTER THE 2018-2019 PPCI 6-MONTH HUNT** will be on Nov.7<sup>th</sup> at the end of the 2018 November Monthly Meeting. Entries allowed are 1 or 2-man teams in either Expert or Novice Categories & the fee is \$20 per person. The 6-Month hunt is a Friendly PPCI Competition that pits the competing teams against each other from the beginning of the October Monthly Meeting to the beginning of the April Monthly Meeting, the winner being the one who has taken the most predators via points during that time span. The winners (1<sup>st</sup> Place through 3<sup>rd</sup> Place) will receive recognition for their accomplishments sometime after the Hunt has ended. For a list of the points per species, refer to the 2018-2019 PPCI Hunt Rules or ask the Hunt Chairman Ron H. You **MUST** also be in the Pin Program to be eligible for this Recognition. The Pin Program is a Good Program that cost a one-time fee of \$10 (if you stay a member) that gives you recognition for obtaining certain milestones in your calling career. You must show proof of what you have called and taken to the Hunt Chairman and he then will keep a record with you on your entries. When you reach certain milestones, Example: 5,20, 50, 100 on coyotes, 10, 25, 50, 100 on Foxes, 1, 4 or 5 & 20 on bobcats, 1, 5 on badgers, 1 pin for every bear or mountain Lion, etc. Refer to the Club Handbook, the 2018-2019 PPCI Hunt Rules at [www.ppci.org](http://www.ppci.org) or ask the Hunt Chairman Ron H. In my opinion, every PPCI Member that hunts should be entered in the Pin Program. Talk to the PPCI Hunt Chairman, Ron H.

**ATTENTION: ALL PPCI MEMBERS NEEDED TO HUNT THE MULTI-CLUB HUNT On JANUARY ??<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This is a One-Day Hunt. We Had A SHOW OF FORCE & WON last year! Can we do it 2 years in a row? If You Hunt No Other Hunt All Year, HUNT THIS ONE DAY!!!**

### **MULTI-CLUB HUNT – (Tentative Date: JAN. ??, 2019)**

**\*\*\*Jan. 19 – MULTI-CLUB HUNT – This Hunt pits our Club against the other predator calling Clubs in the state for bragging rights. Who is the “BEST” Varmint Calling Club in the state?** The competition is the Xtreme Predator Callers (XPC), winners of the last few years, they lost last year to PPCI (US)!!! The Arizona Predator Callers (APC) from Mesa are also usually Good Competition. Both these teams have the ability to amass a LOT of their members to get out & hunt. I'll bet XPC has almost TOTAL participation! The Tucson Club is also invited & used to dominate. They are hardly even a factor anymore due to very low member turnout. **PPCI members, we WON last year because we had a Show of Force!!! Our MEMBERS GOT OUT and HUNTED IN NUMBERS. WE CAN WIN THIS HUNT EVERY SINGLE TIME (like we used to) IF WE CAN KEEP IT UP!!!It is only a 1-Day Hunt. PPCI members if you hunt no other hunts this year, PLEASE HUNT THIS ONE DAY!!!** Both hand calls/electronics are allowed. **IMPORTANT: Proof of kill will be the whole critter or the skin and the matching carcass.** Points awarded will be lion-100, bobcat-50, coyote-20, fox-10. This is a one-day Hunt. Only critters harvested on Jan ??, 2019 are eligible. **The Deadline is 9:00p.m. Saturday evening according to the Hunt Chairman's watch. Anything turned in after 9:00p.m. will be disqualified.** There will be food & possibly drink served until it runs out. PPCI members remember **TO WIN AGAIN, WE WILL REALLY NEED ALL MEMBERS TO HELP! THANKS in advance! We will give you more Info. (like the actual date & where the Check-in location will be w/map) once it is determined.**

### **COYOTE CALLING TIPS**

by Eddie M.



Set-up your stands where you can see clearly in front of you. Don't set up with a big bush or other obstacle right in front. It is said that we only see about 1/3 or so of the critters that we call in. If you can't see them, you can't take them home. You have done what you're supposed to do, and you see a coyote approaching your stand! Don't Panic! Try to stay calm. There is an art to seeing an approaching critter and raising your firearm or other weapon for the shot. Quick, jerky movements are usually very noticeable to an approaching coyote. Try movements only when the coyote goes behind something blocking its view OR try Waiting until the coyote is well within shooting range before you make your move. One thing that I have done on several coyotes that were running hard right at me when the angle was wrong was to wait until they got close, then quickly stand up & shoot. The coyote is often taken back enough for you to get a chance provided you have that view. Know what the signal is to end a stand before calling.

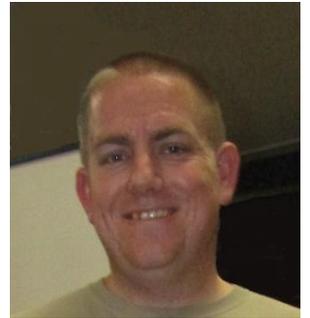
Always know where your hunt partners are located. I usually like everyone watching a different area. When the stand is over, stand up slowly & look behind & around you. One last thing is to always look at where you sat before you walk away, especially if you have action. I have left calls, caps, gloves, scent, powder, shells & a good pair of 10x40 Swarowski Binos.

## 2018 NOVICE HUNT STORY

by Mark S.

Hey guys, had a great weekend bringing my buddy Mike up to speed on hunting predators. He's been in our hunting group for a while now but was mainly concentrating on big game until now. We took it pretty easy this weekend due to the heat wave and were able to talk a lot on the details of predator hunting.

