



Presidents Message - Ken E.

I want to say thank you to all PPCI members for allowing me to be your president for the last two years, it has been a pleasure! I have learned many things, changed in important ways and become much more composed in the face of catastrophic missteps (sometimes I think the look on my face expresses an epic "duh"). I think I have done the best that I could and it is now time for a change of leadership, so enough about me (And yes, I hear the chorus of "he's right about that!").

The Club is what we are here for and the officers and board members are its support and sometimes its guides. The Prez can only accomplish what is required because the officers and board members are there to actually **do the work!** So I would like to thank Craig B., Ray E., Dan S., Ed M., Mark M., James S., Tommy M., Steve L., Alan F., and Scott H. Without you it would have been impossible!

There are also many in the Club who have donated time and labor: John and Joan T., Pam and Dick S., Jerry and Corrina G, Ruth S., Brent and Cindy F, Bob B., Gary A.M., Joe P., Scott B., heck I could easily end up naming half the club! If my memory was up to the task. **So thank you, everyone!**

P.S. She is not currently a member, but I only get to do this once. Thank you to my beautiful daughter, Kendall Eaton for your support and care during my time in office.

NEW PPCI RAFFLE!!!

PPCI has a NEW FUND-RAISING RAFFLE with 5 Great Prizes! You can see the prizes listed below. These Raffle Tickets were made available at the January Monthly Meeting and are **ONLY \$1.00 each!** The Drawing is scheduled for May 18, 2014 and you **Need Not Be Present to Win.** PPCI members please try to sell as many of these Tickets as you can. We need the funds to pay for the Meeting Place Rental, Club Insurance, payment for the Gun-of-the-Month, PPCI locker, etc. These Raffle Tickets will probably sell themselves. The AZ. Game & Fish Expo on March 29-30 should also be a Great Place to sell Raffle Tickets!

PHOENIX VARMINT CALLERS, INC.

\$1.00 2014 SPRING RAFFLE \$1.00

5 chances to win:

- 1st DPMS Sportical 5.56x45mm Rifle** **2nd Ruger Camo 10/22**
- 3rd Remington 870 Express Magnum Home Defense Shotgun**
- 4th John Toner Custom Knife** **5th Rancho Safari Ghillie**

DRAWING MAY 18th, 2014

Need Not Be Present To Win. For More Details Go To: www.ppci.org

Raffle Tickets are non-transferable and winner **MUST be able to pass 4473 background check.**



Jared is ready to hunt! Volunteers needed for Youth Turkey Camp! Mory T. w/fox he called!

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- Officers**
- President**
Ken Eaton
- Vice President**
Craig B
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Eddie M.
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- Membership Chairman**
James S.
Ruth S.
- Hunt Chairman**
Alan F.
- Webmaster**
Tommy M.



PVC I CLUB ELECTIONS ARE COMING IN APRIL

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED!!!

You don't have to be a political person or wear a suit and tie. You DO have to care about the sport of varmint calling & PVC I & want to get involved and want things to matter. Also you DO need to be able to show up at 2 Meetings per month instead of just one. Interested even a little bit? Please look over the list below. EVERY position listed is up for re-election. They say that there are 2 types of people in every organization, those that DO things and those that DON'T. Why is it that the smaller of the 2 groups always seems to be those that DO things? **April is election month for PVC I & this year as in every year you the member have a unique opportunity to nominate those that you believe can make a difference for the continuance & betterment of the Club. Don't forget that if you believe that you are that person, then please STAND UP & NOMINATE YOURSELF!**

The Club Bylaws read: The officers of this club shall consist of a president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer. There is also the board of directors. The officers and board of directors shall be elected from the membership, by the membership, at the regular membership meeting in April of each year. These are the positions and the duties that the various positions entail:

President: The Head Honcho, the Main Man. Responsible for running both the regular club meeting and the Board of Directors Meeting and shall direct the activities of this Club.

Vice-President: Assist the President in running the meetings and business, also in charge of all meetings in the absence of the President. **Corresponding Secretary:** Responsible for all club correspondence with the outside, the press, the other clubs, etc. He shall keep a complete file of this correspondence. Also presents all documents prior to mailing for officer & board approval and submit proof of all mailings. This person needs to have some PVC I letterhead in his possession. This person assumes the President's position in case of emergency or the absence of both the President and Vice-President.

Recording Secretary: Accurately records all club minutes at both the regular and board meetings. These minutes contain among other things, the type of meeting, date and place and time of the meeting, a list of the officers and directors present plus any motions or amendments. Keeps this record in a safe place and is able to furnish past minutes if needed.

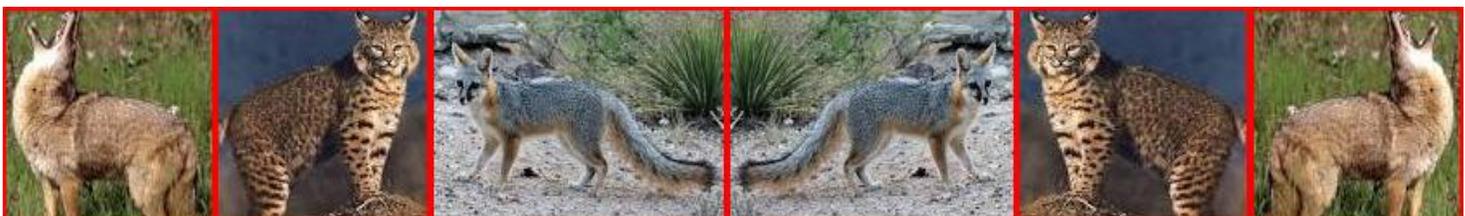
Treasurer: Receives all dues and other funds coming into this club then deposits them to this club's account immediately upon receipt. Keeps accurate records of all receipts and disbursements and is able to render an annual financial statement. Also prepares a monthly report that is entered into the club's minutes during the meetings. The Treasurer keeps the Club's checkbook and he/she pays all the bills incurred by the Club including rent, trophies, locker, mailbox, etc. and responsible for the club's non-profit status and records. The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be authorized to sign checks, two (2) signatures being required.

