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July-Aug. 2016



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Calling all hunters! Calling all hunters! I would like to invite everyone to the "George Knox Memorial Boot Camp". No matter your experience, novice or expert, there is something to learn at this camp. It will be a full day of seminars that will take you from Predator Hunting Basics all the way to being a more experienced predator caller. This is a great way to get to know some of the best coyote callers in Arizona. I have personally found new people to hunt with at this camp and still hunt with them today. So tune up that firearm, leave the hot valley behind and come hang out with us in the pines.

Terry H. P.V.C.I. President

ATTENTION: THERE WILL BE NO MONTHLY P.V.C.I. MEETING IN JULY!!!

*****MONTHLY MEETING NOTICE: The Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. no longer have Meetings of any type at the F.O.P. Lodge where we once met! THE NEW P.V.C.I. MONTHLY MEETING PLACE IS 3720 W. GREENWAY RD, THE NATIONAL ASSOC. of LETTER CARRIERS Branch #576.** The start time is still 7:00p.m. We must be out by 10:00p.m. **We have been asked to bring no drinks.** Instead non-alcoholic drinks & some minimum food may be purchased inside. These total purchases will help bring down the cost of renting the Hall for our Club Meeting. 3720 W. Greenway Rd. is 2 buildings East of the QT Gas Station on Greenway near the location.

*** The Annual P.V.C.I. Trail Clearing of the See Canyon Hunter/Survival Trail is Aug. 6-7 w/work done on Saturday the 6th.** P.V.C.I. has been doing this since the 60's. Potluck Breakfasts & Dinner on Saturday morning/night. **Map, more info. inside!**

*** The P.V.C.I. George Knox Memorial Varmint Calling Boot Camp is scheduled for Aug. 13 14, 2016.** The location will be Vincent Ranch in Unit 4A. This Camp is designed to teach you how to go about calling in predators in an in-the-field setting & is for both youth & adults who have an interest. Friday(the 12th) is for set-up only how-ever dinner will be served if present. On Saturday(the 13th) Instruction & hunting, Sunday(the 14th) hunting also. Some meals provided. **Cost is Free! You MUST Pre-Register** at evridgeknives@sportsmancommunity.com Map & more information inside.

*** The Arizona Trappers Assoc. Convention is scheduled for July 30** at the Gila County Fairgrounds in Globe, AZ. Miss Rodeo AZ. usually helps out. Many trapping, fur prep & predator hunt/call seminars & supplies here. **More info. inside.**



Top Awards & John Toner
Hunt Participant knife winners!



Cabela's donated lots of items
at the 2016 P.V.C.I. Fishing Derby!



George Knox Memorial
Boot Camp
is coming Aug. 13-14

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PVCI FISHING DERBY REPORT by Eddie M.

What were you doing on Saturday June 4th, 2016? **ALL THAT I CAN SAY is that if you were not at the Annual PVCI Fishing Derby then YOU MISSED OUT on a Grand Opportunity!** This was Free Fishing Day and the date of the **PVCI Event** that determines who is the Best Fisherpersion in the Club! This year you could fish any of the Williams-area lakes that you wanted to. Then come time, find the PVCI Camp located near Dogtown Lake for the official measuring plus take part in the Members & Guests Raffle and Potluck/Fish Fry which really help to make this Event wonderful! Seriously, while I believed that it reached 115 degrees that day in Phoenix, those that came to the PVCI Fishing Derby enjoyed much cooler temperatures, some okay fishing for a few, plus Good, Good, Company and some Great Food! You also missed out on some GREAT PRIZES!!! **“I believe that my wife Trisha Y. deserves a Standing Ovation for her efforts in acquiring many of the donations for this Fishing Derby & Members & Guest Raffle,”** said Mike Y., her husband & Event Organizer. **Trisha went ALL OUT in getting donations from the following:** CABELA’S, Phoenix Fishing Supply, Kingoo Enterprises, Ross Outdoors, Bearizona, Big O’ Tires, Element Therapeutic Massage, Look Out Mountain Outdoors, Café 326, Old Smokey, Golden Spoon Yogurt, Bob B., Steve Le. , Don Z., Bear Arms, Valle Luna, Broadheads Brotherhood.

This year’s winners (longest stringers in inches) were First: Andy w/56-6/8”, Second: Eddie w/43-3/8”, Third: Jenny w/27-5/8” & Fourth: Ricardo w/9-6/8”. A total of 17 fish were caught. **Zoe Picked herself a New Bicycle!!!!**

WE REALLY DO HAVE TO THANK EACH OF THE DONATORS! Please do remember them when you make your personal, birthday, Christmas and other purchases during the year.

The fact that a Great Time was had by ALL present can’t really sum up the experience of being at the Derby. When the talk turns to our Club Events being a Great Place to BOND & get to know one another.....well this is no joke. Again Good Company, Good Food & Great Prizes! If you were not there you didn’t just miss out, you missed an Great Experience! P.S. Congrats to the Corn Hole Winners Macy & James!!!

