



Presidents Message - Ken E.

I hope you are ready! New loads worked in, guns clean and reliable, and your camo scent free. For the season of fun, thrills, and frustration is upon us! We get to do it again. I mean the George Knox Memorial Boot Camp. For those of you who don't know the history, the camp is named for a late club member who realized that we were having too many new members get frustrated when there weren't enough experts to teach them. New members would join for a year and then drop out of the club, when George talked to them, a common complaint was never feeling like part of the club and being ignored. George and then President Ray E. came up with the Boot Camp as a way to solve the problem. Sadly, George was diagnosed with cancer and never made the first camp due to his illness. After he passed, the event was renamed in his honor. This year is even better than last year. We are partnered with Youth Outdoors Unlimited and the AZ Game and Fish Dept., but also AZ Elk Society and the National Wild Turkey Federation! Donations from AES and NWTF are taking care of the support costs and AZ G&F is donating the use of Vincent Ranch and the port a potties (very important!). What this means to you is that this is **FREE!** If you have any family members or friends that would like to learn how to varmint hunt, this is your chance. It is also a great tune-up for the start of the season and allows us to see and call in country that most of us do not hunt. This is open to Youth and Adult alike. P.S. Make sure that novices have camo gloves and a face mask to go with their gear.

Things To Be Aware Of: The PPCI Website & Hunting Forum is Back Up! www.pvci.org

- * The PPCI Aug Monthly Meeting will feature **Brian Wakeling** of **AZGFD** talking about **BEARS!!**
- * The George Knox Memorial "Varmint Calling" Boot Camp is August 10-11, 2013. The location will be at Vincent Ranch (same place as last year). There is more info. plus map inside. This Event is **BIG!** We had 110 people including 40 kids last year & things went Great! We will need you volunteers & mentors again this year! You **NEED TO REGISTER** as this helps when it comes to how much food to bring. Get involved. Register: http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com/upcoming_events
Location: Vincent Ranch – Incentives for both New Members and Mentors/Volunteers!!!
- *The Annual PPCI Trail Clearing is Aug. 17-18, 2013 with the work being done on the 17th. We maintain the See Canyon Trail. Potluck on Saturday night. Refreshments provided. Map inside.
- * The 1st Hunt of the 2013-2014 season, the PPCI Novice Hunt is scheduled for Sept. 7-8. Be sure to come to the Sept. Monthly Meeting as it will be geared towards Novices.

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The George Knox Memorial Boot Camp is Aug. 10-11. Registration for Boot Camp at: http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com/upcoming_events

PVCI 2013 Fishing Contest Winners Longest Fish-Sara, Long Stringer-Ivan

PVCI Pres. Ken E. teaches Predator Calling 101 at Wapiti Weekend

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GEORGE KNOX MEMORIAL "VARMINT CALLING" BOOT CAMP – AUG. 10-11, 2013

*** MEMBERS OF PVCI, YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPURTUNITY TO HELP INTRODUCE & RETAIN HUNTERS TO OUR SPORT!!!

HELP BEGINNING PREDATOR HUNTERS LEARN... INCENTIVES FOR BOTH THEM & YOU!!!

How would you the member like to help someone? PVCI has joined with other Clubs to do certain work projects & to help in some Youth & other Camps. **The #1 reason we don't have more participation is lack of communication. In an effort to help keep you informed, here's an upcoming event where we NEED YOUR HELP in any capacity!**

*****PLEASE ACCEPT THIS INVITATION TO PROVIDE MENTORS & VARMINT CALLING SEMINARS** during this "VARMINT CALLING" MEMORIAL BOOT CAMP! The camp is intended to start the evening of Friday Aug. 9 & end on Sunday Aug. 11 at midday to late afternoon. Expect seminars on predator calling/hunting & also going hunting! **This is a unique opportunity & I trust that the members of this Club will step up to help.** You can teach, cook, etc. ****For those new people who show to learn & that Join PVCI there will be incentives,** we will hold a Raffle for a Savage Axis .243 rifle! Again this Raffle is ONLY for those that come to this Event and become New Members of PVCI. **** As a large crowd is expected & we need mentors to take hunters out, PVCI MENTORS THERE IS ALSO AN INCENTIVE FOR YOUR HELP!** A raffle for a Combo Knife Set. We Need Your Help!! Don't let this Event FLOP!

THE GEORGE KNOX MEMORIAL "VARMINT CALLING" BOOT CAMP – AUG. 10, 11, 2013

PVCI is planning its own "Varmint Calling" Boot Camp in conjunction with Outdoors Unlimited, AZGFD & the AZ. Elk Society on – August 10, 11, 2013. The idea being to make the predator seminars an in-the-field experience, sort of like what Marvin Robbins did with his in-the-woods turkey hunting seminars. Friday is really just for camping set-up & maybe a late meal. This idea of having predator instruction in the outdoors was thought about by our own beloved, the late George K. This Boot Camp, as in the past, will feature in-the-field training about predators & predator calling & cover all sorts of topics plus answer your predator-related questions. Outdoors Unlimited will also be on hand in support & will provide the meals over this Event. So if you've any interest at all in learning how to successfully call-in predators, then this Camp is for you. This Boot Camp is also "FREE" & open to ALL (not just youth) hunters! More info at www.pvci.org

WHO: PVCI (others) will conduct a "Varmint Calling Seminar" covering all aspects of calling in critters.