Board of Director Member(s): Must be able to attend two (2) meetings per month, the regular and the board. Votes on issues discussed at board meetings. Also helps in planning and organizing club events, helps decide on the direction of the club and usually chairs at least one committee for the major club events. The Board of Directors is a 3-year term. All of the 5 officer positions are 1-year terms.

I tried to be as short and through as I could. Hopefully I didn't get anything too wrong. To view a complete list of the officer and board of director duties, look at your club handbook.

ADS

 <p style="font-size: small;">Changing Lives One Adventure at a Time!</p> <p>Hunters, do not forget that if for whatever reason, you have a big-game tag that you cannot use, that you can donate that tag to Outdoor Experience 4 all. This group takes terminally ill kids hunting. See their website: www.theoutdoorexperience.org</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-large; font-weight: bold;">Magnum Mikes</p> <p style="font-size: x-large; font-weight: bold;">Custom Guns & Gunsmithing</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">Mike Korstang</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Master Gunsmith</p> <p>P: 602-793-5000 F: 623-776-7177</p> <p>E: MagnumMikes@cox.net www.MagnumMikes.com</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">TIRED OF FAD DIETS & UNREALISTIC CLAIMS?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Take Shape For Life is the answer!</i> <i>Lose up to 2-5 pounds per week with this clinically proven, safe, and effective program.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Call me to get started today!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chris Moffitt RN www.CMoffittRN.TSFL.com 602 332 6577 NO CONTRACT</p>  <p style="font-size: x-small;">Take Shape For Life is a registered trademark of Medifast. A Health Coach is not a substitute for a physician or qualified medical professional for monitoring those using Medifast®. Consult your physician before starting a weight-loss program.</p>
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There are a lot of cat stories out there from you the member. Unfortunately I can't seem to get the current cat killers to write about their experiences so I thought I'd flip back through the pages of some of the past Predator Tales and re-write some of the older articles. Hope that you enjoy!



DESERT LION by the late Dale F.

Everybody always says that to call lions in you have to go to the mountains and call for a long time. Yet things don't always go the way that you expect them too.

Bob B. and I went out to call coyotes on a Tuesday in the desert where we both go to call coyotes. It's flat and full of greasewood brush. We got out at daylight and didn't see anything until about 12:30p.m. when I called in a coyote. He came running in from my right side about 30 yards out. I just about always use my shotgun. I shot and hit the coyote. It turned & since it did not know where I was, ran straight towards me! I shot him again at about 5 yards. He didn't go any further.

We did a few more stands. I wanted to be home by 4:30p.m. so at 3:15p.m. I told Bob we would do one more stand and then go home. I had a spot along a thick wash that I was going to call. I sat Bob next to the wash facing the brush. He could only see about 70 yards inside the thick brush and I set up about 40 yards out in the brush away from the wash. Bob was using his over/under that he had just received. It was a 12 gauge/.223.

I had only called for about 5 minutes when I heard Bob shoot. I looked over where he was sitting which was next to a Palo Verde tree & I saw a branch move in the tree. I continued my calling but Bob told me to come over there. I thought that maybe he'd shot a bobcat but he said that he'd shot a mountain lion. He said that once it was hit, the lion had jumped straight up in the air about 8 feet! That was why I saw the branch moving in the tree in front of him. The lion ran into the brush & you could hear it making noise. So Bob and I had to crawl on our knees into the brush & Bob shot the lion again.

It was an average-sized female cat. What was strange about it was that it showed up in 5 minutes, had actually run past the truck which was parked about 50 yards away and all during the middle of the day in the flat desert!

This is the first lion I have ever called in that I know of. I was glad that Bob had my back covered because he shot the lion at about 15 yards and it was coming towards me & my back was turned towards it. So when you are calling predators, always be ready because you NEVER know what you are going to call in.

Bobcat Formulas – My 1st BOBCAT by Greg R.

My first bobcat was taken on the November Monthly Hunt. The day was overcast and cool and I had a deer tag in the unit I was hunting in and so was looking for deer. At the time I'd been glassing till I thought my eyes were going to fall out. So I decided to do some calling. I found a spot where three fingers fed into one big wash, then settled into some creosote bushes on my calling stool. The call used was an Arizona Predator Call made by Fred C. The reed was custom-tuned by my 6-month hunting partner Art B. I had been calling approx. 7 or 8 minutes when suddenly I heard something running through the brush. When I finally saw the bobcat, he was airborne over the bush he was jumping over and on a dead run for me! When he finally saw me, he put on the brakes so hard that his back legs came off the ground making the cat do a handstandand that was when I shot him at 7 steps with my 12 ga. shotgun!

BOBCAT FORMULAS = MY 1ST BOBCAT by Gary A.M.

I've been hunting since I was 4 years old & didn't see my first bobcat until I was 24. In the last 2-1/2 years I've seen six! Out of those six I've called in three! The first was with Jay N. in July 1999. We were on our way home from the State Calling Contest (where I'd just finished last in the Expert Division) & we decided to do some hunting. I pulled a brand new Rhino call out of my callbox & walked out to the stand. About a minute into the stand, Jay said, "Bobcat!" I looked his way & thought to myself, "Yeah right." The cat came in from about 150-175 yards away to within 10 yards of Jay! Since bobcat wasn't in season, Jay spooked the cat & it ran away. I couldn't believe it, 2:00p.m. & 100 degrees & the bobcat came right in! Even though that bobcat wasn't taken, it was a real confidence booster.