2016 PVCI FISHING PICS



BLAST FROM THE PAST : THE START OF IT ALL

(How Jack F. Got Hooked On Predator Calling) by Ed M. as told by Jack F.

My 1st predator hunt was in 1983 or 1984 with then member Ed Stingley. Ed was a neat guy who was very active in the Club and also a past president. As you will read we had a good weekend of memories.

On our 1st hunt we went to the desert country around Gila Bend, then out more West and back. I can still remember the very 1st stand that I ever took part in. Ed was calling with one of his rubber band-style calls that he made himself with 2 pieces of walnut tied together with string. He put a small dish in the middle of the 2 pieces then put a rubber band around the whole deal. You called by blowing and changed the pitch by biting down on the thing. It sounded good and worked on the coyotes just fine. He wasn't too long into the stand when all of a sudden a coyote showed up coming in at a pretty good pace. Somehow I managed to shoot and miss that coyote twice! Once coming in and once going out! We hunted hard the rest of that day and called in a couple of other coyotes which were also missed. No matter, after that first stand where I'd managed to miss twice, I WAS HOOKED!!!

The next day found us again out in the desert country with Ed calling with his homemade rubberband call. In the meantime, I was sitting there minding my own business when I heard a commotion (a big ruckus) Looking over I saw a coyote running right towards Ed at a very accelerated rate of speed! The problem was that the coyote was right between Ed and myself! Ed was more or less shouting for me to shoot, shoot, shoot! Only I couldn't get a clear shot. Do you know that coyote came on in and got so close to Ed that it knocked his stool over on the way past! On the way back to the truck we hit fresh fox tracks in the dust of the road. The tracks headed right for the truck then actually went up onto the truck's hood! It was plain to see that the fox had sat down upon the hood then jumped down & walked away on the other side of the truck! It was all very plain to see yet to this day still unbelievable. What we came up with was that the fox was probably looking and laughing at us while he watched us let that coyote get away.

Yet another stand found us sitting back to back in an area of thick mesquite. Ed was again calling and it wasn't very long before I saw feet coming and caught a coyote sneaking in closer and closer. I got the shotgun up undetected and just waited. That coyote got a full load of #2 shot right in the face! My first harvest, was I happy!

Around towards evening Ed called in a badger which advanced very quickly towards us. Are they tough? I shot this critter 3 times in the face with #2 shot and it still kept on coming! Finally Ed finished the critter with a shot from his rifle.

What a weekend we had together with memories that will hopefully stay with me forever. Well that is the story of my 1st hunt and the TALE of HOW I GOT HOOKED ON PREDATOR CALLING. May your hunts, experiences and good memories be good to you.

THE ULTIMATE DREAM STAND WITHOUT RESULTS

by Will H (below)

While out javelina hunting on the recent H.A.M. hunt I came across the fresh tracks of 3-4 javelina in the mud and decided to follow them. The tracks went across 2 or 3 creek drainages and took me 1-1/2 to 2 miles from the road. I eventually came to a big deep wash with a small-sized mesa on the other side. Walking on top of the mesa I noticed the wind was in my face and decided to see if I could call in these pigs. Setting up in a small grove of mesquite trees I took out my Pee Wee Critter Call and did what Ed M. calls a surprise for about a minute. I silently counted to 200 before calling again for about 30 seconds. All of a sudden I saw 3 coyotes about 150 yds. out hauling buns racing towards me each trying to be first! I kept whimpering on the call and when these dogs were 100 yds. out I noticed more movement and looked to see 2 pairs of doubles racing each other towards me on my right! Then they all saw each other and I had the ultimate dream stand with 7 coyotes running towards me at once! I had a Thompson Contender .54 Cal. muzzleloader on the ground and my .357 revolver in my lap. About 40 yards out one of the coyotes came to a stop and looked at me. I focused on it and pulled up and took a shot with my pistol, BOOM! At the shot the coyote spun around once and was gone out of there! The other coyotes went everywhere, some running behind, around and in front of me. I couldn't get another shot off. When the mud settled I went to check the shot and found no blood but I did find a deep set of running tracks which I followed for approx. 1/2 mile. I gave up & went back to the truck after that as there was still no blood and the tracks were still going strong. Now I've called up to 5 coyotes at one time before but NEVER 7! The sight of those 7 coyotes all coming at me at once is a sight I think I shall never forget!