The first morning my area of choice was swarming with deer hunters. That was a huge bummer along with the excessive heat and we saw nothing that morning. I made a call to head up to higher country and focus on calling areas close to water. I figured with as much water as we were going through the animals wouldn't be far from it either. After a quick stop into town to grab some gloves (we both forgot them) and a lightweight camo long sleeve shirt for Mike we headed for the mountains. I picked a new road and we headed into the forest. After dodging a bunch of private land, we finally found a section to call. As we hiked in, I spotted fox feces and we immediately setup. I gave him the best shooting lanes and went to cover the backside. About 10 minutes in a shot rang out and as I turned to look it was followed by a few more shots which resulted in a Grey Fox hitting the dirt! That fox ran in like they typically do and he excitedly opened fire! Lol. First kill of the trip and we headed off to another area.



We scooted along the dirt road until it placed us crosswind with a stock tank about a half mile out front. We hiked in 100 yards from the road and setup in an opening in the junipers, offering him 60-100-yard shots. I setup the call 20 yards in front of Mike and covered downwind with the shotgun. After an array of calls we were on the final sound when I spotted a large Coyote trotting in straight to the call. It stopped 70 yards from Mike and offered up a broadside shot. After a few seconds he took a shot but pulled it to the left and the Coyote took off back toward the tank and never got into range of my shotgun. He had chosen to not bring his sticks on this stand and learned why I always use them, even if not in open country. Good teaching moment there! 😊

We made a few blank stands and as last light was setting in, we found a thick valley that had both Lion and Fox sign. I let him know I'd be calling until dark in hopes of seeing a cat on this stand. Well that's fine and dandy but as most of you know these Fox tend to come in rather quickly. About 5 minutes into some rabbit distress a Fox came up to the tree that the call was on and Mike took a shot but missed the small critter. The Fox immediately laid down in the brush and I attempted a shot but the bullet caught the grass and never made it there. As the Fox ran off, Mike took a couple running shots and was very close to hitting him. I kept calling and then finally switched calls. At this point it was getting dark and my reticle blended into all the brush. I clicked on the red light to illuminate the reticle just enough and sat tight. It only took a minute and the Fox was running back in. As it cleared the brush 15 yards in front of Mike, I swung my AR-15 and zoomed into 8X. A quick lip smack and the Fox stopped straight on looking at me. I let that 55 gr. SP fly and Mike watched as the fox fell lifeless to the dirt. Sorry Mike, I couldn't let that one get away!

We made camp and enjoyed the cooler weather of the high mountains that night. It was a nice 60 degrees the next morning as we planned our assault for the early hours. Using electronic mapping I found a drainage we could walk through that would get us into a large section of public land surrounded by private lots. We cleared the other side and it was a picture worth setting. A sparsely "planted" Juniper meadow surrounded by hills of thickets. We setup with me upwind and Mike covering the hills downwind. He would have 80-100-yard shooting lanes and I took the 100-r400 yard opening. I did a quick sequence of light rabbit distress and right in the middle we heard we heard 3 Coyotes start howling and yipping. It was a pair of coyotes and then a lone transient Coyote a little ways further out. I sat quiet for a few minutes and then let out another couple sequences and sat still. A couple minutes went by and then Mike's rifle reported. Just one shot. I saw one Coyote run through to my far left but I had no shot. I called for another 5 minutes without any more sightings and I headed over to Mike. He shook his head as I asked if he hit the second Coyote, but it was a clean miss again. I could tell this pair really shook him up as he watched them move in and sit down at 120 yards. I think they held up either from him moving to get on target or because they caught a shimmer from his shiny metal stool legs. Either way, another quality lesson in what to do better next time.

We called the rest of the day with no luck and started to head closer to check-in for our final few stands. On the second to last stand of the trip we were walking in and I whispered to Mike that I brought the wrong gun and boy was I right! After 5 minutes of calling, the biggest Bobcat I've seen came into view and sat down at 90 yards in the plain sun. I had my shotgun which is good to 60 yards! I played that call as well as I know how but after 5 more minutes that cat had enough and left. Mike was situated in a spot that he couldn't see the cat. Next time, I guess. We did get to watch a herd of Mule Deer get up out of their beds and come check the call out a bit.

I have no doubt that Mike will put my suggestions into practice and will be that much more polished the next trip out. Thanks for reading!

Mark S.

## PVCI MONTHLY HUNT REPORT

**SEPTEMBER NOVICE HUNT:** This September Novice Hunt was our 1st Official Hunt of the 2018/2019 hunting season, the teams having to have a Novice to qualify. The Novices teamed up with Experts for a weekend of hands-on real-life hunting experiences & some experiences were had too! It was a really HOT weekend in the desert, then add the dove hunters. All total 5 teams signed up & ventured forth. The Total kill was 1 coyote & 2 gray foxes. **Results were as follows:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mark S., Mike S.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ken E., Steve R.

Total: 2 Foxes

Total: 1 coyote

**OCTOBER CLUB HUNT:** The weather for this Hunt was good for a change though the wind did kick up a Sunday afternoon & there were a LOT of people out w/ fall turkey, squirrel & youth javelina & deer all going on! 6 teams signed up. The Total kill was 9 coyotes. Results were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mark S., Tim L

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Hawk S., Steve R.

Total: 8 coyotes

Total: 1 coyote



## PVCI DISABLED VETERANS PREDATOR HUNT REPORT by Ronald H

The third Disabled Veterans Predator Hunt (DVPH) was held October 5, 6 and 7th. For those who volunteered this was a very rewarding weekend. The weather cooperated by giving us good weather for the Event.

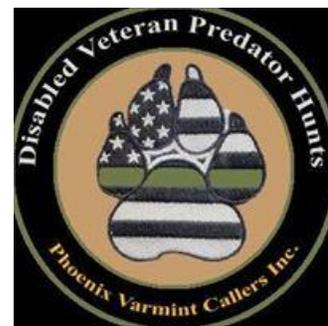
The weekend started Friday night with a meal for all and practice with the rifles the veterans were going to use so they would be familiar with the rifle and to make sure the rifles were properly zeroed.