My 2nd bobcat was just as easy as the first. It was the 3-Club Hunt of 2000 & I was hunting with the best partner I could ever have, my dad. We were on our 3rd or 4th stand of the morning when the excitement began. I was using a jackrabbit tone on my Tally-Ho for about 2 minutes when I saw a housecat walk right through my shooting lane. After I thought about it for a couple of seconds, I realized it was a bobcat! It was in the brush & circling downwind & I couldn't get a shot. My dad was only about 15 yds. to my right so I tried to get his attention with a lip squeak. After 3 squeaks, 2 whistles & throwing 2 rocks at him, he finally looked over & saw the bobcat. He lined up the crosshairs & shot. I knew he got it when he stood up & yelled "Bobcat!" I ran straight over & picked it up. The bobcat turned out to be an 18 lb. female with a real Nice coat of fur! After spreading the news by cell phone, we took pictures & did the happy dance. That bobcat alone was enough to win the 3-Club Hunt. So remember even though your stand set-up isn't perfect, give it a try!



NOVICE HUNT PREPARATION- WHAT TO BRING, EXPECT, ETC. by Eddie M.

We have gotten a LOT of brand-new members lately. Since the March Hunt is a Novice or beginner Hunt & many of you have no clue of what to expect, I will re-write this article for your benefit. I hope you get a chance to get out & hunt.

Suggestions BEFORE you go: 1) Have a current 2014 hunting license. 2) Seriously consider purchasing a 2014 mountain lion tag. 3) Keep a current copy of the 2013/14 Arizona Hunting Regulation Book in your vehicle. It is invaluable for reviewing laws, showing you what unit you are located in, defining the North & South boundaries, verifying when seasons open & close, showing the toll-free bear & lion phone #'s, etc. 4) Join The PIN PROGRAM! This program will cost you a one-time fee of \$10 and is good for as long as you are a current paid member. This program allows you to earn pins for achieving certain goals as you harvest the various predator species throughout your predator-calling career. Each predator has a different set of pins that may be earned; for example coyotes will earn you a pin when you reach 5, 20, 50 and 100 critters & then every 100 coyotes afterwards. Foxes are 10, 25, 50 and 100. Bobcats are 1, 4 and 20 at least. These pins are given out at the Monthly Meetings in front of everyone to acknowledge your accomplishments. There are many more pins available & for a complete list refer to the Members Handbook or the Hunt Rules. The person to see to join the Pin Program will be the Hunt Chairman. **Who will I be hunting with?** This is the BIG question. Unless pre-arranged you probably won't know until towards the end of the Meeting. Please do try and attend the September/March Meetings. If nothing else the fact that there will be a Novice Hunt will be announced and those novices that want to hunt will be matched with experts. This matching could be done in a variety of ways. The fairest way is to have the experts put their names into a hat and then have the novices draw them out. This doesn't always happen though. Lately it seems that all the names end up with the Hunt Chairman and somehow he does the matching. Some novices arrange things beforehand. It is all-good as long as all the novices that want to hunt have someone to hunt with. **Items to Have & Take Along:** Do you have your own camouflage clothing, gloves, facemask & cap? Your own predator calls (have at least 3 different calls that you know you can blow) & appropriate ammo that will put down a coyote (ask your expert)? Do you have your own water and /or refreshments plus snacks/lunch for the day? If you're staying out overnight, your own sleeping bag & asst. pads/mattresses to sleep on & something to eat for dinner (ask your expert about bringing a stove, cooler or lantern)? Do bring some trash bags, 1st aid kit, aspirin or Tylenol, a skinning knife, sharpener, rope, alarm clock, flashlight & extra batteries plus a camera. Come nightfall & for the early mornings a jacket & a beanie cap may be nice as it is still cool out there. Also rain gear? **What to expect on the Hunt:** You will probably load up & leave for the hunting area either the night before or early (before daybreak) the day of the Hunt. If leaving the night before, once you arrive at the hunt area you should get ready NOW for the morning, before you go to bed. By this I mean find your camo, find your calls, find your ammo. Get that facemask you have buried. Do all of your banging around NOW, then put out your bedrolls and go to sleep. In the morning, one of you will probably wake everyone up. NOW is the time to try to be quiet. Don't Talk Out Loud, instead whisper. Do Not Bang Around Getting Ready! You did all of that last night. Get ready as quietly as you can. You are hunting predators, they have good senses of hearing, sight and smell and it is best if they do NOT know that you are awake! To me the morning is a bad time to be walking around shining your headlamps all over or turning on the big truck bed light in back. Even interior truck lights should stay off. I sleep on the ground & have my boots, clothes & shotgun next to me. When I awaken, I stretch, get dressed, grab my shotgun, check the wind & walk away. No bumping around at the truck is needed.

Should You Harvest A Critter: Congratulations are in order! Please do take some pictures. Pictures are my way of honoring the animal. Also don't forget to count how many steps it is to the critter. Do keep a record of your harvests. By using pre-printed forms & filling them out, especially ones that also allow a picture or two, you can build a very interesting photo album that both shows & tells your stories. Makes for interesting reading & it will be there even after the memory fades. Do learn how to skin and how to prepare the pelt, as it's a valuable resource. **The shotgun has the advantage of less pelt damage especially when you are talking foxes & bobcats. Shot is illegal to use on bears.** Use bullets or slugs and a modified or more open choke. DO NOT shot a slug out of a full or tighter choke. Hopefully this article will give you a better idea of what to expect and thus help you prepare. GOOD LUCK ON YOUR HUNT & CALLING CAREER!!!

PREDATOR HUNTING WEBSITES TO VISIT: www.pvci.org, www.predatormasters.com, www.thearizonahunter.com

P.S. Please share your stories. **To contribute stories, pictures, etc. to this Newsletter email pvcigroup@yahoo.com**

TALE of TWO JAVELINA STORIES by Eddie M.