***To contribute stories, pictures, etc. to this Newsletter send items to: coyotecaller@cox.net**

PVCI 5 – GUN FUND-RAISING RAFFLE RESULTS

The PVCI 5-GUN FUND-RAISING RAFFLE DRAWING was held on Sunday May 14, 2016 at our PVCI Annual Campout & Barbecue at Moqui Draw near the Blue Ridge Ranger Station. Many, Many Thanks To All That Sold or Purchased a Raffle Ticket. Your purchases have helped the Club tremendously! **Here is a list of the Winners:** 1st Jim Brown Phoenix Az., 2nd Tim McNeil Peoria Az., 3rd Julios Forzano, 4th Jacob White Phx. Az., 5th Keith Dehaan Scottsdale Az.

PVCI CAMPOUT AND BBQ REPORT by Terry H.

Another year gone. Another BBQ done. If you were not there you missed out on a unforgettable event. It all started with beautiful weather in Moqui Draw. Saturday morning started at 4:30am when I woke up to put the pork butts on the smoker for the pulled pork. The smell of apple and pecan wood smoke filled the campsite. Shortly thereafter the aroma of coffee took over, followed by the smell of bacon, potatoes, eggs, chorizo, garlic, and onions. At this point I knew it was going to be a great day! The events were scheduled to start at 8:30am but in true PVCI fashion we did not get things going till 9:30am. If you saw all the people making breakfast you would understand the late start. There was fierce competition, ups and downs, highs and lows. The suspense was almost unbearable at times; and yes Ken E., the bowling pin shoot was won by all wheel guns. Although Gary A. M. did post a time in the low 4 sec. On his second run. When the smoke cleared and the dust settled three people emerged as top shooters. Gary A. M. took home the title of top shooter followed by Hakan S. then by Kendall E. Now for the main event, "THE FOOD". We had pulled pork, fried burrito, Mac and cheese, home-made Coleslaw, pasta salad, beer can chicken, 3 kinds of chili, sausage and peppers, roasted garlic and more food than I could eat. Steve L. won the Dutch Oven cook-off with his ooey wee goeey caramel pecan lord have mercy cake. Maybe



that's just what I called it!!!! Followed by Ken E. with is pear upside-down cake. Third place was held by a Cinnabon apple cake, banana bread and a camouflage cake. We finished off the evening with a huge camp fire with everyone sitting around telling stories & bad jokes. In the morning we cooked up all the leftover food & packed up & went home. To all that came out & made this event memorable thank you. To anyone who missed this event, come out next year!

PVCI 2016 BARBECUE SHOOT RESULTS

The emphasis this year was to be more about spending time with each other & less time at the shooting events thus there were fewer events. This year everyone shot together with no distinction between man & woman. The Results:

.22 RIFLE

- 1) Gary A.M.
- 2) Tom D.
- 3) Hakan S.

TOP SHOOTERS

- 1) Gary A.M.
- 2) Hakan S
- 3) Kendall E.

.22 PISTOL

- 1) Gary A. M.
- 2) Hakan S.
- 3) Steve L.

JUG SHOOT WINNER

Gary A.M.

3D ARCHERY

- 1) Ken E.
- 2) Gary A.M.
- 3) Kendall E.

5-PIN

- 1) Hakan S. – 6.05 sec.
- 2) Kendall E. – 9.11 sec.
- 3) Ray K. – 11.57 sec.

DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF WINNERS

- 1) Steve L. Carmel – Pecan Carmel Cake
- 2) Ken E. – Pear upside-down cake

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT PURCHASING ANY TYPE OF VEHICLE? Please Call Before you Contact the Car Dealer!!!!!!

(SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR YOU & PPCI) by Scott Banner

All 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 and let him know where you want to shop and the type of vehicle you're interested in. He will make contact with the dealers and 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 and 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.

PPCI will receive the Referral Fee.



PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR REPORT by Eddie M.

On May 14, 2016 (the Saturday of our Annual PPCI Campout Barbecue) the town of Payson held its 22d Annual Payson Wildlife Fair at Green Valley Park. This Wildlife Awareness Fair is meant to open the eyes & introduce both the young & adults to some of the many outdoor wonders & activities that exist here in Arizona including Arizona Wildlife with a few exotics sprinkled in. This FREE Event lasted from 9:00A.M. to 3:00P.M. and offered lots to see & do. The Arizona Game & Fish Dept. along with many Outdoor Clubs & Organizations such as the Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Tonto Search & Rescue, your own Phoenix Varmint Callers and others went all out all out to make the Event an experience. Besides the many wildlife booths and displays there were games, prizes, an archery intro & some virtual shooting sports. Smokey the Bear also made an appearance.

Green Valley Lake (one of the Urban Lakes) was also over stocked with hundreds of lbs. of trout (including some HUGE incentive fish) and open to all to fish for free during the Event hours. Free fishing poles were also given out, gear & bait plus instructions for the kids and much more including casting lessons. Many kids were also introduced to boating by getting in a little kayaking under AZGFD supervision.

