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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

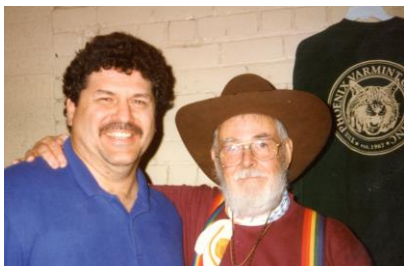
Well it is already November and the hunting season is now in full swing in the big game, small game, waterfowl and predator calling departments. For predators the fur pelts should be prime and ready for skinning. Hopefully whether you are new to predator calling or are more experienced, you have had a chance to get out and Go Calling and had the experience and thrill of calling something in! The Club is doing well and striving to get donations for the upcoming Phoenix Varmint Callers Christmas Party on Dec. 6th at our regular Meeting Place at 3720 W. Greenway Road. There was a very LATE start in this "asking for donation"s stage & this year more than any other **WE ARE REALLY GOING TO NEED DONATIONS FROM YOU THE MEMBERSHIP!** Now don't just read this and do nothing. I'm asking EACH OF YOU as you read this to really think and come up with some item(s) that you can donate. **Then call Event Organizer Ruth S. at (602)524-3586 and let her know. Don't wait to the last minute, do it NOW please!** We are working on the doors opening at 6:30p.m. Read more about the PVC I Christmas Party below and inside. Also remember the upcoming 6-Month Hunt Deadline. On a sadder note Famous Author, Hunter, Father & Husband Gerry Blair recently passed away at his home in Lake Havasu City, AZ. Gerry with his own brand of humor & wit was a friend of the Phoenix Varmint Callers and will be sorely missed by those who knew him. This includes the Sports-Outdoors writing world.

THINGS TO KNOW:

****The DEADLINE TO ENTER THE 2016-2017 6-MONTH HUNT** is the end of this Nov. Monthly 2016 Meeting. One or two man teams only in Expert & Novice Class. Cost \$20 per person. The PVC I 6-Month Hunt is a friendly Competition Hunt that begins at the October Monthly Meeting & ends at the April Monthly Meeting.

****MONTHLY MEETING NOTICE:** You are "Strongly Discouraged" from bringing ANY Food/Drink to the Monthly & Board Meetings. Use the Snack Bar w/Food & Drink inside instead. The spending we do here reduces our Monthly Bill.

***The PVC I Christmas Party is scheduled for Dec. 6th, 2016** at the regular Monthly Meeting location; 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx. the Party taking the place of the Meeting. Members, their families, friends and ANYONE ELSE that wants too are invited to attend. As usual the Entry Fee will be at least one can of food or water per person for the Food Drive. This will be a Potluck so if you can please bring a dish or dessert. More information inside.



Past PVC I President Big Gary Mc with Gerry Blair in 1996. Rest in Peace Gerry.



PVC I New Member Initiation



Donnie V. w/Coyote!

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AUTHOR/PREDATOR CALLER/TURKEY HUNTER /HUSBAND & FATHER GERRY BLAIR PASSES AWAY

by Eddie M.

It is with great sadness that I tell you about the passing of Gerry Blair. Gerry passed away on September 18, 2016 at his home in Lake Havasu City, AZ. He was 86 years young!

After a tour in the Navy, Gerry became a member of the Phoenix Police Dept. and held several different jobs. He married his 1st wife Ann Coveny in 1952. In his book called Predator Calling with Gerry Blair, Gerry dedicated the book to a lady who committed her love to a hunter, his wife and best friend of 42 years Ann Elizabeth Blair. She passed from a cruel relentless illness on June 24, 1994. She lives within his heart he said. He also dedicated the book to his sons Michael Taun & Gerry Jr.

Gerry was an expert on the police pistol team. He joined the AZ. Highway Patrol and was stationed with his family in various parts of the state. He eventually rose to the position of Zone Commander of Northern Arizona and was stationed in Flagstaff here he built a family home.