The Club experts, their club assistants & the veterans were up & out to hunt early on Saturday. After a short rest, Jerry G., Terry H. and their veteran went out in the afternoon and were able to harvest two coyotes. The other teams didn't have much luck harvesting predators that they saw. On Sunday Tim N, Sean Y and their veteran went out and harvested a coyote.

Pictures taken during the weekend have been posted to the club DVPH Facebook page. Each of the veterans spoke about their experience and the video should be available soon.

If you can, you should volunteer for one of these DVPH Events. It is a wonderful feeling to give back to these veterans who have given so much for our country.

I want to give a "Special Thanks" to Ducks Unlimited for their donation of items to give to the veterans who participated and also to the Arizona Elk Society through their Hunts for Heroes for their assistance in putting on this Event. To Craig B for getting Hickman Farms to provide eggs for the event. To Dan S. for his making decoys to present to the veterans for their use on the hunt. To Jerry G. and Sean Y. for proving stools for the veterans. Also, to Steve L for donating his time to cook and prepare a special meal for all those attending. To Chris A. for his towing the PVCI trailer to the event. And especially to ALL the PVCI members and their wives and family for helping with the Event.



## GETTING YOUR PREDATOR CALLING CAREER GOING OR GOING OUT WITH OTHERS IN THE CLUB

by Eddie M.

(Yes, this article has been in the Predator Tales before however it still rings true & is well worth repeating.)

**QUESTION: I JOINED THIS CLUB TO LEARN TO PREDATOR CALL/HUNT AND TO GO HUNTING, YET I HAVE NOT BEEN HUNTING YET. WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO GO HUNTING WITH SOMEONE?**

This is a question that is probably asked & thought about more than about any other. Well let's take an honest look at this question. Yes, you did join the Club for various reasons including beginning a predator calling career however **this is your career and like the start of most new things you are sometimes going to have to be proactive and do & learn some things on your own. There are 30-31 days in a month. The Club only meets one day a month for most members. If you do go on a weekend Club hunt that adds 2 more days. What are you doing the other 27-28 days?** Yes, do consider yourself fortunate if you are lucky enough to go out your first time or two with a more experienced caller. Doing so can really boost your calling career. After all it is one thing to read about or watch a (DVD) of what you are supposed to do yet things can be quite different once you are really actually doing the deed like calling on a stand or picking a spot to call from or actually watching a critter come running in and you are actually shooting & trying to not let the critter get away & all this under the watchful eye of the more experienced who is telling you what you're doing right & wrong. However, this is just not going to happen to everyone for various reasons. Maybe you joined in the summer or in months that do not have Novice Hunts? Regardless there is really no reason to fret. **Learn what you can at the Club Meetings by paying attention and asking questions. Actually bring a predator call or two or three with you & learn some of the sounds that can come out of them by asking.** Heck ask the call box guy if no one else! Then practice these sounds while driving to & from in your daily activities. **Try to be available for both days on the Club hunt weekends** in case someone asks you if you're hunting. I can remember one year when I had no transportation not being able to hunt on 3 different Club Hunts because the members I asked (mostly newer ones) had other plans or were already booked! It is a known fact that the Club Meeting is the first Wednesday of every month. The Club Hunt is that upcoming weekend from September through March. **If you want to hunt PLAN on having that time FREE!** Also, we have said this before however it bears repeating; **go to the various Club Meetings & Club Functions. Just by you being there you are helping yourself as you get to know the other members & they get to know you. Be around the campfires at night, listen to the stories and tell some of your own. In doing this you are building relationships. Volunteer to do something & you really can put a star by your name on your calling career sheet!** Also bring your wife, family, friends to these Events so that they can make friends. **Don't forget to practice on your own & you simply must expect to do some hunting on your own.** Then you can go where you want and do/try what you want. In fact, **if you really want your kill numbers to go up then you have to do some calling/killing on your own.** My rookie year I killed 23 coyotes & I use to average 20 plus coyotes a year. You don't do that by just hunting Club Hunts one weekend (2 days) a month. Yes, there are some cliques in the Club, people that mostly hunt together all the time and rarely if ever take someone else. This is America and you are allowed to do that. That doesn't make them bad Club members. Many times, there may be a reason like the 6-Month Hunt competition, etc. where they are competing or maybe they just like hunting together. **Regardless, don't be scared to ask someone to go on a hunt, if not a Club Hunt then what about a hunt on one of the other weekends?** However also **don't be destroyed if they say no.** People have lives, some busier than others. **Most no's are no not right now and future plans can be made.** On that note here is a question for you. **What kind of a person are you or better yet what kind of a person do you project or portray?** In other words, **if you didn't know you, would you hunt with you?** How is your appearance? Do you have, and/or can you get most of your own gear or must you borrow constantly? There is absolutely nothing wrong with borrowing especially in the beginning. Can you help with the gas? Can you only hunt one day or two? If always one perhaps a day that is not on a Club Hunt weekend would be better? Do others have reason to fear you? For instance, do you portray that you are dangerous or potentially dangerous? Again, would you hunt with you? These are just some questions to ask yourself. **Whatever you do don't just sit around not saying anything to anyone, expecting someone to ask you & then get mad when it doesn't happen.** If you do, then it's your own fault & you are putting a stick into the spokes of your own predator calling career tires. **GOING PREDATOR CALLING/HUNTING IS AN ADVENTURE!** Yes, it is sometimes nice to share the adventure however **don't limit yourself into only hunting with others (unless medically unable), get out there by yourself now & then.** Enjoy your predator calling career, true adventure is waiting for you and.....**Every Stand Has The Potential For Something Unforgettable To Happen!!!**