As mentioned PPCI had a booth at this Event to Promote The Sport of Varmint Calling & sell some Raffle Tickets. There were furs to touch, skulls to identify, pictures to look at & calling sounds to listen too. Member Eddie M. ran the booth instead of coming to the Campout & Barbecue on Saturday, heading on up to that Event when this one was finished. As always there was Lots of Interest & my mounted coyote was a BIG HIT! We probably even made the local newspaper as a reporter kept returning over & over, taking pictures of kids interacting with it, asking them, "Can you touch it again?"



PVCI GUN RAFFLE – WE RAFFLE OFF A FIREARM EVERY MONTH!!!

Normally if you are old enough to own a firearm, can pass a background check and have at least \$5.00 to invest, then you have a unique opportunity each and every month to win a firearm at the Phoenix Varmint Callers Monthly Meeting. How do we do it you ask? Well every other month or so the PVCI Board of Directors and Board Members choose a rifle, shotgun, handgun, etc. in advance. Then we here at the BI-Monthly Predator Tales do our best to let you know exactly what those choices will be (hopefully also in advance). Then on the night of the Meeting, with the firearm usually present for all to see, the Raffle Tickets are made available. Tickets are sold for \$5.00 apiece with NO LIMIT on the amount that you may purchase. You need NOT be a member to participate. The Raffle Drawing is usually held that evening and some Lucky Person wins!!! **All winners MUST be able to fill out and pass a background check.** If you win Steve L. (the guy selling the Gun Raffle tickets) will call you and tell you where & when you can pick up your firearm.

The Gun for August will be a Marlin 1895 guide gun N45/70.

The Gun for Sept. will be a Mossberg 12 ga. Shotgun.

Someone is going to WIN! Will it be you? Remember there is **NO LIMIT** to the amount of tickets you may purchase.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: July-19-Combo Elk & Pronghorn Antelope Hunting Seminar: Corky Richardson will teach the tactics, tips & techniques for bowhunting elk w/bow or rifle. Largest Hunting Seminar in Arizona! Also Antelope Seminar w/ Eli & Tony Grimmett teaching all aspects of antelope hunting. Both seminars going at the same time. Dinner, auctions, raffles, door prizes & many vendors! Free, doors open 5:00p.m. Location Calvary Comm. Church 12612 N. Black Canyon Highway, Phx. Host: Desert Christian Archers, PSE, Ruger. Info: www.desertchristianarchers.com

July 1 – Mountain lion General, Daylight, Daylong & Archery Seasons Open. Check Hunt Regs.

July 1 – Gunnison's Prairie Dog statewide & Tassel-Eared Tree Squirrel Season in Unit 31 open. Check your Hunt Regs.

July 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY!!! Happy Birthday America!!!

July 5 – THERE IS NO MONTHLY MEETING IN JULY!!! No AZGDF Commission Meeting either.

July 21 - This is the 3rd Thursday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx.) 7:00p.m.

July 30 – Arizona Trappers Assoc. Convention, Gila County Fairgrounds, Globe! Hunt, call, trap seminars, supplies. Free!

Aug. 1 – Fox, raccoon, bobcat, badger, ringtail & weasel seasons open. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 2 - This is the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, NEW LOCATION: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx.) 7:00p.m. This will be the Annual Bear Hunt/Calling Seminar. The speaker is not known yet.

Aug. 5 to Aug. 18 – Rifle Bear Season Opens in certain Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 5-6 AZGFD Commission Meeting (Hunt Orders) 3500 S Lake Mary Rd Flagstaff 928 774-5045

Aug. 6-7 – PVCI Annual Trail Clearing of the See Canyon Trail in Unit 4A. See map & more info. inside.

Aug. 13-14 PVCI George Knox Memorial Varmint Calling Boot Camp. Register: evridgeknives@sportsmancommunity.com

Aug. 18 - This is the 3rd Thursday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx.) 7:00p.m.

Aug. 19 to Sept. 8 – Both Rifle Bear & Archery Only Bear Seasons Open in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 19 – Archery-Only antelope, deer, tree squirrel & non-permit tag required javelina seasons open. Check Regs.

Aug. 26– APPLICATION DEADLINE for 2016 Sandhill Crane Fall Hunts. Aug. 26-27 – AZGFD Commission Meeting Pinetop.

Sept. 1 – Coatimundi, Blue Grouse, Chukar & Crow Seasons Open. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 2- Rifle & Muzzleloader Antelope Season open in most Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 6 - This the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, New Location: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx.) 7:00p.m. This will be a Novice-Oriented Meeting. Novices be sure to be here to get paired up with an Expert for the Novice Hunt.

Sept. 9 – Archery Elk Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 10-11 – PVCI NOVICE HUNT- The 1st Organized Hunt of the 2016-2017 Season. This hunt teams up Experts with Novices for a weekend of hands-on training. A Novice must be on the team to qualify.