WHEN: August 10, 11, 2013. **PLEASE REGISTER!** To register & get more info: www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com

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

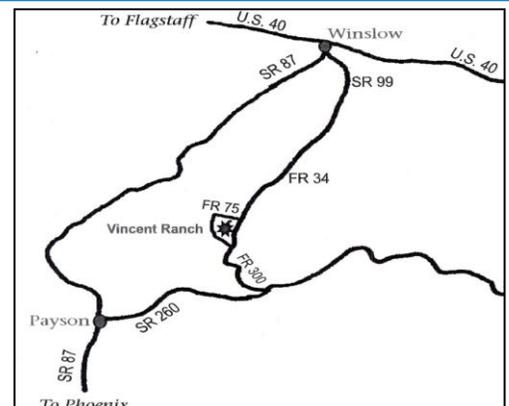
Cost: Free to all. Come on out & learn instructions from hunters who have harvested many critters. Learn from their instructions & experience. We are going hunting too!! There is an incentive for new members joining PVCI. A Savage Axis .243 rifle will be raffled! Mentors, there is also an incentive to encourage your help, a Combo Knife Set raffle. PVCI members, we really need your help! **PLEASE REGISTER NOW!** http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com/upcoming_events

WHAT TO BRING: There will be Seminars & hunts going each day. If you choose to stay the night you'll need a bedroll. **Camping is free but there is only enough room for tents & vehicles on the Ranch. The Ranch is NOT big enough for the big camp trailers & such. You can find a spot to camp outside of the Vincent Ranch area which is public land.** Bring a chair or two to use during class & for around the campfire during the evening. Bring your camo & calls & if you have a shotgun or rifle you should bring it also, as the plan is to go hunting.

FOOD: Meals provided Friday evening, Saturday morning & evening and Sunday morning. May be a midday Sat. snack?

*** **REGISTRATION:** Please do register so that we can have some sort of idea of how many to expect. To register & find more information contact http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com/upcoming_events so they have an idea on the food to bring. Find more information also at www.pvci.org

Vincent Ranch Directions: Take State Route 87 to Payson. From Payson, take State Route 260 east to the top of the Rim. Turn left at the Woods Canyon Lake turn off onto FR300 (the Rim Road). FR 300 intersects with FR34 at the T. Turn **right at the T onto FR 34. FR34 intersects with FR75 twice.** Turn left onto FR75 at the second intersection. In less than a mile you will see a road on the left. Turn left and take this road (a two-track) to Vincent Ranch.



Mentor Incentive knife set to be raffled off to mentors. May not be this exact set.



Let's face it; most of us joined this Club to **learn to hunt predators**. Predators must hunt & kill other critters to survive. That means that you had or have an interest in hunting these hunters or those that make a living by killing. The excitement comes in the method or way we go about doing this hunting. We try to look like vegetation & use what's called a predator call to mimic the distress sounds that the prey species make when an attempt is made on their life. By making these sounds we can actually have predators such as coyotes, foxes, bobcats, cougars & bears actually stop what they are doing & come looking for us, often with the expressed purpose of consuming the maker of the sound. Seeing an actual predator respond to your calling & approach you one on one can be very thrilling & awe-inspiring. Since these predators are often completely fooled & really think that they are about to eat, they can often get quite close to you on this approach. This "how close they got to me" factor is quite often treasured & greatly remembered. Many of your stories will be about how close the critter was when you pulled the trigger or something else happened. Whether successful or not, I often try to encourage my fellow hunters to go back & pace off the steps to the called in critter that gave them the experience for their records.

Members the predator season is just around the corner. August 1st opens the season for bobcat, fox, badger, raccoon, etc. in most areas of the state (Read your Hunt Regs.). Rifle bear season opens on August 9th in some hunt units & our 1st Club Hunt (the Novice Hunt) is Sept. 7-8. Are you ready for the season to begin? PPCI tries to keep your competitive edge sharp & somewhat practiced during the off-season with the various Events that we have. Participating in Events such as the shooting competitions at the May Campout & Barbecue, the June Annual Fishing Contest, the various money competitions & great hunting & trapping seminars at the July Trappers Convention & the August Bear Hunt Meeting, Boot Camp & Trail Clearing are all meant to not only keep you shooting & competing but are also great ways for you to get to know & enjoy other members of the Club. These members might be potential hunting partners.