**\*\*\* NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: DO NOT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP to stay a PPCI Member!** On Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 the PPCI Officers & Board decided to do away with the hard copy Newsletter & **go to an on-line only issue.** To receive an e-mail Newsletter, you **MUST** send your info to [pvcigroup@yahoo.com](mailto: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 PPCI. Send payment to PPCI 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. **PPCI MEMBERSHIP COUNT: 167 PPCI WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS: Larry E., Mike E., Sean M., Michael S., Robert C., David J.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 1 – Trapping Season Opens statewide. No leg-hold traps allowed on public land. Cage Traps okay. Check Regs.  
Nov. 2 -Dec. 31- Various Deer & Elk Seasons open & close statewide.  
Nov. 2 - Rifle Bear Season Opens in Hunt Units 4A, 5A and 27. Nov. 3 – Desert Scaup Season Opens. Check Hunt Regs.  
**Nov. 7 – This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday. PPCI Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57<sup>th</sup> Drive, Glendale, AZ. 7:00p.m.**  
**Nov. 10-11 – PPCI MONTHLY HUNT!!!** Nov. 11 – Blue Grouse Season closes. Check your Hunt Regs.  
Nov. 21 - **This is the 3rd Wednesday. PPCI Board of Directors Meeting: Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy Phx. 7:00p.m.**  
Nov. 23-29 – Youth Only Javelina Season opens in Select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.  
Nov. 16 – Dec. 12 –Various Sandhill Crane Seasons open & close. Check your Hunt Regs.  
Nov. 23 Late Dove Season opens statewide. Check your Hunt Regs. Junior Javelina Season closes.  
Nov. 30 – Successful Spring 2019 Hunt Permits (Javelina, Turkey, Bison) should be mailed out by now.  
Dec. 7-8 – Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meeting 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. in Phoenix 602-942-3000.  
**Dec. 1 – Daylong Shooting Hours for Coyotes open in many Hunt Units.** Bighorn Sheep Season opens. Check Hunt Regs.  
**Dec. 5 – PPCI Annual Christmas Party/Potluck/ Fundraiser – Doors open at 6:30p.m. 6822 N. 57<sup>th</sup> Drive, Glendale, AZ.**  
Dec. 7 – Mearns Quail Season opens statewide, limit 8 Mearns. Check your Hunt Regs.  
**Dec. 19 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PPCI Board of Directors Meeting: Barro's Pizza, 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy Phx. 7:00p.m.**  
**Dec. 25 – Merry Christmas to ALL! Happy Birthday Jesus!!!**  
Dec. 31 – All Bear & Crow Seasons & most Squirrel Seasons end. Check your Hunt Regs.  
Jan. 1 – Happy New Year! Year 2019! Archery Deer & Javelina Seasons open many Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.  
**Jan. 2 - This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday. (PPCI Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57<sup>th</sup> Drive, Glendale, AZ.) 7:00p.m.**  
Jan. 6 - Late Dove Season closes statewide. Check your Hunt Regs.  
**Jan. ?? – (Tentative Date) MULTI-CLUB HUNT, pits our Calling Club against the other Calling Clubs in the state. Check-In Location ??? More details to follow as we get more info. If you hunt no other hunt this year, hunt this one day!**  
Jan. 13 – Mountain Zone Duck, Scaup & Goose Season closes.  
**Jan. 16 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PPCI Board of Directors Meeting: Barro's Pizza, 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy Phx. 7:00p.m.**  
Jan. 27 – Desert Zone Duck, Scaup & Goose Season closes.

## PPCI MONTHLY GUN

The Gun for November will be a Savage Axis .22-250 with scope and camo-covered.

The Gun for December will be a 12 ga. Mossberg 500 shotgun, camo-covered with 20" barrel & accu-choke.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Jim & Chris K. Married 38 years-Nov. 15



Would you like for your Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event to show here?  
Send your info to [coyotecaller@cox.net](mailto:coyotecaller@cox.net)

CONGRATS on having A New Baby Girl "Hallie"  
Born on Aug 24 to Chris H. & Judith P.



## PVCI CHRISTMAS PARTY/POTLUCK/AUCTION DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

by Eddie M.

Wednesday, December 5, 2018 will be the date; the location is 6822 N. 57<sup>th</sup> Drive, the American Legion Hall Post 29 in Glendale, AZ. our regular Monthly Meeting place, the Christmas Party taking the place of the regular Meeting. Of course, you & yours and all (family, friends, kids) are cordially invited to attend this Event, you do NOT have to be a member. **The entry fee to get into the Christmas Party is typically at least 1 can of food or water per person.** All food/water donations are donated to the Desert Mission Food Bank by members Gary A.M. & Ginger. Some Remarkable Amounts of Food/Water have been donated by this Club in the past. **Dinner will be a "Potluck Affair"** & we ask you the members to please bring a dish or dessert to share. **The PVCI Christmas Party is a Major Fundraiser for PVCI. This year especially Event Organizer Ruth S. has really had Trouble getting** donated items from the various Outdoor & Sporting vendors **MORE THAN EVER BEFORE in our history. PVCI Members, WE NEED YOUR HELP AND WILL TAKE YOUR GOOD NEW OR USED Donated items, Including GOODS OR Baked Goods, Services, Hunts, etc.** Generally, this is also the night that our "Member of the Year" & "President's Award" recipients are named while their family & friends are present. All in all, this should be a good night of seeing new & familiar faces & celebrating the Christmas Spirit! Hope to see you!

**P.S. If you do have some good items (outdoor or not, this is a Fund-Raiser) that you'd like to donate PLEASE call Ruth S. at (602) 524-3586 and make arrangements to try to get the items to her BEFORE the Christmas Party! If you don't, that is okay, yes, we will still take the Donation! It will just make it a little easier on Ruth if done before.**

## SOUTHWEST FUR HARVESTERS RENDEVOUS REPORT

by Eddie M.