Sept. 15 - This is the 3rd Thursday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting:

Sept. 30 – Quail Season Opens Statewide. Rifle Bear Season Opens in certain Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

*****NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: To stay a PVCI Member you MUST PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES YEARLY OR YOU WILL GET DROPPED!** The shipping label on this Newsletter provides your personal membership expiration month & year on the same line as your name in the form of MMM-YY (i.e., FEB-16 for February 2016 expiration). If Membership is NOT current it will be noted in RED letters on the shipping label. If you receive an E-Mail copy you will be notified by E-Mail that your membership is due. Please submit the proper payment to keep your

Membership current. **The fee to renew remains \$25 and should be made payable to PVCI. Send payment to PVCI c/o Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 87153, Phoenix, AZ. 85080-7153. For new members the fee is \$35 and the forms are available at the General Meeting. For questions regarding membership, contact James S. 602-820-5142**

YOUR RENEWAL FEES HELP THE CLUB!!!

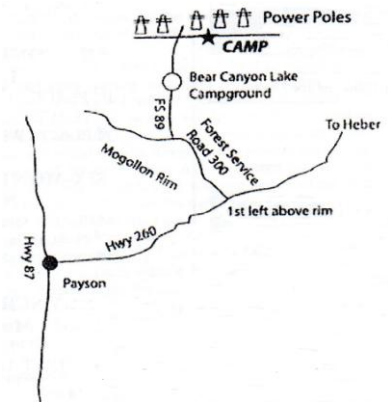
PVCI MEMBERSHIP COUNT: 152

PVCI WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS: Don C., Nick D., Raymond K., Al O., Omar R., James B., Adi B., Kirk Ricardo G. Jr.

UPCOMING EVENT: PPCI ANNUAL TRAIL CLEARING-See Canyon Trail – AUG. 6-7

PPCI members mark your calendars for the weekend of Aug. 6-7, 2016. This will be the dates for the Annual PPCI Trail Clearing. The actual work will take place on Saturday Aug. 6th 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 of FS Road 300 (where the See Canyon Trailhead begins) at 9:00a.m. on Saturday morning. Here we will pass out the tools and take a PPCI Trail Clearing group shot by the PPCI sign!

Directions: Fire restrictions permitting, we will be camping off of FS Road 89 approx. 1 mile north of the Bear Canyon Lake Camp turnoff and right before the BIG STEEL power poles that cross the dirt road there. If heading north on FS 89 you would take a right turn on the dirt road that is immediately before the power poles. We will be camped up in the trees on the right hand side as you travel east. (See the map) This is the same location that we have used for the last few years.



What is the PPCI Trail Clearing? It is the maintenance of a trail called the See Canyon Trail, which is a survival trail that runs from the top of the Rim near Promontory Butte down to Christopher Creek and is used by many hikers, hunters, horse riders, etc. **Our club has maintained this trail for over 40 years!** Each year we get many compliments from users

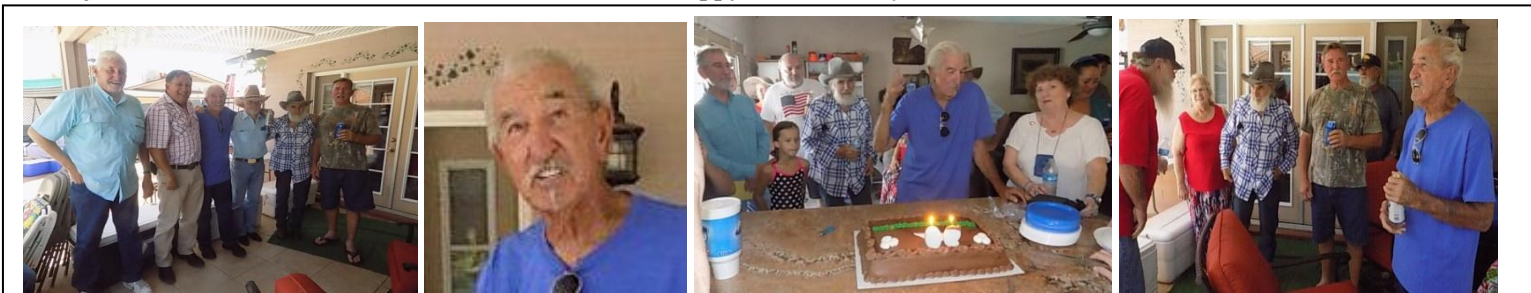
There will be a POTLUCK DINNER on Saturday evening! PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A DISH! This Dinner has turned out really nice the last few years and is most definitely worth sticking around for! We will also have a Potluck Breakfast on Saturday morning before the work begins. We could use some extra breakfast 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 Aug. be sure to take your raingear! Brief afternoon showers in the high country are common!

This is a family affair so do bring them. Friends are also invited. Don't forget the POTLUCK DINNER items! Hope to see you on the trailhead. Questions call Gary A.M. (623) 334-4317

Attention: Dutch Oven Cook-Off Competitions Dessert & Main Course Dishes, Bring your favorite dish for the cook-off.