Getting Ready For The Novice Hunt: Weapons - If you're anything like me, you haven't blown a predator call or fired your rifle or shotgun in some time. The very first thing that you should do after you make sure that you have the correct license & big-game (bear/lion) tags is to go to the range and make sure that your weapons are hitting where you aim. This is especially true for you rifle hunters. There are so many stories of the rifle hunters calling in multiple critters, sometimes close and even though the crosshairs are centered, the point of impact, they find out later is not. Shotgunners should also pattern the shotgun at different ranges with different loads. My shotgun really likes Federal and/or Remington 4-Buck Copper-plated loads. It has a very poor pattern with Estate. Loads I have not patterned include the Dead-Coyote loads that are really supposed to be able to reach out and touch critters at long ranges especially when coupled with the Dead-Coyote choke. The expense of it all (\$30 for 10 rounds of 4-Buck) keeps me away. I also hear that the high-base #2 lead load that you used to use to shoot geese works great on predators such as coyotes, fox, bobcat, etc. If you could kill a goose with the load it seems like it would work. I bet the pattern is good. **Chokes:** Many hunters use the Full & Extra Full Chokes in their shotguns. I like the Modified Choke. I switched to a Full Choke for a while and ended up chasing a lot of critters after the 1st shot so I went back to the Modified. You can also shoot a slug out of a Modified Choke & I have one called shotgun bear (19 steps) because of this. DO NOT Shoot a Slug out of any Choke tighter than Modified. No Full, Extra Full Turkey, etc. **Camouflage:** It is best to have some if you are going to hunt. Try to match your surroundings. I like to mix it up and say have Nat Gear brown pants with a Cabela's Green Max 1 shirt. My facemask has an open (not covered mesh) area that shows my eyes & nose. I then put on either a bill cap or boonie hat. Leafy Wear is also fine. It gives you more of a 3-D effect. Do Not worry if you don't have these. Many critters died before these came out. Ghillie suits are great BUT they are warm and like barbed wire. In Camo Concealment Contests, the guys with the Leafy Wear & Ghillie suits usually win. **Predator Calls:** Have more than one call & get something other than the one you got when you become a member. Be sure to have some closed-reed Circe calls in jackrabbit or cottontail. Have a bite-down call. The Primos Catnip comes to mind as does a Johnny Stewart P-3. Try a PeeWee or Standard Critter call in open-reeds. They are easier to use than a Tally-Ho. Tally-Ho's are excellent if you know how to use. You should probably have a couple lanyards. I just keep calls in my pockets. Do Not let your open-reed or bite-down calls just lay in the sun if you want them to continue sounding good. **How To Sleep:** You need to sleep & want to be comfortable. There are many variations. Some use sleeping bags & cots. Some sleep in the bed or backseat of the truck. Some blow up an air mattress every night or have the self-inflating pads. I dig a hole for my hips, put down a space blanket & then place one thin & one thick foam pad down. The sleeping bag goes on top next. I take off my socks, get into underwear & wear a beanie cap. Once you find the hip hole, it's like being in bed. **Where To Go:** Public land like BLM, state or National Forest is very abundant in Arizona. In most cases you can even sleep for Free! Maps MUST have the land status on them for me to use them. That's why I like National Forest & BLM maps. BLM maps are \$10 each from Wide World of Maps & show dirt roads, land status & water plus have some topo features. Nat. Forest maps are pricey. They have the FR numbers on roads & show water & land status but have no topo features. They also cover a much bigger area than the BLM. Get the new Motor Vehicle Use Maps. Don't forget the

Indian Reservations like San Carlos or the Navajo. San Carlos will cost you \$10 a day for coyote, fox & bobcat hunting. They have LOTS of country to hunt. Also this is the best place to take someone from out-of-state as there are no extra fees. Here all non-Indians pay \$10 a day. If you buy 2 days worth, that includes your overnight stay. No electronic callers are allowed on San Carlos. That does not bother us as we use hand calls anyway.

Who Am I Hunting With? The Hunt Chairman Bob B. will be the person that matches you with your hunting partner(s) unless you have something worked out already. It used to be that we'd put names into a hat, then the experts would come & draw the names. To me this is really fair. Bob has another method that is also fair. If you ever miss the sign in for the Hunt & still want to hunt, either leave your info. with Bob (name, phone #, day(s) you can hunt) or call Bob at (602) 769-5019 & say you want to hunt or ask if anybody is looking for someone else to go hunt with. Bob's phone is on the front of the Newsletter. Good luck on your hunt! **TIP:** Novices, you'll miss less critters by using a shotgun on beginning hunts. P.S. Please share your stories. **To contribute stories, pictures, etc. to this Newsletter** pvcigroup@yahoo.com

PREDATOR CALLING TIP: JOIN THE PPCI PIN PROGRAM – ONLY \$10

Suggestions BEFORE you go hunting: 1) Have a current 2013 hunting license. 2) Seriously consider purchasing a 2013 mtn. lion tag. You might also consider a bear tag in an open bear unit. 3) Keep a current copy of the 2013 Arizona Hunt Regulation Book in your vehicle. It's invaluable for reviewing laws, showing you the unit you are located in, 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 & 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 & 100 critters, then every 100 coyotes afterwards. Foxes are 10, 25, 50 & 100. Bobcats are 1, 4 & 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. Honor the critter, get credit. Join the Pin Program before your first hunt! The person to see to join the Pin Program will be Bob B. the Hunt Chairman.

MORE PREDATOR-CALLING TIPS: NOTE TO ALL PREDATOR CALLERS

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 their buddy's location. **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! 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!**

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.

PPCI 2013 BOARD MEMBER PARTY

One of the many perks of being a PPCI Officer or Board Member is the Annual Board Party that is usually held in July. This Party is open only to the present Officers & Board Members, Past Presidents and the true helpers of the Club like the Call Box Guy, the Newsletter Editor, Raffle people etc. The last few years this Party has been held at the Ben Avery Shooting Range. The opportunity to shoot Sporting Clays or some other type of shotgun sport is offered plus we grill food and have a great meal with lots of camaraderie. Of course the better half of the members are also welcome so it turns out to be quite the Party. Here are a few pictures from the 2013 Event. Next year when the Club Elections come up, remember that this is just one of the many perks for being a PPCI Officer or Board Member in the Club! Much THANKS to Keith!