Gerry grew up in the outdoors and was experienced in trapping and hunting. He provided much wild game for the family table. These outdoor activities were a lifetime interest and pastime and after retiring from the Highway Patrol, he had more time to devote to those pursuits. Gerry enjoyed photography and writing about his activities. Gerry won national acclaim for the largest elk taken in Arizona in 1990, a bull from unit 9 that scored 386.4! He wrote and helped spread knowledge about the proper use of guns, the differences and useful varieties of predator & turkey calling equipment and many other aspects of successful hunting. He became very well known for his interesting books such as Turkey Hunting with Gerry Blair, Fur Trapping & Predator Hunters Companion to name a few along with many magazine articles for Trapper & Predator Caller, Turkey & Turkey Hunting Magazine of which I believe he was an Editor for at one time and many, many others. I remember hearing a Turkey Hunting Seminar from him once and one of his favorite places was somewhere on the Navajo Reservation that overlooked several ridges and where you could hear multiple gobblers in the morning. Gerry's special skill in predator calling was the subject of his last book named Predator Calling with Gerry Blair.

It was through his hobby of rock hounding that he met his second wife Beverly in 2003. Both enjoyed lapidary & silver work and they enjoyed visiting the many turquoise mines in Nevada. They chose a home in Lake Havasu City, half way between Gerry's family home in Flagstaff and Beverly's in San Diego, where they lived up to the present.

Gerry was one of the judges at the Phoenix Varmint Callers Varmint Calling Championship in 1996 at Fort Tut Hill, AZ. in Flagstaff. That year Brad C. took 1st Place, Dick S. took 2nd Place and yours truly Eddie M. took 3rd Place. I can remember him telling me back then that the doctors were trying to tell him that he had a certain ailment however he wasn't having any of it. He has also been to several Club Meetings over the years usually in the company of Rich & Tyler H.

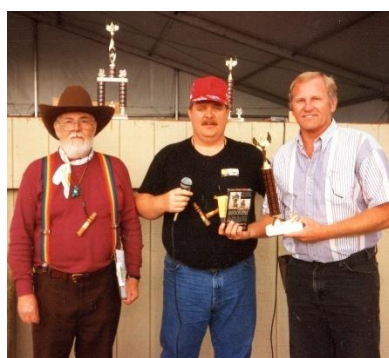
Gerry is survived by his second wife Beverly, son Gerry Jr., granddaughter Stephanie, grandsons Sean & Geoffrey and three great grand-children George, Lilly & Andrew.

Gerry will be remembered for his humor, his articulate sharing of information and for his many books and articles which will be read and enjoyed by generations of others with similar interest. He will be sorely missed by the many people he inspired and who knew him as the witty, interesting, enthusiastic and knowledgeable person he always was. Memories and condolences can be sent to family online at www.novelowensortuary.com

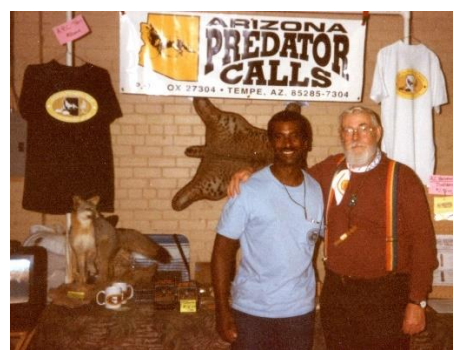
Below are pictures of Gerry at Fort Tut Hill, AZ. back in 1996 where he was one of the judges. Rest in peace Gerry Blair. P.S. Some of the above text was from the Arizona Predator Callers October 2016 Newsletter.



Gerry Blair with 1st Place Caller Brad C & Brad's daughter.



Gerry Blair w/announcer Walt H. & 2nd Place Caller Dick S. on right



Gerry Blair w Eddie M. 3rd Place Caller that year.

TWO BEARS IN TWO DAYS!! By Jessica S.