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY LEW EARLY!!!

On July 3rd I attended the Surprise Birthday Party of a PPCI member that is a very important person in my life. This person quite possibly saved me from a life of normal living. His name is Lew Early! I will tell more about how he changed me later. This was Lew's **90th Birthday Party!** Now living 90 years **IS LIVING A LONG TIME** and **IS quite the Accomplishment!** Lew still drives, fishes and he even says he still hunts. His Secret to living long is staying active, doing things that you like to do, enjoying life and having one margarita at the end of the day. Besides relatives and family members, Lew's Party was also attended by many of the Old Time Varmint Callers from back in the Old Days (1960's, 1970's) plus me (1985) of course. Connie Early, Lew's wife was able to contact quite a few of the Old Callers and many made an appearance. People like John Galloway, Bob Bobince, Norm Rhinehart, Ron Moffit, Dick Fite, were just a few of the many names present. There were many more, I just didn't know, catch or remember everyone's name. Many had not seen each other in decades. There were LOTS of stories, LOTS of laughing and LOTS of Good People, Food & Drink. I did manage to capture a few pictures however in this limited space I can hardly do the Party justice. As mentioned there were also many of Lew's daughters & sons and their families present, all of them Good People also! I wondered how they would do Lew's cake. I mean 90 candles can create a LOT of heat, right? There was no need to fear though as a simple 9 and 0 put together did the trick and stopped any possible water damage that might have happen from inside sprinklers. (Smile) It was a GOOD TIME! Okay how did Lew quite possibly change me from living a normal life? Well Lew was the 1st PPCI member to tell me about the Club and where the Meetings were held. This happen at a PPCI varmint calling booth that he was running during an Outdoor show at Sanderson Ford one Sunday in 1985. After that 1st Club Meeting (you bet I joined) I went from a normal rabbit/quail and sometime deer hunter to a varmint and now other wildlife caller & Life just hasn't been the same since. Thanks Lew and Happy 90th Birthday!!!



THE “GEORGE KNOX MEMORIAL” VARMINT CALLING BOOT CAMP

Aug. 13-14, 2016

The Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. (PVCi) is planning its own Varmint Calling Boot Camp in conjunction with AZGFD & the AZ. Elk Society on August 13-14, 2016. 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. Friday is really just for camp set-up & a late meal. On Saturday (13th) members of PVCi will give seminars related to predator-calling covering a variety of topics & answering your questions. The AZGFD may also say a few words. Then sometime after lunch 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. The AZ. Elk Society 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, this Camp is for you. More info at www.pvci.org

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

WHEN: August 13-4, 016. **Please Pre-Register:** info: Ray Evridge at evridgeknives@sportsmancommunity.com

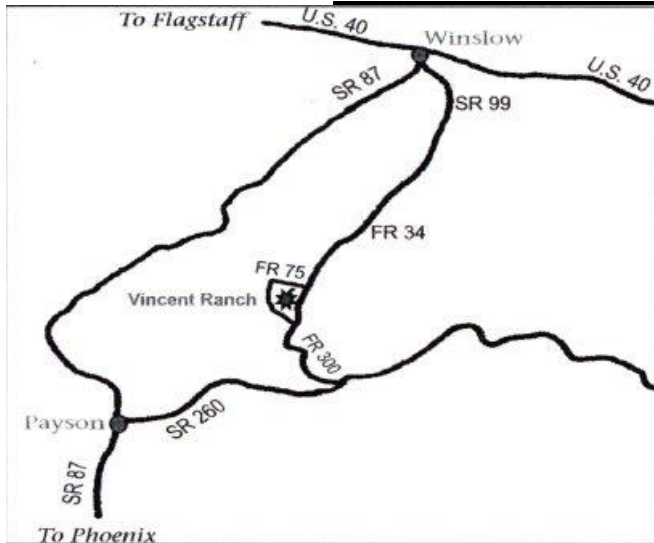
WHERE: The Boot Camp campsite will be at Vincent Ranch (See map & directions below)

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 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 & evening & Sunday morning.

***** REGISTRATION:** Please do register so that we can have some sort of idea of how many to expect. To register & find more information contact info: Ray Evridge at evridgeknives@sportsmancommunity.com so they have an idea on the food to bring. Find more information also at www.pvci.org

MAP & DIRECTIONS TO VINCENT RANCH



Vincent Ranch Directions: 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.

HUNTING PICS

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:
Mike & Tricia Y.
Married 23 years –Aug. 28



Thanks John T for all your support of The PVCi Club's Activities over the many years. You have always been the first to donate your time and materials in support of any Fund Raiser!

Thanks Again! You are Truly One of a Kind!

ARIZONA BLACK BEAR HUNTING/CALLING (Some Strategies To Consider) by Eddie M.