The Southwest Fur Harvesters held their Annual Fund-Raising Rendezvous recently up in the cool pines above Camp Verde, AZ. on the weekend of September 22-23, 2018. This Great Organization goes all out in trying to share the knowledge on being better in what you do when it comes to taking predators & other furbearers. The crowd, though just a little smaller than usual this year was treated to some fine seminars on trapping w/both leg-hold & cage traps. The AZGFD led by our Predator & Fur biologist April also shared some information. There were also some trapping & calling supplies for sale, including trapping lures; cage traps, fleshing knives, etc., and a Silent Auction on various item plus a Raffle Giveaway. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner were also given. Thanks to all those that came to support the SWFH and their Rendezvous. This is their Main Fund-Raiser for the Year.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN TO TRAP: YOUTH TRAPPERS ED & CAMPOUT

**Nov. 10-12 3-Day Event teaching the Trapper's Ed Course with an actual trapping session for kids & adults alike. Demos of skinning, fleshing, stretching & using foot-hold traps (private lands) and cage traps (public lands). Primitive camping available, porta potties and food provided. Kids are free.** Location: Chauncey Ranch north of Mayer, AZ. Hosted by Southwest Fur Harvesters. Information: Ralph Bosse, [Venerer@aol.com](mailto:Venerer@aol.com) [www.southwestfurharvesters.com](http://www.southwestfurharvesters.com)

## PURCHASING ANY TYPE OF VEHICLE?

(SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR YOU & PVCI)

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.



## Ron's Bull Elk Story

by Ron P.



Ron P. this year received an early bull rifle hunt tag in unit 23N after applying for 20 years. His hunt party consisted of his daughter Erin, Eddie M., Gary A. M, Uncle Chuck, and Chris A. Ron shot the 6 point Elk at 500+ yards

**Eddie is still waiting to receive Ron's Story.  
We want to print your Stories and Pictures!!!  
Send them early!!!!**

## Squirrel Hunt

by Sean Y.



We had a great time squirrel hunting last weekend. Ended up with 6. Declan got his first squirrel ever with a .22," My little sharp shooter." It was a proud moment for Dad!! Thanks go out to Tim for showing us how it's done.



**Please send stories and pictures In "JPG" format to [coyotecaller@cox.net](mailto:coyotecaller@cox.net)**

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## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH THE COYOTES, FOX and BOBCATS AFTER YOU SHOOT THEM? (THE SKINNING PROCESS EXPLAINED) by Eddie M.

In my opinion every predator caller should know how to skin & put up their own fur. The raw furs from the pelts that we harvest are a renewable resource that can be utilized either for your own purposes or for sale. PVCI encourages members to skin their harvest & not just waste them in the field. After skinning, save pelts by placing them in a one- or two-gallon Ziploc freezer-type bag (**fur side out w/ears, feet tucked inside**). Freeze until you have time to process. (double Bagging helps)

**HOW TO CASE-SKIN A COYOTE:** The #1 complaint we've had on Fur Prep Day is that some pelts can't be used because of improper skinning. The biggest mistake is skinning them open



like a bear instead of case-skinning. The next biggest mistake is cutting the front legs completely off leaving 2 gaping holes. How to go about case-skinning is shown below: Tools required: flea & tick powder, knife, rubber gloves, tail stripper, rope, **Freezer bags**.

**1)** Once the critter is down, spray the inside of a plastic bag with a powerful insecticide; insert the critter, close bag 5-10 minutes. (Flea spray or powder also works). Flea & tick spray can be found at the 99 Cent Only Stores. **2)** I start by cutting the gums both top and bottom in the jaws. This make the head much easier to skin once reached. **3)** Using rubber gloves make an incision around the hairline or "ankles" on each leg. Next cut up the back of the hind legs to the vent. Follow the color line. Skin out the hind legs then work to get the back area free around the tailbone. **4)** Use a tail stripper or 2 stout sticks& strip the tail. It helps if I stand on the back legs when stripping. Now I hang the critter by one hind leg (making it easier to turn). **5)** Once the back legs& tail are free, separate the pelt from the carcass by pulling pelt down in one steady motion towards the head. **6)** Some resistance will occur around the front legs. Use a blunt instrument between the front part of the shoulder & the skin. Push through skin then pull down. **7)** Continue pulling hide down to the head then skin out the head. Finish by cutting through nose cartilage freeing pelt. **P.S.** If you want to see a video-presentation of a coyote, fox, bobcat, raccoon, beaver actually getting skinned **check out the DVD "Fur Handling by Danny Sullivan."** These days U-Tube can also be watched.

**WHAT ABOUT FLESHING & STRETCHING? Tools needed:** Fleshing Board & knife, wooden or wire stretcher, sewing needle & dental floss. **1)** We wash the hide in liquid Tide or ALL then wring out. **2)** With the skin-side out, put onto fleshing board head up. Put the base of the Fleshing Board against something immovable. Use a fleshing knife & flesh the hide using a downward motion, removing the flesh. You may need to use the knife for trimming at times. **3)** Sew up the bullet holes, etc. on the pelt. **4-5)** With the skin-side out, put pelt onto a stretcher. Leave on stretcher until pelt dries some. **6)** Take the pelt off the stretcher, turn fur-side out then put back onto the stretcher fur-side out. Let dry in cool, bug-free place. Once dried & off the stretcher the pelt is now ready to sale or to ship to get tanned. We use Moyle's Tannery in Idaho



## \*\*\*FUR PREP DAY ANYONE???

### Is there any interest in having a Fur Prep Day during the Fall or Winter months (November to January)??

If so then we need a place (someone's home) and a good date to be able to do this. There are more than a few guys in the Club that have furs in their freezer that they would like to take care of. Many of these furs they either want to donate to the Club or they are holding for the Club for what used to be the Fur Program. The Fur Program was established years ago because not all of those who hunt (both woman and man) can put their skinned furs in their own freezers. Thus, a Program was established where certain PPCI Members would keep these Members furs and their own and on a certain day we would all meet over someone's home and all put up the fur together (Fur Prep Day). The donated furs are prepared for the Tannery and the finished tanned furs are then offered for sale to the members with those that helped on Fur Prep Day receiving a small discount for their efforts. This is a GREAT LEARNING DAY for those that want to learn to Flesh, Sew and Put up Fur on the Stretchers! For those offering up their home, this is usually a one-day, all-day Event. There needs to be room on the street to park and we will clean up your back yard, etc. afterwards. Members think about hosting this Event. It has been a few years since we've done this and there is Always Lots Of Interest!!! The money from the donated furs goes to PPCI to help in their expenses. You can of course also mark your furs (usually with a colored zip tie through the eye) and buy back what you want to keep at the discounted (Fur Prep Day-I Helped) price.