That wonderful instrument called the predator call has many uses besides just calling predators. In turkey season it can be used to make gobblers gobble. In deer season the fawn distress will call in deer, especially doe deer. Calling does can be very helpful during the rut when the bucks are with the does. I can think of 2 good muley bucks, one of them mine, that died because they followed the doe that came to a fawn distress. I have also blown a distress call after glassing an area for deer or elk & finding nothing. The distress sound may sometimes do nothing but will often either make bedded deer & elk either stand up & stare or stand up & leave. This is also a tactic I've used for javelina & for the 2nd year in a row, the predator call has helped me to fill my tag. Last year after spotting a herd about 1/3 of the way down from the top of the mountain, I watched until they bedded then headed up the mountain after them with Ivan. Talk about a climb! It took a while but eventually I arrived close to the location but wasn't exactly sure of where the herd was? A little predator calling caused them to get up & start moving allowing me to pick a good-sized pig and shoot it. Ivan missed (scope set on 9 pwr).

This year we couldn't find any javelina on the mountain. Perhaps the weather was too nice? A check was made at one of the big waterholes. There are usually lots of cows on here plus there is thick brush towards the back end. I was hunting again with Ivan & also Club member Tim N. Instead of checking for tracks with them, I walked around the outside of the fence to the backside of the waterhole where some of the thick brush was & where I remembered seeing javelina tracks the year before. There wasn't much to see but cow tracks (the cows were all gone for the moment) so I positioned myself between 2 thick stands of brush & started squealing. A few seconds later, a big javelina runs into my line of sight running away from me down one of the stands of brush! The rifle is up but I have no shot. Okay call some more. Soon more javelina come filtering out of the brush this time walking past me about 30-35 yards out. I quit calling and wait for the 1st ones to get past. Usually in Javelina herds the bigger animals are towards the back of the herd. Eventually I shot one with my .222 grazing the heart. It's hard to know for sure but if I hadn't blown the predator call, who knows???



UNIT 29 ARCHERY JAVELINA by Tommy M.

I picked up a left over general season tag for unit 29. On a "tip" from the Game & Fish manager, on opening day I hiked 2 miles into a canyon he told me about, glassed the area from dawn until noon & didn't see any pigs or any sign. I even found the only water in there & there wasn't any javi tracks. So much for the tip.

I winged it on Saturday & drove up a different canyon. I spotted a herd after 2 hours of glassing up on a mountainside. I hiked up & stalked to 18 yards & took this sow, my 2nd archery javelina this year but that wasn't the end of the story.

The rest of the herd, 6 or 7, ran over to the one I shot after it piled up and went berserk, snorting, woofing & grunting. Then they all came at me! I started yelling as I picked up a rock & threw it at the lead pig, a huge one (wished I'd seen him before I shot the other). They keep coming at me and they weren't far away to begin with-heck, I panicked!

At first thought I started to grab another arrow (yeah right), then I drew my .45 Win Mag. Pistol and actually cocked it, thinking I sure didn't want to shoot any but I wasn't going to die over this either! So the big lead pig quickly got to within an arm's length, he's snorting, chomping, grunting and all that mean stuff. I'm yelling & waving my arms (which wasn't working), so I swung my pistol at him, nearly hit him in the head but he ducked as he went by. I darned near shot that one! They regrouped about 8 feet away and keep lunging at me. I'm kicking dirt & still yelling, then they finally moved off. What a rush! Afterwards, I thought maybe me yelling wasn't such a good idea and that maybe I should have just fired off a round to scare them away. Hindsight-20/20.

The next day I saw a herd of 14 a couple of miles down the road from my camp.



Announcements: Bob Jensen & wife Lyla married 43 years on March 20th.



Foster & Crystal
married 1 year
Feb. 15th.



Happy Birthday
John Toner
April 1st



Happy Birthday
Will Harwood
May 16th

An advertisement for Sanchez Wild Game. It features a large image of a deer head with antlers. The text reads: "SANCHEZ WILD GAME", "Day Time Phone Number: 602-375-1646", "Emergency Phone: 602-430-6173", and "Sylvia Louie Sanchez, 27 E. Jones Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, Licensed".

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 held that evening & some Lucky Person will win! **All winners MUST be able to fill out & pass a background check.** Firearms can be picked up at The Outdoorsman 10004 N. Cave Creek Road Phoenix, AZ. 85027. Phone: (602) 944-7121. Ask for Steve L. The Gun for March will be a Remington 870 12gauge-shotgun w/ 28” vent-rib barrel. **The Gun for April will be a .243 rifle. Check the PVCI website at www.pvci.org** Someone is going to WIN!!! Will it be you? Remember there is NO LIMIT to the amount of tickets that may be purchased.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

***** Members remember that you are welcome to attend the Board of Directors Meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The Meeting is located at 12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2, in Phoenix, AZ. Start time is 7:00p.m.**

Feb. 28 – Trapping Season ends.

Mar. 1 – Night Hunting of coyotes opens in select Hunt Units. Shotgun On;y! Light must not be attached to or operated from a vehicle. Hunt Units 2A, 4A, 10, 13A, 17A, 17B, 28, 30A, 31, 32, 34B, 35A & 35B. Check your Hunt Regs.

Mar. 1-2 - Proposed date for the Antelope Eaters Hunt. Check-in has been in Seligman, AZ. Check the Mohave Sportsman’s website

Mar. 4 – This is the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, 12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m. (Club Nominations)

Mar. 7-8 - Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meeting in Tucson.

Mar. 8-9 - **PVCI Monthly Hunt!** This is the Novice II Hunt. Normally teams MUST have a Novice to qualify.

Mar. 7 – 9 – Junior’s Jackrabbit Kamp: Learn to hunt jackrabbits, other outdoor skills. Hunter Ed required, space limited to beginners, food provided. Tucson area, Three Points. Register: Karen Klima kklima@azgfd.gov (520) 975-6490.