*** Aug. 29 - Big Benefit Banquet at Tim's Toyota Ctr in Prescott Valley, AZ to make money for the Firefighters Fund to help the 19 families & the town of Yarnell, AZ. \$50 per person. LOTS & LOTS of firearms, etc. have been donated to this Event! Donations are tax write-offs. More information: http://www.nwtf.org/in_your_state/banquet.php

YOUR CLUB IN ACTION (AES) ARIZONA ELK SOCIETY "WAPITI WEEKEND" REPORT

Wapiti is an Indian word for elk

The Arizona Elk Society has a "Great Idea" when it comes to exposing & solidifying the youth to the fun & possibilities of the Outdoor World. One of the certainly "Statewide" if not "Nationally" known Events that they put on is called "Wapiti Weekend." This Annual Event is so popular that once it comes time to register, if you are not registered in 3 days, then you will probably have to wait for next year! Held at the Sipes Wildlife Ranch outside of Springerville, AZ. this Event is like a "Big Camp" where the youth are introduced to various outdoor activities. Volunteers from the various Outdoor Clubs teach these activities. Some of the Clubs present that I could identify were the Arizona Elk Society (AES), the Arizona Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), the Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. (PVCi) and the AZ. Game & Fish Dept. (AZGFD). Some of the other activities that happen where I did not know the Club involved included metal detecting, learning to look for gold, predator calling for the youth (we taught the older kids) to name just a few. Then the AZGFD also had animal identification, tracks, scat, etc., learning to cast a fishing pole, catching fish at the fish tank (bluegills). Once you caught one you could also get your picture taken, plus much more. I was talking to one of the Mom's there. She waited until day 3 and was barely able to get her kids registered. "Coming here is their favorite thing to do so I come here every year," she said. Talking to one of the dad's who had come to AZ. from another state & had 3 kids at the Event (I remembered him from our 1st Predator Camp two years ago). He was so appreciative of the efforts put forth towards the youth.

When the AES is involved, they are going to feed you. There were hundreds of people present, hundreds of kids with their families plus the AZGFD people & volunteers and the AES crew fed us all! We had 3 good meals on Saturday and 2 good meals on Sunday. Two really "Special Things" happen while we ate. On Saturday, during lunch, they brought in the "Raptor Guy." He introduced us to the sparrow hawk, the peregrine falcon and the golden eagle. On Sunday, Fathers Day, all the kids had entered their names for a "Special Drawing" for a John Toner sheath/knife combo that he made & donated to the AES (Thank You John). The kicker was that the kid who won the knife had to give it to their Dad for Father's Day. What made this more special to me was that I had been talking to the Dad off & on all day and his daughter won the knife.

This same guy also won the "Camping Package" that was in a different Raffle you could put in for. He didn't win at first though. What happen was that the guy who actually won had won this package the year before so he graciously said draw again. The winner then was the same guy who was presented with the John Toner Knife by his daughter! He was happy!!!

President Ken E., Corresponding Secretary Eddie M. & Club Member Bob B. were your PVCi representatives. We taught predator calling to the older kids. We had five one-hour classes on Saturday and three one-hour classes on Sunday. We also pushed our upcoming **George Knox Memorial Boot Camp which will be held at Vincent Ranch in hunt unit 4A on Aug. 10-11. There was a lot of interest in this "Varmint Calling" Boot Camp. I hope that we have the volunteer mentors this year like we did last year. To register for this Boot Camp Go to http://www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com/upcoming_events/ More information can also be found inside this Newsletter or at www.pvci.org**

2013 Wapiti Weekend Pictures



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

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PVCI MONTHLY GUN RAFFLE

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

The Outdoorsman 10004 N. Cave Creek Road Phoenix, AZ. 85027. Phone: (602) 944-7121.

The Gun for August is a Savage Axis 25.06 Rifle. (Scope not included)

The Gun for September is a Remington 870 Express 12ga. Shotgun w/thumbhole camo stock.

Someone will WIN!!! Will it be you? Again there is NO LIMIT on the amount of tickets that you may purchase!



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.**

Aug. 1– Bobcat, fox, raccoon, weasel, ringtail & badger seasons open most of state. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 2-3 – AZ. Game & Fish Commission Meeting in Region II, Flagstaff (928) 774-5045. Deadline for Photo Contest.

Aug. 6-This is the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, 12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m. Brian Wakeling talks Bears

Aug. 9 – 2013 Fall Hunt Tags should be mailed out by now. Archery Antelope season in some Hunt Units. Check Regs.

Aug. 9 – Rifle Bear & some Limited Opportunity Rifle Elk Seasons open in select hunt units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 10-11 – The George Knox Memorial Boot Camp. The location will be at Vincent Ranch (same place as last year). There is more info. plus map inside. This Event is BIG! We had over 100 people last year & things went Great! We'll need you volunteers/mentors again this year! You NEED TO REGISTER! Registering helps determine how much food to bring. Get involved. Register at www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com The incentive for new members that sign up will be a Raffle for a Savage Axis .243! The incentive for mentors /volunteers will be a raffle for a Combo Knife Set!

Aug. 17-18 – PVCI Annual Trail Clearing of the See Canyon Trail in Hunt Unit 4A. Work will be on Saturday. Also “Potluck Dinner” on Saturday night. Gatorade/water to be provided by the Club. Map plus more information inside.

Aug. 21 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting (12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m.

Aug. 23 – Archery deer, antelope, turkey, squirrel seasons open in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 29 - Big Benefit Banquet at Tim's Toyota Ctr in Prescott Valley, AZ to make money for the Firefighters Fund to help the 19 families & the town of Yarnell, AZ. \$50 per person. Lots of firearms. http://www.nwtf.org/in_your_state/banquet.php

Aug. 30 – Deadline for the Sandhill Crane Fall Hunt Applications.