The next time you see the shoulder, full or rug mount of a bear, know that in most cases, it didn't come easy. Arizona is blessed with a decent bear population & with a little strategy, planning, preparedness, know-how & skill it is really possible that you could put the tag on one here. Pre-season scouting is very important though. So much so that I say one of the best ways to not get a bear is just show up on opening day and start hunting.

When serious I usually begin my scouting in July. My favorite areas to hunt are Wilderness areas. Here the rules are you can walk in or ride a horse/mule **ONLY**. No motorized vehicles or bicycles are allowed. Hunt Units w/Wilderness areas often have higher bear numbers & you usually have the country to yourself for a good reason. This Wilderness hunting with you miles from civilization & living out of your backpack or saddlebags with often no cell service is simply NOT for everyone. Be Warned: Mother Nature is very unforgiving & before going you'd best know how to take care of yourself in the Outdoors in all types of situations or be with someone who does before trying this way is considered. The competition outside of the Wilderness areas, where you can still come back to your vehicle & camp is how most people hunt however the hunt pressure can be really heavy in these areas with multiple hunters often after the same bear.

My scouting begins at home going over topo maps. One of the best ways to observe wild bears in Arizona is to glass them when they drop down to eat the prickly pear fruits in the high desert. This usually happens around mid August through mid September. The bears love these pears & will gorge on them with gusto. I have held up stomachs that weighed a full 30 lbs! On the topo maps I'm looking for elevations from 3,200 to 4,800 feet with 4,500 to 4,800 really being ideal. Anything lower seems to be too hot unless the bear is desperate. Anything higher & the brush is too thick for effective glassing/calling. How a bear responds to your calling is better known when it's seen. I'm also looking for South & East facing grassy slopes where the cactus grows better. A bear must also have shade & needs to be able to walk up into higher brush or down into a deep cut or canyon where there are big trees or shady cover to rest. Water is another must have. Waterholes esp. close to canyons, rivers, creeks, **springs & seeps** should all be noted. How close/far are they from the elevations you're looking at? Then before the season opens, go in & take a look at the place. Make sure the place is still there & not ashes! Then look to see how the (food supply) fruit is doing. With pears the bears don't eat the pads, they eat the fruits & the better the crop of fruits, the more apt you are to find a place that'll hold bears & bring them back year after year. Look for sign, especially old scat. Go higher & check for **beds, tracks & scat**, check the water sources. Once good areas are found, glass the areas from a distance & try to stay out of them upon returning. Try to find some bears BEFORE the season opens. This'll put you Way ahead of the game.

Now bears also live in the Manzanita (May-June-July-Aug-Sept) & eat the berries that this plant produces. These areas are thick, thick, thick though which is why the bears like it here. I know of at least one bear hunter that glasses this Manzanita & finds bears. The shots are often long & getting to the critter & getting it out after the shot is a LOT of work. We also had one bear hunter (Keith I.) talk to us one year. He also hunted the Manzanita by breaking his way into the stuff for a long ways. Then he'd sit & wait a couple hours letting things settle before he started calling right in the middle of this thick stuff. He only used a bow & had arrowed a few bears and a few mountain lions doing this!

Acorns cannot be ignored. In fact when there's a really good acorn crop not as many bears will drop down for the prickly pear fruits & when the acorn crop is poor you'll often see more bears in the pears. The scrub oak is 1st on the table (July-Aug-Sept) & the bears will even eat the green ones. Then later (Late Oct-Nov) the big oak trees in the woods have their acorns. Elk, deer, bear, turkey, squirrels, almost everything eats acorns. When in the woods, try dropping over the edge on the shady side of a long ridge filled w/oaks. Go 100 yds. down or more & try the fawn or rabbit distress.

During the November & December Coues season in Coues country I've observed bears under the dark blue berry juniper trees, just feeding & resting all day in areas where glassing was possible. I can imagine they are also in the thick stuff where you can't glass. Find a vantage point & try calling where there are a LOT of junipers w/those blue berries.

When predator calling for bears Do Be LOUD! Bears live in BIG COUNTRY & won't respond if they can't hear you. I've had more luck with the fawn distress however the late Reed Petersen used a jackrabbit call & called in over 100 bears. Don't pause more than 30 seconds was his advice. Be sure you have a good backstop behind you so that you don't get mauled & have a plan to get the meat & hide out. By law, you have 48 hours to report a kill. 1800970BEAR is the phone.