Mar. 19 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting (12851 N. 18th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m.

Mar. 21 – Rifle Spring Bear Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Mar. 29-30 – Arizona Game & Fish Outdoor Expo at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility. Free admission & parking.

Mar. 31 – Bobcat, fox, raccoon, badger, ringtail, weasel, coatimundi & gunnison’s prairie dog seasons end.

Apr. 1 - This is the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, 12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m. **Club Elections held.**

Apr. 11-12 – Arizona Game & Fish Dept. Commission Meeting in Phx. (Hunt Orders)

Apr. 15 – New Mexico Spring Turkey Season opens.

Apr. 16 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting (12851 N. 18th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m.

Apr. 18 – Juniors Only Spring Turkey Season opens in some Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Apr. 18 – Hunt permit-tags for Fall 2013 antelope & elk should be mailed out by now!

April 18-20 – Marvin Robbins Youth Spring Turkey Hunt Camp: Learn & get assistance hunting wild turkeys, seminars, outdoor skill activities, camp & food. Location: Payson area, Colcord Ridge Campground. Hosted by NWTF, AES, PVCI & AZGFD. **To Register Contact Rich Williams, azgobbler60@gmail.com PVCI Members We Really Need Your Help at this Event! HELP THE YOUTH Become Excited About Hunting!!! Register with Rich please!**

Apr. 25 – The Arizona Early Spring Turkey Season opens. Check your Hunt Regs.

May 1 – Rifle Spring Bear Season closes.

May 2- The Late Spring Turkey Season & Archery Spring Bear season opens Check your Hunt Regs.

May 8 - This is the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, 12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m.

May 17 –18 – PVCI ANNUAL CAMPOUT & BARBECUE. Moqui Draw (Fire conditions permitting). More info. inside.

*****NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:** 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 2013 expiration). If Membership is NOT current it will be noted in RED letters on the shipping label. 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 new Member-ship Chairman James S. or his wife Ruth S. at (602) 524-3586 or (602) 820-5142. Renewal Fees help the Club!

Membership Count: 190 Members **51 Members Past Due!**

Welcome New Members: Kenneth B., Jeff B., Brad F., Jack F., Kimberly F., Clifford R., John S., Joe W.

**WANTED/NEEDED BADLY: Membership Chairman Call Ken (602) 550-0449
Co Editor for Newsletter Call Eddie (602) 747-9019**

UPCOMING EVENT!!!
ARIZONA GAME & FISH OUTDOORS EXPO – MARCH 29-30, 2014

This year's Arizona Game & Fish Department Outdoors Expo will be held on March 29-30, 2014 at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility just west of I-17 on the Carefree Highway in Phoenix. This Event will transform the Shooting facility into the largest hands-on Outdoor Expo in Arizona with outdoor fun and adventure for the entire family! Admission & parking to the Event will be totally free! You will have a unique opportunity to test pistols, rifles & shotguns & archery equipment on the range plus talk to the manufacturer's reps. Shooters can also learn more about competitive shooting & enjoy some of the specialty ranges not normally open to the public. There will be demonstrations on speed shooting and skeet shooting plus they will have many workshops & exhibition booths displaying the shooting, hunting & fishing sports. You can also test drive the latest ATV's and don't forget the catch & release fish tank. PVC I will have a booth at this event. Volunteers are needed. We will be raffling off Raffle Tickets for our New PVC I RAFFLE. This Event attracts over 10,000 people each year with over 100 exhibitors. The hours of operation will be Saturday from 9:00A.M to 5:00P.M. & Sunday from 9:00A.M. to 4:00P.M. **For more information about this weekend, visit www.azgfd.gov/expo**

LEARN OUTDOORS SKILLS: HUNT, TRAP, FISH, SHOOT, WILDLIFE RECREATION by Eddie M

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 a positive experience hunting in the great outdoors. Listed below are some of these events. Look on page 24 of the 2013/2014 AZ. Hunt Regs. You will note that there are also some events for the ladies. Visit www.azgfd/outdoorskills for more information. **Also consider helping out at these Events as a Mentor. You will be fed & your help will be greatly appreciated. I go as a Phoenix Varmint Caller & wear my Varmint Caller T-Shirt. It doesn't have to be varmint calling related for me to volunteer to help try and get someone hooked on hunting. GET INVOLVED!!!**

Mar. 7 – 9 – Junior's Jackrabbit Kamp: Learn to hunt jackrabbits, other outdoor skills. Hunter Ed required, space limited to beginners, food provided. Tucson area, Three Points. Register: Karen Klima kklima@azgfd.gov (520) 975-6490.

April 18-20 – Marvin Robbins Youth Spring Turkey Hunt Camp: Learn & get assistance hunting wild turkeys, seminars, outdoor skill activities, camp & food. Location: Payson area, Colcord Ridge Campground. Hunt Units 23, 4A, 4B & 3C. Hosted by NWTF, AES, PVC I & AZGFD. Please REGISTER with Rich Williams, azgobbler60@gmail.com

April 18-20 – Marvin Robbins Youth Spring Turkey Hunt Camp: Learn & get assistance hunting wild turkeys, seminars, outdoor skill activities, camp & food. Location: Happy Jack area, Hunt Units 6A, 5A, 5B. Hosted by NWTF, Outdoor Experience 4 All, Xtreme Predator Callers, AZ Bowhunters Assoc. & AZGFD.