Sept. 1 – Crow & Coatimundi seasons open statewide. Dove Season opens statewide, limit 10. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 3 - This is the 1st Tuesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, 12851 N. 19th Ave., Lodge #2) 7:00p.m. Novice Hunt matchups

Sept. 6 – Rifle & Muzzleloader Antelope Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 6 – Blue Grouse & Chukar seasons open statewide except for no grouse in Units 4A, 5A or 31. Check Hunt Regs.

Sept. 6-7 - AZGFD Commission Meeting in Region I, Pinetop (928) 367-4281

Sept. 7 – Youth Dove Season Opens. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 7-8 – PVCI Novice Hunt. 1st Hunt of the 2013-2014 season. Novices hunt with Experts on a weekend hands-on hunt.

Sept. 12 – Archery deer, antelope, turkey, squirrel seasons end. Check your Hunt Regs.

Sept. 13 – Archery Elk season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

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

Sept. 21-22 – Southwest Fur Harvesters Fall Rendezvous in the Pines. Trapping demos, predator calling, fur sale prep & Certified Trappers Ed Course taught. Family Event, lots of camping space, food, raffles, silent auction, etc.

Sept. 26 – Archery Elk season ends.

Sept. 27 – Early Rifle Bull Elk season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

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

Oct. 4 – Fall Turkey, Squirrel seasons open in select Hunt Units. Quail season opens statewide. Check your Hunt Regs.

Oct. 4 – Junior Fall Turkey, Javelina & Deer seasons open in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

*****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 Membership Chairman James S. or his wife Ruth S. at (602) 524-3586 or (602) 820-5142. Renewal Fees help the Club!

PVCI Membership Count: 184

UPCOMING EVENT 2013 ANNUAL PPCI TRAIL CLEARING FIRE RESTRICTIONS PERMITTING

PVCI members mark your calendars for the weekend of Aug. 17-18, 2013. This will be the dates for the Annual PVCI Trail Clearing. The actual work will take place on Saturday Aug. 17th however many members use this Event as an excuse to spend the whole weekend out of the desert HEAT! The plan is to meet the Forest Service person or our person-in charge at the top PVCI sign off of FS Road 300 (Trail#184 where the See Canyon Trailhead begins) at 9:00a. m.on Saturday morning. Here we will pass out the tools and take a PVCI Trail Clearing group shot by the PVCI sign!

We should be camping off of FS Road 89 approx. 1 mile north of the Bear Canyon Lake Camp turnoff and right before the BIG STEEL power poles that cross the dirt road there. If heading north on FS 89 you would take a right turn on the dirt road that is immediately before the power poles. We will be camped up in the trees on the right hand side as you travel east. (See the map below) This is the same location that we have used for the last few years. **NOTE: Due to the New Forest "Travel Management" Road Regs., we may all have to camp at the Bear Canyon Lake Campground. This Campground is Free & does have bathrooms. Try our normal spot first.**

What is the PVCI Trail Clearing? It is the maintenance of a trail called the See Canyon Trail #184, which is a survival trail that runs from the top of the Rim near Promontory Butte down to Christopher Creek and is used by many hikers, hunters, horse riders, etc. **Our club has maintained this trail for over 35 years!** Each year we get many compliments from users

There will be a POTLUCK DINNER on Saturday evening! PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A DISH! This Dinner has turned out really nice the last few years and is most definitely worth sticking around for! We will also have a Potluck Breakfast on Saturday morning before the work begins. We could use some extra breakfast items such as sausages, bacon & eggs, pancake batter, etc. Some extra frying pans, mixing bowls etc. would help, heck extra cooks too! As this event takes place in Aug. be sure to take your raingear! Brief afternoon showers in the high country are common!

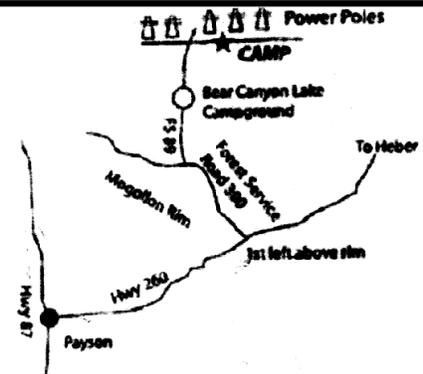
This is a family affair so do bring them. Friends are also invited. Don't forget the POTLUCK DINNER items! Hope to see you on the trailhead. Questions call Mark M. (480) 785-6083.

SEE CANYON
TRAIL
NO. 184

Most of the 2012 PVCI
Trail Clearing Crew



Hope to see you there.
Bring your friends!