**You read in the last Newsletter where Will H. called in a bear that Jessica S. killed in Unit 6B that there was more to the story. Well as they say, here is the rest of the story:

Coming off a successful bear hunt in 6B a week prior, Will and I decided to focus our attention on scouting 6A for our upcoming October deer hunt. We found a spot last year that held a few nice bucks and a healthy population of does. So naturally it was one of the first spots we checked but something was different....no deer. As we drove down the road I began to notice torn stumps and shredded logs. Upon closer inspection we determined it to be older bear sign but could this be why the deer were gone? After checking a nearby waterhole and finding fresher sign, I was convinced Mr. Bear wasn't quite gone yet. Will (as always) needed more proof and found it in the forms of fresh tracks around a mud puddle.

After tagging my bear, I was super pumped and wanted to find him one too. He seemed to brush off the idea. "I'm just happy you got one," he said but after seeing those fresh tracks in the mud, the REAL Will H. emerged, "I'm taking off Friday and we are going in after that bear!"

Opening morning August 19th and Will is taking me to the spot he wants to call. He did more recon on the area and wanted me to see all the fresh sign. I saw huge boulders rolled and stumps pulled to shreds. I began to think this bear is a lot bigger than mine. We came to a rocky outcropping and he picked a spot for me to sit, then moved a ways off to my left and settled in to call. I looked out towards the ledge and movement caught my eye, where they playing tricks on me? About 100 yards down, the top half of an oak tree whipped violently back & forth. Due to the drop, the lower half of the tree was not visible. But I remembered Will's stories of seeing bears shaking trees to get bugs, berries and nuts. O-M-G! I frantically motioned to Will and began my best attempt at Charades, the phrase being "bear shaking tree!" Will looked somewhat confused by my arm waving, clawing and silent mouthing of B-E-A-R. I usually don't get over excited and hoped my unusual behavior and wild gestures on the stand would draw his alarm. But in typical Will fashion, he shrugged and started calling away. Oh boy here we go, I thought. Did he understand me?



In a matter of seconds, the tree stopped shaking and this huge bear emerged running straight to the call! There was no doubt this was a boar and he was a 'biggin'! Will stopped calling and raised his rifle. The bear stopped in his tracks. BOOM! The report of the 45/70 echoed through the woods and to my amazement, the bear still stood glaring at Will. Did he miss? The sound of the reloading lever action caused the bear to spin and take the low ground back towards the ledge where it came. BOOM! A second shot rang out but from what I could see; the bear gave no indication of being hit. Will couldn't believe how quickly it had come in. "I was trying to tell you bear shaking tree," I said. "I thought you were telling me an elk was racking at a tree or a squirrel was jumping around or something," Will retorted.

He was convinced he had hit it. I was reluctant to agree. This made for some tense conversation and five hours of tracking and searching in every direction. We found no blood or the typical fumbling of a wounded animal. However, we did find a lot more sign and dens. I began to suspect that there may be another bear in the area & it would be in our best interest to give it a few days and try it again. Will was understandably upset and experiencing the 5 phases of missing: Denial, Anger, Disbelief, Second Guessing & Depression. I did my best to cheer him up & silently prayed for a positive turn of events.

Exhausted and disappointed we decide to make our way back when suddenly Will softly exclaimed "there – a bear!" This was Will's redemption and after a brief stalk and one clean shot he would be tagging his bear, which turned out to be a 10+ year old sow. "Well this is a first for me," he said. "What do you mean?" I replied. "Two bears in two days of hunting." I contemplated the odds & realized the rarity of the moment. This hunt was full of emotion, what-ifs and could haves but in the end we worked as a team and accomplished our goal of tagging out the 2016 bear season. There were some valuable lessons learned too – like I need to work on my sign language skills! Will learned that even the best hunters have bad days and that sometimes you have to go through the lows to reach the highs. Never give up the hunt!



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

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 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 Tuesday 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. 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!

AN EDDIE TURKEY HUNT by Rod B.