Please Register with Tim Denny, longbeardsaz@gmail.com

PVC I ANNUAL CAMPOUT & BARBECUE – MAY 17-18, 2014

This year's Annual Campout & Barbecue will be scheduled for May 17-18, 2014. We are planning on getting the Moqui Draw area near the Blue Ridge Ranger station as the location again. This would be the same location as has been used for the last several years. This family-oriented Event is one of our most attended off-season events of the year. Typically there are events scheduled for the youth & the adults. Most of the adult events are shooting events. Women & men compete separately in .22 rifle, .22 pistol, big-bore handgun & bowling pin & compete together in archery & muzzleloader shoots. The youth get to shoot in some of the events also, a lot depending upon the age and the number of youth present. The youth also have a BB Gun Shoot. There has traditionally been a Jr. Calling Contest however we need some youth present to participate. If you bring any kid that is above an infant that can call consider bringing some calls so that we can have this "FUN" event. In between the shooting look forward to some really good food and having a cool good time up in the pines. A map and Schedule of Events should appear in the May-June 2014 Predator Tales. Hope that you and the family and friends can make it. Member Tommy M. has graciously accepted to head this Event again this year! Other volunteers will also be needed to run each shooting event. If you run the Event, you make the rules for the most part. Volunteers will also be needed for various other duties. Remember that anymore, if we don't get the volunteers to do the various duties, then we simply won't have the Event. It's just too exhausting trying to get people to do things. If no one volunteers then it must be that we either don't want or don't care if the Event or aspects of the Event happen or not. To get 1st pick at running an Event or to volunteer please email Member /Webmaster Tommy M. at www.pvci.org Once on the site, look for the place where you can email the webmaster and email him there. Thanks in advance for your help!

THE COMING OF SPRING MEANS TURKEY SEASON IS ON THE WAY!!! by Eddie M.

By the time you get this newsletter, both quail & javelina season will be over & the trapping season will have just ended. We will have turned in our Hunt Applications for the fall elk/antelope hunts & we will probably have had a 90-degree day. In other words the Spring Season will be right around the corner. One way that is most noticeable to me that proves Spring is on the way, besides the obvious warmer temperatures is the sound of singing birds. They are so loud sometimes that when calling in March I often don't blow my bird distress sound because it sounds too much like just another bird singing. Well in the woods, there is another bird that is also singing. That Grandest of ALL birds in the woods (in my opinion), the wild turkey gobblers are getting restless & soon break from their winter flocks. Gobbling begins in earnest in March. This is breeding season & when the first gobbling peak occurs. If you are a wild turkey gobbler & want to breed, then you gobble & gobble some more. The hens upon hearing you will come to you to get bred (how convenient). Since there are many hens looking to get bred & many gobblers wanting to do the deed, it doesn't take much for a gobbler to sound off! I've killed a few gobblers in March (the San Carlos early season use to open March 20 or so). Gobbling occurs!

Hi my name is Eddie M. and I'm a turkey hunter. In the Spring Season my Favorite Pastime is being in the woods with the wild turkeys. I like this pastime so much that I look at the years left to go of my life by wondering how many turkey seasons I have left. Fooling a wild gobbler to come to you (instead of you coming to him) can be/is very EXCITING! Gobblers are BIG (15 to 20 lbs. or more) for birds & their gobble can SHAKE the woods! Often when they are on their way, they let the world know, "Okay I'm Coming, Where Are You?" The closer they get the louder. If you've ever called in a wild turkey gobbler, then you know exactly what I'm talking about. Is it really that EXCITING? Let me tell a story.

In this busy, high gas price world that we live in, we often don't get a chance to do much scouting, especially if the place you are going to hunt is more than 3 hours away. New Mexico & the AZ. hunt units that border it are such places. One way to make up for this is to KNOW how to find sign on your first trip. If I can find sign then I know that there are birds. Sign for me consists of looking for droppings along the roads & places that have green grass & looking for tracks in places where the dirt is soft or for dried tracks in places where the dirt was soft when it was last wet. Of course seeing birds & hearing gobbling also counts. When I first arrive in an area I am instantly scouting or reading the land, be it daytime or dark. Other hunters are doing the same thing, trying to find a spot to begin. That's why if droppings are found I pick them up. I will also wipe out tracks if found. By doing this it helps to keep the area for me. If you are to hunt the morning, it is good to be able to roost a bird the night before. When a gobbler flies up in a tree to sleep at night he often, depending upon how HOT he is will gobble before, during & after it flies up. To roost a bird, you either get to a spot where you can view a large expanse of country and listen or you make some sort of noise (gobbles, hen talk, crow, owl, coyote howls) that will make them gobble. If successful you have a place to start in the morning but don't just walk away, try to pinpoint where the gobbler is as when you return in the morning, it will be dark. During this pinpointing don't get too close as the bird is up in a tree with a good view. Sometimes you can call a gobbler to you at this time of day, as they often don't want to sleep alone. Other times, he will just pace back & forth & wait for you to come to him.

It was my 1st year in New Mexico. I had arrived the evening before, set up my 10x10 tent, fixed dinner & then talked with Larry M. & Turkey Hunter John by the fire for hours. The next morning, everything was white! Unknown to us it had snowed a few inches during the night. We all went our separate ways that morning. It was tough for me having never been here before. I had killed 4 turkeys to this point over a span of 8 years. You'd think just find tracks & follow, well that didn't happen and by noon the snow was gone. I hunted with Larry for the evening hunt & learned his method of how to roost birds. Larry will drive to a certain spot, turn off the truck, yelp a series loudly (usually with a mouth diaphragm) once, listen, yelp a series again, listen & then if he hears nothing, drive to the next spot and repeat. Larry is a successful turkey hunter and he does cover a lot of territory & find HOT birds this way. Well the area we were in had the sign BUT no birds answered us. If I see sign, I know that there are birds, so I went back the next morning and heard multiple birds gobbling. I headed for one that was further away than it seemed. Eventually the gobbling ceased, then around 10a.m. a bird sounded off on it's own. It was on the opposite hill from me. I called & moved around back & forth & here & there. Two hours later the bird was just under the lip of the hill I was on, gobbling up a storm. I was seated next to a tree with the shotgun up. Every now & then I'd lower the weapon & call on the slate, then put the slate away and put the weapon up. When the gobbler did show, I missed, only getting some little feathers from its backside! The bird was instantly in the air & looking at me in disbelief! I watched it go also in disbelief & watched until it landed. Checking the spot, I found little feathers only & no blood. Did I hold too high? Getting to the truck, I took pics of the feathers, then walked back up a hill & around the corner. The time is around noon. I start yelping & get a thundering answer, Gobble, Gobble, Gobble!