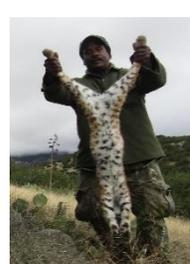
### IT'S A BOBCAT!!!

by Eddie M.

The month of October was full of surprises. For starters, why who would be at the October Monthly Meeting other than Illinois Chris B. or Chris II as I used to call him. New Dad Chris H. being the first Chris that I knew. Chris had driven from Illinois to Arizona again, this time to spend the month of October hunting as much as he could plus check up on the Arizona home that he still has in Sun City West. Chris just loves Arizona and has a "Goal" of someday calling in and killing a bobcat here. As predator calling goes, we have been on a few eventful hunts and a few uneventful hunts in the short time we have known each other. I have been trying to help Chris in his quest for a bobcat, giving him trappers books to read that talk about cat location and telling and showing him where I have called or seen bobcat sign myself over the years. Chris is a Good Caller and has a Good Sound. He has been successful, needing just 6 more coyotes now for his 20-Pin after we went out this past Friday, however that is another story.

I wanted to go to Unit 21 for the Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Rifle Bear opener and got in part way however it was too wet and the Forest Road Signs Warned: Not to travel when the roads were wet. I went in part way, spent the night & was promptly awakened in the early morning hours by the 4-wheel quad buggies going up & past me to the real areas. Come morning I did my glassing and calling anyway however I knew I needed to be deeper & could not do it. So, I drove to Unit 22N & called various places in between the rain showers. I ended up seeing 3 coyotes & killed 1 gray fox.

The next weekend I went to Unit 21 by a different way. There was another BIG rainstorm coming however I figured if I could get in somewhere before-hand, I would only have to deal with getting out of the place. I left a message for Chris that I was going that night & probably wouldn't be around in the morning. I arrived in Unit 21 early and by some of the ruts in the road, knew that this was NOT a place to be when it was wet! I called and drove deeper until it started to rain. Oh, it rained buckets. I drove way back and made and ate dinner during a break. Then it rained more. The morning was quiet. I glassed for bears then started making stands with bobcat on my mind as I know that after a good rain is a good time to call bobcats. I had picked a FS road with a waterhole at the end and did the ¾ mile to it where I found fresh Coues tracks despite the rain. I walked up the hill past the waterhole, then down and up to call the down side of the next hill. There were juniper trees here mixed with the other vegetation. I picked a spot where I could see under the juniper trees & called alternating between a cottontail sound & lip squeak. I would call, lip squeak, wake up & do it again, wake up & do it again. 40 minutes went by, then during a scan I spotted an animal in an opening under a juniper tree. Immediately my mind said, "It's a bobcat" and I slowly raised the shotgun, got the bead on it & pulled the trigger, BOOM! The cat didn't drop though like it was supposed to do, instead it turned to my left and ran away, disappearing in the junipers! I was horrified! How could I miss! It was only 16 steps away when I later paced it off! There were only scratch marks in the juniper duff where the cat had run. How could I miss? I am going to call Chris & tell him I called in a bobcat, but I MISSED! I didn't want to do that. If only I could take that shot over again. 15 minutes & 40 yards later, 2 juniper trees down I found the cat piled up! This was not my first bobcat, but it's the first in a while. I have already shared pictures with Chris. Chris hopes to be back in January. It would be nice if one of you real bobcat guru's would take him out. Just saying.



## A GREAT TIME HUNTING!!!!

By Mark S.

We had 2 Elk tags this past week to fill. Got out the day before to scout and of course had to do a few stands along the way. Only managed to find 1 legal Elk and Matt made a great kill shot on his first ever big game animal! Called up 5 Fox and 2 Coyotes and got them all killed. 100% success rate on every animal we took a shot at this trip. Fun times!



## ANOTHER YEAR WITH NO ARIZONA STATE PREDATOR CALLING CONTEST

by Eddie M.

Yes, it looks like our Arizona State Varmint Calling Championship will NOT happen in 2018 either. The Championship has been held in various places over the many, many years it has taken place with Cabela's being the gracious host the last few years. Participation the 1st year at Cabela's (when we were inside with chairs for the audience) was good however participation fell off a bit since the Event was moved outside. This is not Cabela's fault. Back in the 60's and 70's there were so many callers wanting to participate, the line seemingly stretched forever! Nowadays and for many years since, just finding a handful or more of willing participants some years seems to be a chore. The reasons why are many probably including lack of some good advertising, lack of really good prizes & finding willing folks to run & judge the Event, etc. **Another reason is timid or intimidated callers and good hunting callers that enter the Contest and don't do well so their feelings get hurt and they refuse to try again. Almost ALL of the other "Calling Sports" have Calling Contest (elk, turkey, yodeling). There is nothing wrong with being versatile, in fact it is a true art form to be able to learn to call to the critters and be successful and also be able to learn to call to the judges and also be successful.** The Event still draws a crowd of spectators make no mistake! **It's getting the callers to PARTICIPATE....and with at least FOUR GOOD varmint calling Clubs in the state and with Today's Social Media being what it is... to me there is just No Excuse! The other Sports have similar Calling Contests** where they learn to call to judges and many also are successful hunters. Anyway, Cabela's used to hold an Annual Event called Predator Days each year sometime in January where they really pushed predator hunting & predator-related products. My thoughts were that perhaps we could hold the State Championship during those days? However, since the Bass Pro takeover, Cabela's just isn't what it used to be, especially when it comes to working with the public. The Bow Hunter Happening when it was at Fort Tut Hill near Flagstaff, AZ. was also a Good Place. Any other Event or Location ideas anyone??? If so, please let President James S. know of your idea. This Annual Event was really cherished in the not so distant past. I guess that things really do change.