During the last several PVCI Christmas Party/Dinners, Eddie M. has offered to help a member on a New Mexico turkey hunt via an Auction. The only catch is you have to be the winning bidder of this Auction for a donation to the Club. This ended up being the best \$60.00 ever spent on a hunting trip. Eddie was very helpful during this hunt especially considering my physical limitations that I will get into later. We left Thursday late in the afternoon thanks to me needing to wait for a new replacement hearing aid at Costco. We drove late into the evening stopping about a half dozen times because of elk crossing the road. I tried to take pictures but they didn't come out. We arrived about 1:00A.M. in the early morning on opening day Friday April the 15th.

On Sunday the 17th, former PVCI member and friend of Eddie, Ivan, bagged a bearded hen. We took a ton of pictures and it certainly helped to pump Eddie and me up. We went into the area near where Ivan bagged his turkey but the gobblers wouldn't come in. After a couple of days, we drove about 35 miles and moved camp to another spot. (Eddie did manage to call and miss a gobbler before the move.)

After being in this spot for a couple of days, Eddie was calling and a gobbler came within range of my position. The problem was that I had to make a quick shot while the bird was in the open and I missed! This miss was really unfortunate because it was a BIG bird! On Thursday, Eddie was calling again and we had gobblers on two sides of us, one to the front and one to our rear. I was sitting there when all of a sudden I hear Eddie's shotgun report. A few seconds later, I had a gobbler walking quickly but not running on my left side about 40 yards. I shot and it stopped and went down! We were really hyped up with both of us getting gobblers and Eddie getting his 2nd double! We (really it was Rod) were so loud that Ivan could hear us on a nearby ridge. "Ivan was thinking okay you celebrated, now Shut Up!" There are still gobblers calling out here.



The next day we went back because you are allowed to harvest 2 gobblers in New Mexico and we ended up with gobblers in front of us and to the rear of us. While Eddie was calling, one slipped behind us that Eddie saw but I didn't. We decided to move and after walking a surprisingly short distance we both saw a gobbler's tail all fanned out above a downed log. We set up and Eddie

started calling. He called him in closer (all fanned out) where we could get a clear shot and the bird hesitated. I waited to see if it would come in any closer but he didn't so I took the shot. After the shot the bird went immediately into after death spasms. Eddie had a bush in his way so he couldn't shoot, but would have taken the shot had the gobbler moved to either side. Again we were both hyped up about getting another bird!



One way you hunt turkeys is you make hen sounds, usually a yelp and then listen for a gobbler to respond. You need to be able to hear the response from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away. You then walk a little closer and repeat the hen yelp and listen. Once the gobbler is close you need to set-up before he sees you. The one thing that really helps to be a good turkey hunter is



good hearing. I didn't know this until I went on this hunt. Despite using hear aids and Walker Game Earmuffs, I couldn't hear a gobbler unless he was within 100-150 yards. I also had a hard time picking up on the direction of the sounds. I hope that every one of you will take the time to protect your ears. I wish I did when I was young because I really enjoyed this hunt; but I now realize that I cannot be a good turkey hunter hunting alone. So protect your hearing and bid higher at the next Christmas auction on Eddie's turkey hunt because you will be bidding against me.



P.S. Eddie be auctioning off assisting you another Turkey Hunt at the PVCI Christmas Party on Dec. 6th. You either have to go to New Mexico with Eddie or have the same hunt unit in Arizona as he does as he likes his turkey hunting & won't allow you to mess him up. Eddie is NOT a guide so no tips or anything like that. He does this for the Fun of it and to help the Club make money. He will not only try to help you kill gobblers but will also try to help you become a turkey hunter. **They killed 4 out of 6 possible gobblers in New Mexico in 2015.** There were 2 missed birds. The 1st year that He offered this hunt it went for \$180!

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 or lately 5 for \$20 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 November will be a Ruger 10/22 take-down rifle

The Gun for December (Christmas Party) will be an AR.15 flat top w/ collapsible stock. A nice gift for someone!