The bird is CLOSE & just downhill from me. Quickly I find a juniper tree & get set up with gun in the air pointing. The bird GOBBLES again! Oh is he closer & coming fast! With no time to use the slate, I cluck with the diaphragm I keep in my mouth. The bird Gobbles again, then there it is! It goes into strut, then comes out, looking. I pull the trigger, BOOM, then get over there & hold it up by the feet with the chest next to me, even though the bird is laying still. When the beating wings stop, the bird is really dead and I have a pretty turkey to mount if I want to & not one that has rolled all over the place breaking feathers, etc. Tell me that's not EXCITING!

SOME PREDATOR CALLING TIDBITS & COMMON SENSE FOR EVERYONE by Eddie M.

- 1) Remember that there are NO HARD & SET RULES in this sport. Sometimes different things work for different callers.
- 2) When you get to a stand location, be conscious of the noise that you make. Try to be quiet. Do common sense things like whispering, not slamming doors, trying to walk quietly instead of just walking, etc.
- 3) **To Be SAFE: Stay standing & know where your hunting partners are before you sit down.** Many callers unwittingly just sit down & start getting ready to either watch or call with NO thought of buddy's location.
- 4) **Treat EVERY firearm as if it was loaded at ALL times! This means that you should NEVER, EVER POINT ANY FIREARM at any person!** To me a firearm should be carried & loaded by either pointing it up or down & NOT by holding it level! I've had the misfortune to be around several times when a firearm went off at the vehicle while being loaded! Guess what, half the time, the firearm was LEVEL & we were "Lucky" that no one was wounded or killed! The only thing protecting everyone else when this happen must have been his or her angel. *There are a LOT of you out there that LOAD & especially carry & inadvertently point a firearm by holding it level at times.* This shouldn't happen, shucks half the time you're probably not even aware that you are doing it BUT YOU ARE! **If you did this at the rifle range, you would automatically be kicked off the range.** To me you should ALWAYS make an "Obvious Effort" to avoid leveling or worse, inadvertently pointing your firearm at anyone. **Once the shot leaves the barrel, you can't call it back!**
- 5) Try carrying a lighter in your pocket. They come in handy for checking the wind, especially when things are wet. It'll also save your butt someday should you become lost. They're also good for starting fires, lighting stoves, lanterns, etc.
- 6) Don't forget to put some feeling into your calling. The best feeling to convey is pain, next is surprise. Try to sound like a critter that is hurt and not like a person blowing a call.
- 7) **Shooting:** A zone is the area that you are supposed to watch during a calling stand. You watch from here to here. When it comes to shooting, if the critter is in your zone & you have the shot, take it! It doesn't matter who called it in, as this is a team effort. Missing shots is going to happen, I don't care who you are. Patterning your shotgun & zeroing your rifle will go a long ways towards not missing shots. So practice both at the range & in the field.
- 8) **BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND BEFORE YOU PULL THE TRIGGER!**
- 9) If you are calling & you or someone else shoots, get back to calling as soon as you can afterwards. The sound of the shot does not seem to bother most predators as long as they are not the one being shot at & another critter is possible.
- 10) Make sure to look at where you sat after every stand, especially if you've had action. You'll find caps, calls, etc.
- 11) You be the one to bring an alarm clock and camera to each trip. Do honor you critter & take it's picture.
- 12) One place that I've found Flea & Tick Killer Spray is the 99 Cent Only Store. Also a good place for assorted food & snacks.

Annual Hunting and Angling Heritage Working Group Report H.A.W.G. by Ken E.

The 2014 winter Hunting and Angling Heritage Working Group took place in Yuma in mid January. I want to thank Scott B. for representing the club. Despite blowing a tire on his trailer before getting there and having to return to Phoenix for a new tire! He was still on time Saturday morning to attend with me. The presentations were good and delivered important information about the last three years efforts on recruiting and retaining hunters and anglers in this state. First, we are one of the top three states in getting our kids out and doing things in the outdoors. This is important, because without the support of our future hunters things can only go downhill. We have a measurable and identifiable growth in participation due to our efforts. Very important in getting continued or higher funding! Second, our target audience are not just junior hunters, they also include the women who bought firearms in the last several years, since why not find more uses for those firearms. Thank you firearm salesman of the year! And the last group targeted are the young adults between 25-30 years of age who have finished their schooling & chasing of skirts & remember that outdoor recreation is a blast. The third and very important message was that thanks to the August PPCI George Knox Memorial "Varmint Calling" Boot Camp and a couple of September Dove Junior camps, the application cycle for funding has been changed! The time frame was moved up about 6 weeks and the decisions and the money will be disbursed in time for it to be useful to PPCI.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PVCI FISHING CONTEST – JUNE 7, 2014 FREE FISHING DAY

PURPOSE: To find the BEST Fisherman in the Club in both the adult & kids category.

WHERE: We will talk it over. I would really like to have this Contest back at Kinnikinnick Lake like it used to be

DATE: Saturday June 7, 2014, FREE FISHING DAY. **TIME:** Daybreak until 5:30p.m. You can check-in anytime during the day however the FINAL check-in will be at 5:30p.m.

ENTRY FEE: None, in fact a fishing license is not even required as this is Free Fishing Day and no license is required to fish on all public state waters except on the Indian Reservations.