NEW RULES FOR BRINGING HUNTER-HARVESTED DEER & ELK INTO ARIZONA from AZGFD Website

As part of the efforts to prevent the introduction of chronic wasting disease (CWD) into the state, the AZGFD has implemented new rules for hunters and other members of the public who wish to bring cervids, (deer, elk & moose) harvested from another state into AZ. The new rules, which are part of the Dept.'s amended Article 3 and that took effect Jul 1, 2013 specify that an individual who lawfully takes a cervid in another state or country may possess, transport or import into AZ. ONLY the following portions of the animal:

Boneless portions of meat or meat that has been cut & packaged: Clean hides and capes with no skull or soft tissue attached, except as required for proof of legality. Also clean skulls w/antlers clean skull plates or antlers with NO meat or soft tissue attached. Upper canine teeth with no meat or tissue attached; and finished taxidermy mounts or products. Hunters & others who plan on bringing back ANY harvested deer, elk or moose back into AZ. should take the following precautions: Bone out the meat & package it (either commercially or privately). Do not cut into the spinal cord or remove the head. Do not quarter (or other method) the carcass with any of the spinal column or head attached. Do NOT bring the brain, intact skull or spinal cord back into AZ. If you wish to take the antlers attached to the skull plate, thoroughly scrape & clean tissue from the skull plate using a knife or brush with bleach. Thoroughly clean all utensils afterwards w/ bleach.

Sawn off antlers with or without velvet need no further treatment. Animal skins or capes without skull or soft tissue attached need no further treatment. Upper canine teeth of elk (ivories) with no meat or tissue attached need no further treatment. Finished taxidermy heads don't require further treatment. Chronic wasting disease is a neurological wildlife disease that affects cervids (deer, elk & moose). To date no evidence has been found to indicate that CWD affects humans but research is continuing. Testing of over 17,000 samples since 1998 has not found evidence of CWD in AZ. The neighboring states of Utah, New Mexico & Colorado DO all have the disease. The new rules are another safeguard to try to keep CWD out of AZ.

UPCOMING EVENT: SOUTHWEST FUR HARVESTERS ANNUAL RENDEVOUS – SEPT. 21-22, 2013

The Southwest Fur Harvesters are having their Annual Trappers Fall Rendezvous in the Pines on Sept. 21-22, 2013. There will be trapping demos, predator calling seminars, fur sale prep & more. A Certified Trappers Ed Course will also be taught. There will also be some vendors on hand selling their wares (including cage traps), a Silent Auction and a Raffle Giveaway or two. This is an Excellent place to come & learn more about fur-bearing critters including predators & how to potentially increase your harvest of them. These guys & gals know their stuff! This is a family event & there are activities to keep the kids busy if you bring them. There is lots of free camping space. **Directions:** Up the hill from Payson near the Hwy 87 & Hwy 260 Junction. From Camp Verde take Highway 260 north. Between Milepost 250 & 251 turn onto FS9366A & follow back until you start seeing vehicles. Host: **Southwest Fur Harvesters.** Info: www.southwestfurharvesters.com or call Scott Corporon (623) 695-5887. This is the Main Moneymaker for the SWFH. Any Donations that you can make to them in the form of goods or services will be greatly appreciated!

2013 PPCI ANNUAL FISHING CONTEST REPORT by Eddie M.

On Saturday June 8th, PPCI held its Annual Fishing Contest at Ashurst Lake in Northern Arizona. This day also just happen to be Free Fishing Day so no fishing license was required to fish. Free Fishing Day really works for our Fishing Contest as then all the members, their families & friends that want to participate & fish can do so without a license.

The Contest started at daybreak & ran until 5:00p.m.. This left plenty of time to catch a limit of BIG trout or whatever other fish species were in the Lake, correct? Well yes, this did work for some people however there were some others (myself included) where the fish just seemed like they didn't want to be a part of the after Contest fish fry. There is a certain spot where I have done well in the past so this is where I usually start. I drove & walked there & had been fishing for about 30 minutes (No Luck) when I see this car park on the other side of the Lake. Two adults & 1 kid get out, gather their gear and begin the long walk towards me. They stop 30 yards from me and in 5 minutes the kid is yelling, "You got one!" "Get him Dad!" "Oh, that's a nice one!" Three minutes later the scenario is repeated. Then it happens again, then again. Now they have 8 trout between them. Meanwhile, nothing is happening with me. I bring in my line here & there & try different baits, nothing but a couple misses. Then it happens, I hook a fish! It's a nice trout (14" to 15"). I work the fish and get it close to shore. Then right at the water edge, just before the trout is on land, the hook pops out & the fish is just there. Everything stopped for a second, then the fish started moving away, my pole dropped from my hand & I dove into the water towards the fish like a Labrador Retriever! I missed and just got wet head to toe.

The three people beside me continued to catch fish, again just a mere 30 yards from me. They did offer me their fish before they left but I had to refuse them because I was in a Contest & had to catch my own. I finally did catch one.

The winner of the 2013 PPCI Annual Fishing Contest in the Longest Fish Category was Sara C. Sara had a trout that was 16 ½" long. In the Kids Category Longest Fish was Sebastian 13 ¼" long. The Longest Stringer Adult was Ivan C. with 6 fish. The Kids Longest Stringer was Ricardo Jr. with 2 fish. After the measuring we had the famous Members & Guests Raffle Drawing. This Raffle is open to ALL that are present. You don't have to be a member heck you don't even have to fish. You do need to be present though. This year the Club gave me \$120 to buy items for this Raffle. **In addition Cabela's also gave us \$250 worth of prizes.** This included 20 fishing rod/pole combinations. The idea was that they wanted all the kids to have a pole to fish with before the Contest even started whether they already had a pole or not. THANK YOU VERY MUCH CABELA'S!!! The Longest Fish Winner Sara C. had 1st pick at the Raffle table. Next was Ivan, then the Kids Category Winners. After this we put all the names into a coffee can and as you were drawn you were able to walk up to the table and have your pick of items. I believe we all received at least 2 items. Then we cleaned the fish and had our potluck/ fish fry. Thank you Ivan for helping to clean the fish & thank you Sara & Laura for frying them up. Also thanks to Albert for just being an all around help. We had a GREAT TIME, we always do at this Event! Most of the trout caught were in the 14" to 15" range with 2 or 3 that went 16 inches. I hope that if you missed this year that you will reconsider & that we will see you in 2014. Thanks to ALL who helped make this Event a success!