Somebody is going to WIN!!! Good Luck to you!!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Oct. 28 - Rifle Bear Season Opens in Hunt Units 4A, 5A, 27, 29 & 30A. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 1 - **This is the 1st Tuesday.** (PVCI Monthly Meeting, NEW LOCATION: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx.) 7:00p.m.

Nov. 1 – Trapping Season Opens statewide. No leg-hold traps allowed on public land. Cage Traps okay. Check Regs.

Nov. 4 -Dec. 31- Various Deer & Elk Seasons open & close statewide. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 5-6 – PVCI MONTHLY HUNT!!!

Nov. 6 – Blue Grouse Season closes. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 17 - **This is the 3rd Thursday.** PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx. 7:00p.m.

Nov. 18 – Junior Javelina Season opens in many Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 18 – Dec. 14 –Various Sandhill Crane Seasons open & close. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 25 – Late Dove Season opens statewide. Check your Hunt Regs. Junior Javelina Season closes.

Dec. 2-3 – Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meeting in Phoenix. (Hunt Orders)

Dec. 1 – **Daylong Shooting Hours for coyotes open in many Hunt Units.** Bighorn Sheep Season opens. Check Hunt Regs.

Dec. 2 – Mearns Quail Season opens statewide, limit 8 Mearns. Check your Hunt Regs.

Dec. 6 – **PVCI Annual Christmas Party/Potluck/ Fundraiser – Doors open at 6:30p.m.**

Dec. 14 – Successful Spring 2017 Hunt Permits should be mailed out by now.

Dec. 15 - **This is the 3rd Thursday.** PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx. 7:00p.m.

Dec. 25 – **Merry Christmas to ALL! Happy Birthday Jesus!!!**

Dec. 31 – All Bear & Crow Seasons & some Squirrel Seasons end. Check your Hunt Regs.

Jan. 1 – Happy New Year! Year 2017! Archery Deer & Javelina Seasons open many Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Jan. 3 - **This is the 1st Tuesday.** (PVCI Monthly Meeting, NEW LOCATION: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx.) 7:00p.m.

Jan. 8 - Late Dove Season closes statewide. Check your Hunt Regs.

Jan. 14 – (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. 13-14 – Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meeting in Phoenix. (Hunt Orders)

Jan. 15 – Mountain Zone Duck, Scaup & Goose Season closes.

Jan. 19 - **This is the 3rd Thursday.** PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: 3720 W. Greenway Rd., Phx. 7:00p.m.

Jan. 29 – Desert Zone Duck, Scaup & Goose Season closes.

*****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-12 for February 2015 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 the Membership Chairman James S. 602-820-5142. YOUR RENEWAL FEES HELP THE CLUB!!!** PVCI MEMBERSHIP COUNT: 143 WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Steve U, Ayde M., & Nathan S.

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. Think \$500.00 Extra could mean Steaks at our next years Barbecue!!



UPCOMING EVENTS: PPCI ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY/POTLUCK/AUCTION – Dec. 6, 2016

December 6th - PPCI ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY/POTLUCK/ FUND RAISER: The PPCI 2016 Annual Christmas Party will take place on Dec. 6th this Party taking the place of the December Monthly Meeting. As in years past the entry fee will be at least one can of food or bottle of water/liquid per person. Food & liquid donations are donated to the Desert Mission Food Bank in Phx, AZ. for the Dave Kardos Food Drive in honor of the late Dave K. who used to run this Food Drive. Vice President Gary A.M. and wife Ginger have taken over since and done a really fine job! The past few years the amount of food & water donated by PPCI has just been outstanding!