CONTESTS OPEN TO All PPCI members plus their families and friends who may be interested.

There is usually 2 categories: Adult – ages 14 and older and children – ages 13 and under. 1st Place prizes will be awarded for the longest fish and the longest stringer. As in years past in addition to the prizes for longest fish & stinger, there will also be a **FREE MEMBERS & GUESTS RAFFLE!!!** You need Not fish in the Contest to be eligible for this Raffle however you Do need to be present.

After the measuring on Saturday evening we have a **FISH FRY/ POTLUCK DINNER** at one of our pre-determined campsite locations!!! The key word here is Potluck, **Please remember to bring a dish, also an extra frying pan, fish batter, aluminum foil, etc. to help with the fish fry.**

ARIZONA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION (ATA) FUR SALE RESULTS for 2014

Well what did you do the day after Valentine's Day? There were some people that made some money at the Fur Sale that was held in Globe at the Gila County Fairgrounds on Feb. 15th, 2014. They've had this sale here for almost 20 years. This year there were 2 buyers that showed up & over 2500 furs in the Auction. Fur prices ended up being down this year, as the following numbers will show. There were 1268 bobcats however 350 of them did not sell. Most of the 350 were poorly put up. Average on the bobcats was \$238 and I believe that 900 sold. The gray fox average was \$23 with 959 sold and the coyote average was \$23 with 433 sold. Prices at the Arizona were higher than the Utah sale though where 7 buyers showed up but only 3 bought furs. \$815 was the Top Cat in that Auction. The 2nd Annual Briar Patch bobcat only sale will be in Kingman at the Mohave County Fairgrounds on March 8th. High cat there last year was \$1500. \$1300 for ATA sale.

If anybody is interested in coming to the Auction next year, contact Mike Huffer with the number of furs you plan to bring. Do this early please. His phone is (480) 970-5904 or email mjwildlife12yahoo.com Thanks to ALL for a wonderful showing! We'll let you know the 2015 date as soon as we can. Plan on attending & making some money for your efforts!

HUNT SCHEDULE

The following tentative Hunt Schedule is here as a guide for you to follow so that you can plan to hunt some of the organized hunts coming up. Remember that Night Hunting of coyotes w/Shotgun Only begins March 1st in some units!
Mar. 7-8 - PPCI Club Hunt (Novice II Hunt) Teams need Novices to qualify. The last organized Club Hunt of the season.
Mar. 7-8 - Proposed date for the Antelope Eaters Hunt. Look at the Mohave Sportsman's Club website.

April 1, 2011 End of the 6-Month Hunt. Please turn in ALL of your Proofs-of Kills to the Hunt Chairman (Alan F.) to get credit for the 2013-2014 year. See **(If you are signed up for the 6-Month Hunt:)** below.

*****Jan. 25, 2014 – MULTI-CLUB HUNT RESULTS**– This Hunt pitted our Club against the other predator-calling Clubs in the state for bragging rights. Who is the "BEST" Calling Club in the state? Well it looks like the Xtreme Predator Callers (XPC) were the winners of the 2014 Hunt! They had 150 points: 2 bobcats, 3 coyotes & 2 gray & 2 kit foxes PPCI took 2nd Place with 65 points: 5 coyotes & 3 gray foxes & the Southwest Wildlife Callers took 3rd Place with 40 points: 4 coyotes. PPCI members, we could have won this Hunt. Take away their bobcats or if more of us had hunted, we would have had them. As it was the 2 bobcats at 50 points apiece beat everything else there. Next year the point system for this hunt will change to bobcats-50, coyotes-20 & foxes-10. Lions will still be 100. This way a bobcat will only be worth 2-1/2 coyotes instead of 5 coyotes making things fairer in my opinion. Please **PLAN** to hunt next year's hunt.

*** **If you're signed up for the 6-Month Hunt:** Then you'd better keep hunting your butt off. This Hunt started on the October Club Hunt & ends on April 1, 2014 at the April Monthly Meeting. All Proofs-of-kills need to be turned in by then. Turn in your Proof-of-kills to Hunt Chairman Alan F. He must physically see the Proofs before you get credit.

PPCI MONTHLY HUNT REPORTS

JANUARY MONTHLY HUNT:

1st Place: Ken E., Jose A. & JR
Total: 1 coyote

2nd Place: Brandon G. & James B.
Total: 1 gray fox

3rd Place: Eddie M., Mory T. & Larry S.
Total: 1 coyote

FEBRUARY MONTHLY HUNT:

1st Place: Bob B. & Terry J.
Total: 2 Bobcats, 2 Coyotes

2nd Place: Craig B., Charles D. & John S.
Total: 6 coyotes

Bob B. & Terry J. checked in with 2 bobcats & 2 coyotes, all taken with handguns. Each called in 1 Bobcat & 1 Coyote, with Bob taking 1 Bobcat & both coyotes with his handgun. Terry took the other bobcat with his handgun.

Craig B., Charles D. and John S. checked in with 6 coyotes. Craig called in 5 of the coyotes & Charles called in 1 coyote. All three shot 2 coyotes each. Way to share the wealth!

HUNT PICS



Some Multi-Club Hunt Results



Ivan C. with gray fox he called



The rattlesnakes are out!



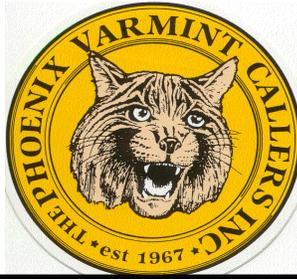
Pres. Ken E. with mallards

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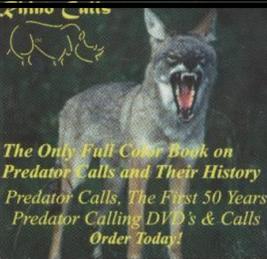
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