It is hard for me to believe that bear season will open again in less than 10 days! Bears are one of my favorite predators to try to call in & kill each year. Killing a bear here in AZ. is usually not an easy task & venturing into bear country using a predator call as one of your tools doesn't make things any easier. Bears can be BIG & live in BIG, often ROUGH country. When you see one hanging on a wall you can just about bet it didn't get there by road hunting. More than likely that hunter had to venture into that Rough Country & bring the bear out the hard way! Bears on the wall are usually earned through lots of hard work.

I am sitting here thinking back about some of the good & bad trips over the years. They all required hard work & some serious planning. You see unlike going coyote calling where once they are dead you can actually pick them up & bring a couple of them back to the truck along with your weapon(s), bears can be BIG. Just the freshly skinned hide alone can weigh more than a couple of coyotes! Then there is the meat care, water for you, rattlers, heat, storms, lots of exercise, etc.

The first thing you will need to hunt bears in AZ besides a hunting license is a Bear Tag. These can be purchased at most sporting goods stores or in the sporting dept. of most stores. The cost for Residents is \$22.25 for a non-permit-tag.

Fall bear hunts in AZ. are structured to protect the female bear population. Each Hunt Unit that has a bear season has a female harvest objective. Once the season opens, if you make a kill you are required by law to report your kill within 48 hours. Call (1-800) 970-BEAR. Part of this reporting process includes telling the sex of the bear. Once the female objective has been met, the unit will close at sundown the next available Wednesday of the week. Example: If the number is reached on Tuesday, then the season closes at sundown the next day. If the number is reached on Thursday, then the unit closes at sundown the following Wednesday. In hunt units where the female harvest is only 1 or 2, that unit may only be open for one week! Preseason scouting (finding bears or fresh sign ahead of time) is very important if you really want to be successful. **You must also by law present the bear's hide, attached proof of sex and skull to be examined.** Read the AZGFD rules on this.

Will Bears Really Respond To A Predator Call? You bet your "Sweet Bippe" they will! Perhaps a better question might be: "Are you sure you really want a big bear to come to your calling?" My **fastest response** was a sow in Unit 27 that came running within 3 minutes! Her 3 cubs were not far behind. The **closest called bear** was my 1st called bear that came on a dead run & stopped just 7 short steps away! This was 6 miles inside the Wilderness & as it wasn't bear season I had no firearm (I didn't make any more noise). My closest called/shot bear was 19 steps with a slug. Closest kill was less than 10 yards.

Especially in fall bear hunting, there is one true acronym, **find the food & with any type of good habitat, you will find the bears feeding on it.** This food can vary by the month, habitat & terrain in the unit & can be affected by everything like fire, drought, plant cycles, human encroachment, etc. Bears can and do eat anything that will fit in their mouths like bugs, berries, carrion & fawns in season. After breeding, the summer & fall months for all bears is all about putting on the pounds to get fat for winter hibernation. In AZ this usually involves eating large amounts of what I call wild crop-type foods. The Manzanita berry, acorn & juniper berries are probably the most important of these foods with the prickly-pear fruit also being used in some areas. Some bears can be found in July in the Manzanita bushes eating berries. In some places the scrub oak acorns are also ready. In the woods I have seen wild apples, grapes, walnuts & of course raspberries that were ready in the July-August timeframe. August & September finds more scrub oak plus the prickly-pear cactus fruit is being consumed by many bears especially if the acorn crop up high is poor. October finds the pear crop still strong in some areas but really falling off in others. By November the big oak trees in the pines are full of acorns. In November & December also look to the heavily laden juniper trees that are full of berries. Keep in mind that not every unit is the same. You just aren't going to find the cactus fruits in Unit 7 that you'll find in Unit 23 or the acorns in Unit 28 that you'll find in Unit 4A. Along with food bears MUST have water & shade. Water can be in waterholes & creeks but also look for springs & seeps on the maps. Bears live in shady cover. If feeding in the lower prickly-pear hills, they must either head up to bed or head into a big shady tree studded draw, preferably with water at the bottom. Hills are shadiest on the north & west sides.

Suggestions For Calling Bears: If you can, try to locate them first. Then (if possible) get within rifle range & try the predator call. If calling cold (no bears in sight) try calling shady canyons, especially if there is not a road at the bottom. This canyon must be climbable & not a sheer drop-off. The bear has to be able to get to you. Also the shady north and west side of hills. In the pears you can go above the feeding spot & call the bedding area but if you were seeing bears feeding, I would wait until they were visible again. In the pines, find the oak trees with acorns. Look for sign & call, especially if near any gradual drop-offs. Sounds to use include the fawn distress and rabbit distress. Reed Peterson, founder of the Mesa Varmint Callers has called over 100 bears using a Circe Jackrabbit Call. He says to blow continuous as the bear has a short attention span. Pause no more than 30 seconds. Make sure you have a good backstop in case a bear sneaks or runs in & surprises you from behind. This backstop can be a big rock or tree or something that the bear will have difficulty getting through. Be sure to use enough firepower. Just like with elk I think that a .270 is probably the minimum caliber to use in what we do. If you ever shoot a bear & it gets away on you, you'll be very disappointed. Slugs do work & are legal in a shotgun. Buckshot is not legal for use on bears. Shoot slugs only out of a modified or more open choke. No full chokes or tighter.