The Christmas Party is one of our Main Fundraisers and **DONATIONS OF YOUR GOODS & SERVICES BY YOU THE CLUB MEMBER WILL BE ESPECIALLY NEEDED THIS YEAR DUE TO THE LATE/SHORT NOTICE OF THOSE THAT STEPPED UP & VOLUNTEERED TO RUN THE EVENT.** About anything in good, working order will do. Also donations of services, hunts, etc. will be greatly appreciated! We of course also ask for outside donations however there was a really LATE Start this year. PPCI member Ruth S. is in charge. Call Ruth at **(602)524-3586 to donate ANYTHING!** These donations are then used to raise money to help in the Club's operating expenses. Besides Good Food expect a (Tentative) Live Auction, Silent Auction, Bucket Raffle, Card Games, etc. The Member of the Year & President's Award may also be given out. Do bring the family and/or friends. By the way the firearm for the PPCI Gun Raffle will be an AR-15! Raffle Tickets are \$5 each with No Limit on how many you can buy. Someone will win that night making for a nice Christmas gift! You Must be able to pass a background check though.

MULTI-CLUB HUNT – (Tentative Date: JAN. 14, 2017)

*****Jan. 14 – 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 Xtreme Predator Callers (XPC) won the rights the last few years & the Arizona Predator Callers (APC) are Always 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 could really use some more participation!** Even with the numbers of us that do show, we come oh SO CLOSE sometimes! **IF MORE MEMBERS WOULD JUST GET OUT and HUNT IN MORE NUMBERS, WE REALLY COULD WIN THIS HUNT EVERY SINGLE TIME!!!** **PPCI members if you hunt no other hunts this year, PLEASE HUNT THIS ONE!!!** It is only a 1-Day Hunt. PPCI members are allowed to use electronics on this one day. **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 (tentative date) Jan 14, 2017 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 again **WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP! We can win the Trophy (XPC currently has it) back! THANKS in advance! We will give you more information (like where the Check-in location will be w/map) as we get it.**

PVCI FUR PROGRAM by Eddie M.

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. Now the average new member is probably asking what happens if I harvest 10 coyotes & 5 fox this season. What am I going to do with all of these skins? If you are not going to keep them for yourself then one solution is to donate them to the PVCI Fur Program. This Program encourages you to skin & save your pelts. Participation is easy. Simply skin & save all the pelts that you harvest from late October until Fur Prep Day, which will probably be in Feb. or March, the PVCI Board making the determination. After skinning, save your pelts by placing them in a one or two gallon Ziploc **freezer-type bag (fur side out)** & freezing them, then either store & keep them in your freezer. On a certain designated day in the future (probably in Feb. or March) we will have what is called Fur Prep Day. Fur Prep Day is a day that is picked where



we go through the process of getting the collected frozen pelts that we have accumulated, ready for sale or tan. What happens is that someone with a good backyard, volunteers his or her house as the Meeting Place. Then on the designated day members show up at this house with the pelts that we have been saving. We usually take the pelts out to thaw the night before. Then we go through the process, washing, fleshing, sewing up the holes and stretching the pelts. Make no mistake this is work. The more members that show to help, the faster the work gets done. This is an excellent time to learn how to prepare a pelt as we have hands-on instruction going through the necessary steps all day. These fur pelts when done are a valuable resource & PVCI encourages you to utilize this resource & save & learn how to put up your own fur.

Since the fur market is so up & down we tend to make more money by sending out the donated pelts to the Tannery. When they come back, we sell the pelts to the Membership & to the public at some of the various shows we go too. Money from the pelts donated to the Club go into the Club's General Fund to help pay for the Club's operating expenses such as rent, insurance, trophies, etc. Keep an eye out in the Newsletter about when this Fur prep Day will be scheduled.

HOW TO CASE SKIN A COYOTE

The #1 complaint we have on Fur Prep Day is that we can't use some of the furs because they're skinned wrong. 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: knife, tail stripper, rope, rubber gloves, plastic bags, flea & tick spray or powder. **How to case-skin:**

- 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 when making the cut. Skin out hind legs.
- 4) Use a tail stripper and strip the tail. Then slit the underside of the tail the full length. Hang the critter, preferably by one hind leg (makes 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 coyote, fox, bobcat, raccoon, beaver actually getting skinned check out the DVD Fur Handling by Danny Sullivan. These days there are probably many U-Tube versions that can also be watched.