ARIZONA TRAPPERS CONVENTION – July 30, 2016

The Arizona Trapper Association (ATA) will be having their Annual Convention on July 30, 2016 at **the Gila County Fairgrounds near Globe, AZ**. This Great Annual Event brings together many trappers/predator callers & other outdoors people from all over Arizona & beyond. There are demos on trapping & predator hunting/calling, fur prep tips plus Free to enter Contests like the trap setting, ladies frying pan toss, men's musket throw & a fun youth & adult pie-eating. Contest where you can win money for 1st Place! There's also trapping, hunting, calling & other supplies for sale (including cage traps), fur pelts, crafts, etc. plus a Silent Auction, a Gun Raffle, great food & much more! If you would like to set up and sell or advertize your wares for FREE contact convention chair Scott Trowbridge. His number is 928-349-0405. Parking & Entry into the Convention & overnight camping are FREE though there may be a small charge for an electrical RV hook up. **This Convention is the "Survival Event of the Year" for the ATA as this is their Main Fundraiser.** Consider donating some items for their Auction. This is one Event that I DO NOT LIKE TO MISS! By the way the current **Miss Rodeo AZ** usually helps the Trappers sell Raffle Tickets, participates in some Events & passes out the money to the Event Winners. Come on out & help support the Arizona Trappers Association (ATA)!

TRAIL CAMERA PICTURES by Brent F.

Well I'm probably the last person in the hunting world to own a Trail camera. The allure has been there but I just didn't embrace the technology. These days every camera manufacturer & binocular maker has a complete line to choose from. A good friend of mine is quite serious about his Coues Deer hunting so much so that he sets up a series of Trail Cameras in different areas during the summer to "scout" for deer & lion. I was quite impressed with what he was able to accomplish. After the cameras sat all summer we waded through the pictures. Interesting results. One of the cameras was doing well



until a ground squirrel chewed through the Para cord holding it up. We did get a good picture of him though. Looks like it is time for me to get on the bandwagon & get a Trail Cam! Well I got a nice one made by Bushnell for Christmas from my wife Cindi. Once I read all the instructions I went to the Internet & did some searches on Tricks & Tips for Trail Cams. Believe me there's quite a bit out there. Apparently people are sick & tired of having there cameras stolen. An entire secondary market has popped up on how to protect these expensive high tech gadgets from would be thieves. I decided

to make my own metal box to contain the camera. Cindi bought me a cable made specifically for the camera with a lock attached so I incorporated it into the design. It took me all day but I came up with something I was quite proud of. If they want the camera they better bring a hefty set of bolt cutters & a ladder to get it out of the tree.

There is no shortage of critters in my neighborhood. When the weather is nice we sleep with the windows open and the coyotes wake us up when they howl in the early morning hours. It's not unusual to spot them in the valley below the house either. There is a herd of deer in the area too and they come to the only water source around at the bottom of the hill. It's time to set up this camera & get the "real picture." I decided to put it halfway up a hill in a Palo Verde tree. Just below the camera and out in front I put a javelina skull from my 2016 archery season. After a couple of weeks I retrieved the camera and took a look at the contents. Well I got pictures of me setting up the camera and nothing else. The strange was that the skull was gone! I guess that is part of the learning curve or setting these cameras up. My 2nd set up was in April. I decided to pick a spot with water. Luckily there is a retention spot after it rains and the water stays in a low spot that create a pond. I carefully trimmed a thick bush and locked the camera in place. The water in this little desert creek only runs when we have a big rain and the small pond evaporates in about 2 weeks. Sounds like a good set up to me! I walked around the pond knowing the camera should be taking my picture as a test. It worked will so I set it up and walked away. Two weeks later the camera had 9000 pictures on it! Well another lesson I learned was to secure the camera to a sturdy tree or rock. The bush I locked it to was susceptible to wind and moved quite a bit when he breeze blew hard enough. Most of the photos had to be deleted BUT some were very interesting. To say I got a lot of bird pictures would be an underestimation. The camera is so sensitive I even got pictures of lizards moving on rocks 20 feet away! The night pictures were fun. You can see the glow of the animal's eyes in the picture before you can make out the body in later pictures. I sorted through the good pictures and here are two I really liked. Something came in every night. I have photos of: Vultures, ravens, quail, lizards, Mule Deer, Javelina, coyotes, bobcat, domestic dogs, children, a photographer, a Motorcross rider. Anyone else out there having fun with a trail camera? Send Eddie/Scott some pictures at coyotecaller@cox.net and let's see what everyone is finding this summer.




***To contribute stories, pictures, (pdf.please) etc. to this Newsletter send items to: coyotecaller@cox.net**

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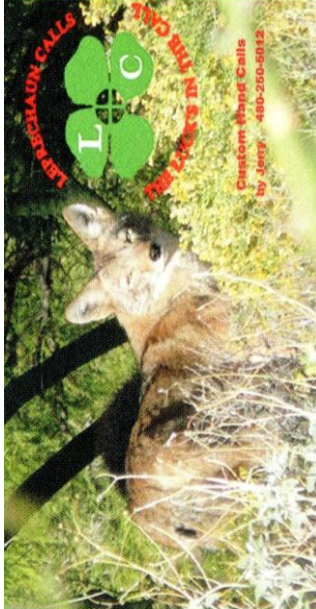
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