Public land versus Wilderness: Highest kills in units with Wilderness Areas. More bears & less hunters in Wilderness. Top 5 Units in 2011: 1) Unit 1-38 2) Unit 27-33 3) Unit 23S-24 4) Unit 23N-20 5) Unit 6A-18 Call (1-800) 970-BEAR After the shot: Tag kill. Measure chest. Take some pictures! Have a plan to get meat & hide out. Report kill within 48 hours.

WHAT WERE YOU DRAWN FOR?

Gary A.M. – Unit 42 Mule Deer	Bob J. & Mike . – Unit 17B Deer	Steve L. – Unit 20A Mule Deer
Ken E. – Unit 20A Mule Deer	Keith – Unit 21 Mule Deer	Eddie & Ivan – 36B WT Deer
Bruce E. - Unit 12A Champ Deer	Larry S. & Dan K. - Unit 20A Mule Deer	Kevin – Unit 8 Mule Deer
Tommy M. – Unit 29Whitetail	Joe P. & Mark M. – Unit 4A/4B Fall Turkey	Ron P. – Nothing AGAIN!!!
James & Ruth S. – Unit 11M Archery Cow Elk	Corrina, Heather & Ruth –	Unit 36C Coues Wt.

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 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 & often I 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!!!**

Aug.10 –11 -George Knox Memorial Varmint Calling Boot Camp: at Vincent Ranch past Woods Canyon Lake for youth & adults. In the field predator calling seminars, then we go hunt! Friday is set-up only. Food by Outdoors/Unlimited on Friday eve, Saturday morning & eve & Sunday morn. Camp Free. Register. Vincent Ranch/tents only. More info inside.

Sept. 6-8 – Becoming an Outdoor Woman: For women (18+) Learn about hunting, gun safety, fishing, camping, Dutch-oven cooking, map & compass reading & more. Location: Prescott Friendly Pines Camp. Host: Arizona Wildlife Federation. Register: www.azwildlife.org \$250 fee.

Sept. 7-8 – Robbins Butte Junior's Dove Hunt: Dove hunting just for kids at a Game & Fish Wildlife Area. Breakfast provided. Location: Robbins Butte Wildlife Area. Hosted by AZGFD & Chandler Rod & Gun Club. www.azgfd.gov/dove

Sept. 12-14 – CJ Miller Memorial Beginner's Dove Hunt & Training: Classroom instruction Thursday on hunting doves, shotgun instruction & safety & clay target shooting followed by real dove hunt on Saturday. Location: Utery Mountain Shooting Range, Game & Fish Mesa Office. Host: AZGFD, Youth Outdoors Unlimited, AZ Outdoor Sports. Register: Dave Carson, dcarson@azgfd.gov

Sept. 21-22 – Trappers Fall Rendezvous in the Pines: Trapping demos, predator calling, fur sale prep, food, Certified Trappers Course taught, family event, lots of camping space. Location: FS9366A btwn Milepost 250 & 251 on Hwy. 260 close to Hwy 87. Host: **Southwest Fur Harvesters.** Info: www.southwestfurharvesters.com Scott Corporon (623) 695-5887.

Oct. 4-8 – Unit 1 Squirrel Camp: Learn about hunting tree squirrels for beginners, other outdoor skills, activities. Food provided. Location: Pinetop/Lakeside, Los Burros campground, Unit 1. Hosted by AZGFD, RMEF and Arizona Elk Society. Register: Game & Fish Pinetop office, (928) 367-4281.

Oct. 4-8 – Outdoors Skill Camp: Learn how to camp, fish, hunt & discover nature & wildlife. Limited to 50 participants. Location: Payson area, Sharp Creek Campground. Hosted by AZGFD, Red Bear Outfitters, Safari Club Int., Mogollon Sportsmen Assoc. Register: Henry Apfel (480) 639-9994, hapfel@azgfd.gov

Oct. 10-13: Various Elk Camps: Elk seminars, food, prizes, go hunting for elk. Register: Unit 6A Mormon Lake clairlinda@q.com Unit 6A Happy Jack Lodge Info at www.arizonaelksociety.org Unit 1& 2C Sheep Corral in Green Peak area register: www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com

Oct. 10-13 – Various Deer Camps: Units 22-23: Info. Terry Herndon, therndon@muledeer.org (623) 696-5579, Units 21& 20B: Info. www.azdeer.org Scott Streich, azace@cox.net Unit 12A North Rim: Rich Leightner, reightner@thebigpond.com

HUNTING PICS



Bear Season is here soon! Be careful what you wish for.

Tommy M. (L) w/coyote called/killed.

Eddie M. with Coatimundi

Pictures from 2012 George Knox Memorial Boot Camp. Come & learn to call/hunt predators Aug 10-11, 2013

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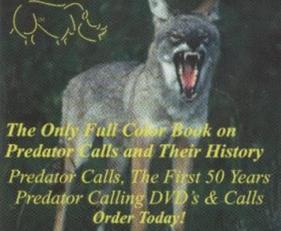


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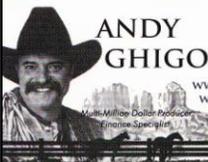
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