Three Generations of Coyote Hunters

By Mark S.

This time was different as I was out with my Dad, Brother, and his oldest son. It was Hunter's very first hunt and the pressure was on to get some critters in!

As we left the house to head to our spot Hunter was eager to see what we get so excited about when we go calling. The first three stands of the morning were blanks and we weren't seeing any sign of any predators in the area. We had tried a new road and it just wasn't panning out.

We made the decision to backtrack and get into familiar territory...so familiar in fact that we went and did our next stand exactly where we killed a Male Coyote the weekend prior. The area was loaded with sign and I knew there were more in there than just the one.

As we hiked into the area I let my Dad and brother know where I figured they would come in from and I told them I would be 50 yards upwind so that the Coyote would be right in their lap as it circled downwind. We all got situated and I started off with some Jackrabbit wails on the EW open reed. A few minutes into the sequence a lone coyote started to howl & bark. Since we just killed a male here last week I figured howling back would make her think that her mate was back. I did a short burst of yips & howls and then laid into the Jackrabbit once again, then I went silent and played the waiting game.

Only about a minute later I hear my Dad's Savage .223 sound off. No follow-up shot. Did he hit it? Did he miss as it was running through and he didn't get a follow-up? I immediately made some Coyote distress sounds and once again got on the Jackrabbit. After a few more minutes I called off the stand and went to investigate. He drilled a large female Coyote right through the heart at 40 yards! I called in my Dad's first coyote and he put it down with perfect bullet placement.

As we got back to the truck after this stand it was nearly 11am and we decided that we should try for some fox that we knew were in a certain area as we've had good luck calling them later in the morning. We made it to the parking spot, grabbed our gear and walked about a hundred yards down onto the edge of the thick Junipers right before a meadow.

The wind was blowing directly back towards the truck and I setup Hunter and Nathan looking downwind in hopes of getting a playful fox in front of the little guy. My Dad watched the crosswind area to our East and I called towards the thick Junipers crosswind to our West. I was calling more frequently with the EW bite down call as Fox tend to come in quick to the frantic nonstop calling. Five minutes into the stand I catch a white object through a really big Juniper just to my right. Right as I was getting ready to write it off as a stump that I must've not noticed before it moved quickly in a line towards my brother and his son. I mouth squeaked in order to hopefully alert him.

Ten more minutes go by and there was never a shot! I called off the stand but was slightly certain the animal was somewhere close-by as I didn't see it retreat through where I saw it the first time. I quietly made it over to my brother and let him know that something had headed his way. He was surprised as he didn't see a thing. We peeked around a bush and just as I was turning around to check another area he said that it had just popped out from a Juniper. As I turned back, kneeling down to get a clear line of sight he announced that it was a Bobcat!

He took aim, squeezed the trigger and at the crack of his 22 Mag the cat made an unnerving sound as it flipped 6 feet in the air and limped off hastily into the forest! We both knew immediately that the shot was not perfect and chased after the cat. We split up in hopes of cutting it off and he came across it first. Another Crack of the rifle and another 6 foot flip in the air. This time the Bobcat landed in a few big rocks and taking no chances I put an assurance round of .223 into the back of the big female. She was down! As we carried her back to my Dad & Hunter my Dad couldn't believe it, as he thought we were just trying to shoot a Jackrabbit or something. Hunter was still sound asleep and as we woke him with a big Bobcat directly in front, he gasped and said "Oh wow a cat!"

After taking the tails and skulls we headed back towards town. The first thing Hunter said was, "So when is the next hunt?!" I think we spoiled the future predator hunter..



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 26-30 of the 2015/2016 AZ. Hunt Regs. You'll note that there are also some events for the ladies. Visit www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills for more information. Consider helping 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. 11-13 – Youth Trappers Camp: Certified trappers class for youth & adults, kids 17 and under are free, followed by hands-on practice of wildlife trapping. Equipment & supplies provided. Primitive camping onsite w/some meals. Location: Chauncey Ranch, Mayer, AZ. Host Southwest Fur Harvesters. Register: www.southwestfurharvester.com or call Bob Rhoton (928) 532-5776.