## 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) and 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](http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills) for more information. Consider helping out at these Events as a Mentor. You'll usually be fed & your help is greatly appreciated. I go as a PPCI member & often wear my PPCI T-Shirt. It doesn't have to be varmint calling related for me to volunteer to help get someone hooked hunting.

**Nov. 10-12 - LEARN TO TRAP: YOUTH TRAPPERS ED & CAMPOUT : 3-Day Event teaching the Trapper's Ed Course with an actual trapping session for kids & adults alike. Demos of skinning, fleshing, stretching & using foot-hold traps (private lands) and cage traps (public lands). Primitive camping available, porta potties and food provided. Kids are free.** Location: Chauncey Ranch north of Mayer, AZ. Hosted by Southwest Fur Harvesters. Information: Ralph Bosse, [Venerer@aol.com](mailto:Venerer@aol.com) [www.southwestfurharvesters.com](http://www.southwestfurharvesters.com)

**Nov. 22-25 – Unit 36A, 36B & 36C Youth Deer Hunt Camp:** Deer hunting tips & tactics for the area from experienced hunters, a safe centralized group camping area, some food provided. Location: Arivaca, near Buenos Aires Nat. Wildlife Refuge. Host: AZ chapter of SCI, AZGFD. Info: Bobby Boido, [azsci@yahoo.com](mailto:azsci@yahoo.com) (520) 490-8367.

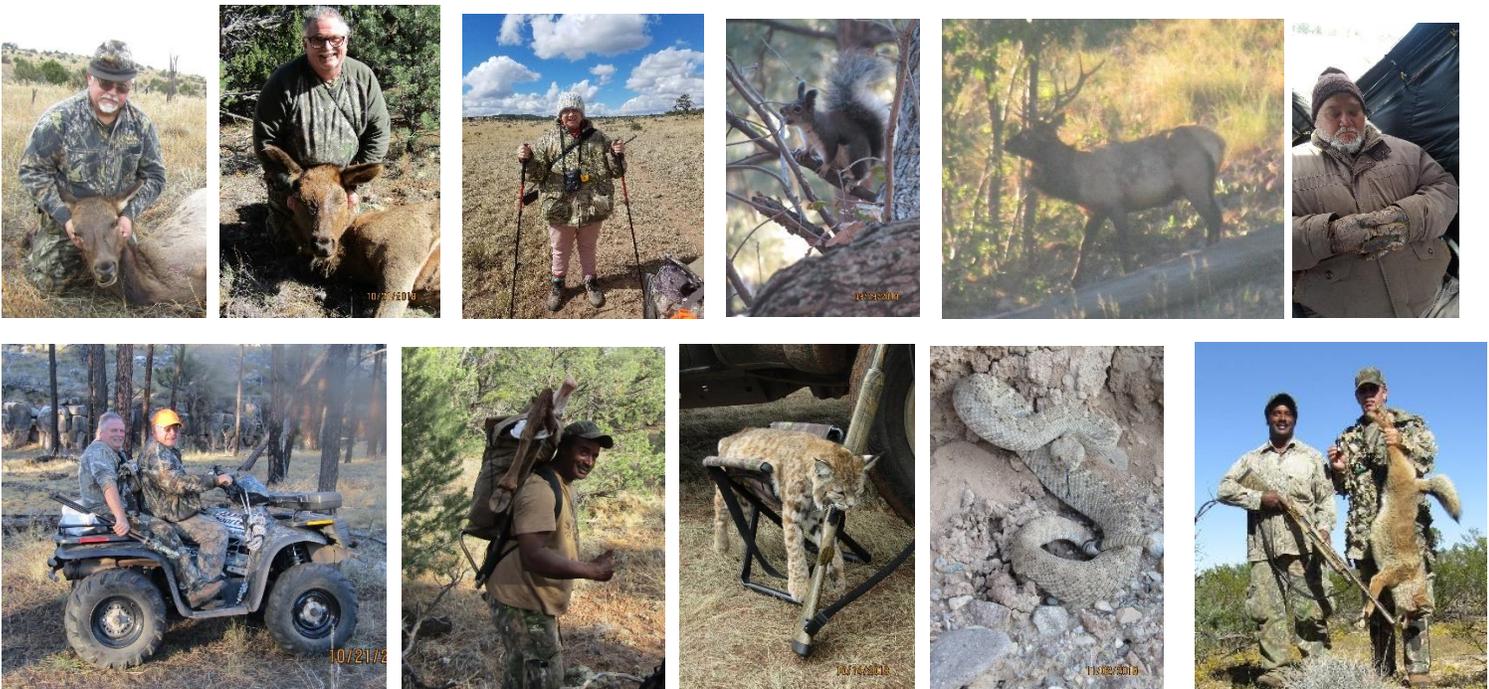
**Nov. 23-24 - Unit 42 Youth Deer Hunt Camp:** Hunt Camp for youth deer hunters drawn for Unit 42. (Family & friends welcome) General deer hunt info, tactics & tips from experienced outdoor hunters, other outdoor skills, some food provided. Location: Wickenburg area off Vulture Mine Rd. Unit 42. Host: AZ. Mule Deer Organization, AZGFD. Info: Terry Herndon, [Terry@azmuledeer.org](mailto:Terry@azmuledeer.org) or (623) 696-5579

**Nov. 30-Dec. 3 - Unit 20C/18B Youth Deer Hunt Camp-YOU/MDF:** Free camp serving units 20C & 18B tag holders to assist w/basics of deer hunting in area, other outdoor activities, food, campfire & more. Some mentoring available. Location: Hillside/Date Creek Road area, Unit 20C. Host Mule Deer Foundation, Youth Outdoors Unlimited. Info: Jake Jaeger, [jjaeger@muledeer.org](mailto:jjaeger@muledeer.org) or 320-309-4535. Register at [www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com](http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com)