Nov. 18-20 Unit 42 Deer Hunt Camp: Base Camp to assist youth deer hunters w/ General deer hunt info, share tactics & tips from experienced outdoor hunters, other outdoor skills, some food provided. Location: Wickenburg, AZ, Unit 42. Host: Mule Deer Foundation, AZGFD. Info: Craig Heath at 928-856-0764 or cheath@azgfd.gov

Nov. 17-20 – Unit 18B/20C Youth Deer, Javelina & Small Game Hunt Camp-MDF-YOU: Free camp to assist w/basics of deer hunting in the area, other outdoor activities, food, campfire & more. Location: Wickieup area, hwy 96 & Santa Maria River, Unit 18B/20C. Host Mule Deer Foundation Kingman Chapter, Youth outdoors Unlimited, RMEF, AES, NWTF. Register at www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com

Nov. 18-20 – Unit 36A/36B Youth Deer Hunt Camp-AZSCI: Deer hunt tips & tactics for the area from experienced hunters, some food. Location: SW of Tucson, units 3A/36B. Host AZ chapter of SCI, AZGFD. Register: Bobby Boido, azsci@yahoo.com,

Dec. 9-11: 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 Nat. Wildlife Refuge. Host: Yuma Rod & Gun Club, USFWS, AZGFD. Contact: Yuma AZGFD 928-342-0091 or getoutsideaz@gmail.com

From the Arizona Republic: **RIVALS JOIN TO CREATE AN OUTDOOR-GEAR GIANT**

Bass Pro Shops struck a deal to acquire Cabela's Inc. for about 4.5 billion dollars in cash, uniting two of the sellers of outdoor-sports gear and rivals that have spent decades building over the top megastores. The companies are pioneers of a concept now-coveted by retailers of all stripes: stores that double as both shopping centers and entertainment destinations. Both Cabela's and Bass Pro Shops have earned followings for their oversized outpost filled with hunting, fishing and outdoors gear as well as ornate taxidermy and fishing exhibits.

The deal would create a national chain with more than 180 locations, roughly 40,000 workers and control of more than 20% of the 50 billion dollar U.S. hunting, camping and fishing market

PVCI MONTHLY HUNT REPORT

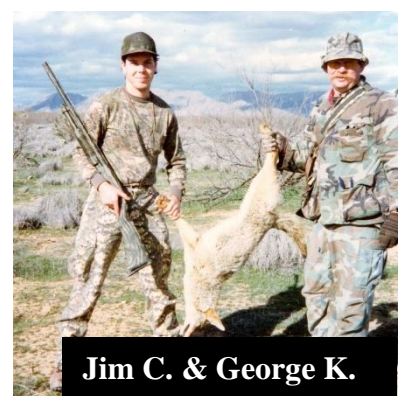
SEPTEMBER NOVICE HUNT: This September Novice Hunt was our 1st Official Hunt of the 2015/2016 hunting season, the teams having to have a Novice to qualify. The Novices team up with the Experts for a weekend of hands-on real life hunting experiences and some experiences were had too! It was warm in the deserts and windy everywhere! **Results:**

Only 1 team came in with a critter. 1st Place: Mark S. & Tim L. Total: 1 gray fox

HUNT PICS



Here is photo of John T's successful bow hunt for elk. The elk was taken on 9/11 from area 5A. We saw around 40 bulls and the 1st bull I shot at, I took a knot off a log in the blind. I got a second chance and here he is. I want to thank Keith Newbie for his help in finding the elk.



Jim C. & George K.

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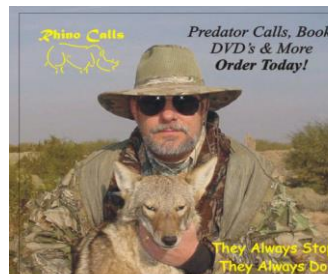
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