**Dec. 1-2 – Picketpost Small Game Hunt Camp:** Beginners come to learn shoot & hunt basics for quail, rabbits & dove. Limited firearms provided, primitive camping onsite, some meals. Location: Picketpost Mtn/ Superior, Unit 37B. Host: Red Bear Outfitters, AZ Outdoor Sports, AZGFD, Youth Outdoors Unlimited. Register at [www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com](http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com)

**Dec. 7- 9: Cibola Youth Waterfowl Hunt:** Learn how to waterfowl hunt w/an experienced mentor. Activities for whole family include trap shoot, 3D archery, decoys & calling clinic. Dutch oven, wildlife watching. Location: Cibola Nt. Wildlife Refuge, Cibola/Blythe Area. Host: AZ Outdoors Sports, Friends of Cibola NWR, USFWS, AZGFD. Contact: Yuma AZGFD 928-342-0091 [getoutsideaz@gmail.com](mailto:getoutsideaz@gmail.com)

## HUNT PICS



## LATE SEASON BEAR HUNT/CALLING by Eddie M

Bears are one of my favorite critters to hunt and most years I have usually go on a few predator calling adventures in my hunt for them. They are also one of the least killed critters in the Club. Have you ever had a bear answer your predator calling sounds? Do you think that you might want to give it a try? Be very careful when answering this question as it might come true as it has for me & others on several occasions. If you look at the Hunt Statistic Book you will see that you have missed the 2 best months to kill a bear which are September & October. When you receive this Newsletter, it will be November. Many of the bear hunting units will be shut down however not all of them. In fact, there'll be a couple that'll just be opening. Sometime in November the hibernation process will begin for many bears. The sows with cubs will be the first to disappear, then the sows with no cubs and last will be the boars or male bears. Some of the boars are still out in December.



Then there are other boars I have heard that don't even hibernate some years? Regardless before bears go into hibernation during these fall months, the pressure is on to eat all that they can to fatten up before the Big Sleep. As in other times when you hunt bears, now as in earlier months, if you can find the food, you can often find the bears. Favorite food sources that I like to check this time of year are juniper trees that are loaded with the juicy blue juniper berries and the acorns in the big trees in the woods. For the most part, the manzanita berries and prickly pear fruits are largely gone. I have seen bears lying underneath these heavily loaded juniper berry trees just eating & resting, eating & resting all day. Acorns in the woods are another very important food source for practically everything including bears. If the trees in the place where you are hunting don't have acorns, I would keep looking until you find some that do have them. Find some bear poop with acorns in them in the vicinity plus some good hills or canyons & some water within 1 or 2 miles and you just might have a recipe for some action! If you can find a vantage point you may be able to glass these bears. Will a black bear that's hungrily eating acorns or juniper berries come to a predator call? There is only one way to find out. I would close the distance if possible & get within rifle range & then I would use the call. A fawn distress would probably be my first choice however the rabbit distress could also work. Reed Peterson, the guy who founded one of the other fine predator-calling clubs in this state used a rabbit distress to call in over 100 bears in his calling career. In the earlier seasons I stay away from the cub distress to help avoid female bears. In the latter part of the late season or say in December it could be another option. Seeing the bears first has several advantages. First, you know without a doubt that there's a bear in the area. Now you can hopefully determine size & cub status (sows with cubs are illegal) plus determine your route to the bear for the best calling/shooting location(s). You will also be able to see the bear's reaction to your calling sound. If it's coming you will know! If there is no reaction & you are within rifle range like we talked about earlier, then you either plan on taking your shot or stalk closer for the opportunity to try calling again and/or setting up for a closer shot. If you can't see the bears, then calling in likely looking areas is another approach. It really helps if these areas have Food and Sign such as Bear Poop (the fresher the better) and/or Tracks. Pick a location where you can see some. Bears won't normally hang up to just sit and watch an area with a big view like mountain lions sometimes do. Although I might start softly in some situations, generally make your sound loud. Get the noise out there. Bears live in BIG COUNTRY and if they cannot hear you then you probably are not going to call one in. Likely looking areas to call for me would include down the side of a big ridge or canyon (go 100 yards down) full of big acorn trees or berry laden juniper trees. The key for me in doing this is that even if there is a dirt road on top where you went down, after you go down so far you are in a whole new world. You can't even hear the road traffic anymore. Also, it really helps if there is no road on the bottom of where you are. I like just wild country instead, although you could throw in a body of some sort of water like a creek, river, waterhole, etc. I also like BIG Canyons. One trick here with 2 people is to each be watching opposite sides while the calling is going on. You MUST know where the other person is located when doing this! Also try calling above where two or more canyons bottoms meet up or cross & don't forget saddles which are used by most all wildlife when travelling. Please make sure that you have a good backstop behind you that a bear or lion can't get through. Yes, I said lion as both critters can live in the same habitat and the distress sound is universal! It wasn't a bear, but I have read of a caller named Ralph S. (he scored my Boone & Crocket skull) who was I believe knocked down and scratched in the face by a lion before he shot it! My point again: Have a GOOD BACKSTOP! If serious stay on stand 45 minutes to an hour & no foxes. When it happens & you do see a bear approaching your calling stand, it's going to be an unforgettable experience! I would keep calling until you have the bear where you want it, then pick a spot and shoot! Remember you have 48 hours to report your kill. Also keep the proof of sex attached to the hide and keep the skull for the visual inspection that you must also do within 10 days. If frozen be sure to have the proof of sex visible and have the mouth open.... Read your Hunt Regs. All bear seasons end on Dec. 31st so there is still time. Be sure to call 1-800-970-BEAR to find out which units are closed or to report a kill. GOOD LUCK!

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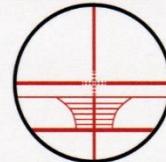
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