



Officers

President
None

Vice President
None

Treasurer
Laurie D.

Corresponding Secretary
None

Recording Secretary
Dan S.

Board Members
Craig B.
Ron H.
Ricardo G.
Chris C.
Wayne W.
Ray K.

Predator Tales
Eddie M
Scott B.

Membership Chairman
Ruth S.

Hunt Chairman
Ron H.

Webmaster
James S.
Kirk D.

WANTED: Somewhat well-adjusted, reliable people with some hunting experience to be the President, Vice-President & Corresponding Secretary of a major Predator Calling Club called PPCI or the Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc.

Things to Know:

- * The Annual Payson Wildlife Fair will be held May 11, at Green Valley Park in Payson
- ***The Deadline for the 2019 fall hunts, deer, bighorn, etc. is May 14th by 7:00p.m. for paper applications! The Deadline for On-Line Apps. Is June 12 by 11:59p.m.**
- * **The date of the 2019 PPCI Campout & BBQ is May 17-19.** Location: Moqui Draw, the location used the last few years. Fire Restrictions Permitting See Map/directions inside.
- * All participants who came to **“PPCI Check In”** this past season should attend the June meeting for a chance to receive an item.
- * **The First Wednesday in July is July 3rd. We WILL have a Club Meeting, & Club activity that weekend.**
- * **The PPCI Fishing Derby/Outdoor Skills Take a Kid Fishing Event will be July 5-6.** PPCI has a campsite reserved in the Woods Canyon Lake Campground. This is not Free Fishing Day so a fishing license will be required to fish. Members Kirk D. & Al are running the Event. Listed in 2019-2020 Game & Fish Regs. on Page 24 **“Outdoor Skills”** as PPCI Take a Kid Fishing Day.
- **To contribute stories, pictures, etc. to this Newsletter send items to: **coyotecaller@cox.net** Share your stories/pictures, tips, recipes, etc. with us. We’d like to read them. These articles don’t have to be about predators. **Join us on our Facebook Group** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PPCI.org/>
- Join us on Facebook Page** <http://www.facebook.com/ppci.org> PPCI Website <http://www.ppci.org>



PPCI Booth at 2019 Expo New Turkey Hunters! Top 6 Months Skills Team 2019 Top Novice

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PLEASE READ BELOW: IMPORTANT

WANTED: Your input concerning the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking during the public comment period from April 12 to May 12.

The Arizona Game & Fish Commission is proposing to adopt a rule that would prohibit using any lethal method of take during a hunting contest for predatory and fur-bearing animals, as defined under Arizona Revised Statutes 17-101.

In a public meeting on March 15, the Commission unanimously approved a Notice of Rulemaking Docket and Opening and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. The Notice is also posted at www.azgfd.gov/rulemaking.

The Notice will be published in the Arizona Administrative Register on April 12, opening a 30-day comment period for the public to provide feedback. All public comments received from April 12 to May 12 will become part of the official record for this proposed rulemaking. There are two ways to submit comments:

. E-mail: rulemaking@azgfd.gov

. U.S. Mail: Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn.: Rules Section, 5000 w. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ. 85086.

All public comments will be evaluated before a Notice of Final Rulemaking is taken to the Commission for its consideration. If approved, the final rule would be reviewed by the Governor's Regulatory Review Council (GRCC).

The Commission's intent in adopting this rule is to address social concerns associated with hunting contests that award prizes to participants who kill the largest number or variety of predatory or fur-bearing animals.

The proposed rule would not apply to lawful, regulated hunting of predatory and fur-bearing animals which plays an important role in wildlife management.

PVCI Members this New Rule if passed "Will" Affect the way that we operate our Club Hunts. We will have to "Not" do something to be legal. It really does seem that the AZGFD wants to pass this New Rule. We are still able to predator hunt which is one thing that the AZGFD does not want to lose. Still, I personally am opposed to changing any part of what we currently have. We are not breaking any rules. Heck, there are more coyotes killed on the Highways in one day than are killed in the hunting contests!

Here is the Proposed Rule: Participate in, organize, promote or solicit participation in a contest where a participant uses or intends to use any device or implement to capture or kill predatory animals or fur-bearing animals as defined under A.R.S. 17-101. For the purposes of this subsection, "contest" means a competition among participants where participants must register or record entry and pay a fee and prizes or cash are awarded to winning or successful participants.

The public comment period is from April 12 to May 12. All public comments received from April 12 to May 12 will become part of the official record for this proposed rulemaking. There are two ways to submit comments: Read above.

I hope that you will comment. I am commenting Against the Rule. I do not want to just hand the anti's a victory. Not just one comment either. I will also try to send one comment a day.

WERE OUR OWN WORST ENEMY- WE MADE THIS BED, WE NEED TO CLEAN UP OUR BEDS

from Kara J. of APC

The coyote hunting community is who started digging their own grave here. Posting grisly photos of dozens of dead coyotes in a pickup or hanging from one leg on a fence. Posting comments like "whacked a bunch of dogs" and unfortunate naming of contests like Santa Slay... Whether any hunter thinks posting bloody, photos & crude comments is a right and not doing it is kowtowing to the anti's is irrelevant. These things are unpleasant & inconsiderate. Not everyone needs or wants to read or see these types of posts. Those sights & comments need to be kept within the participants of the event at the event.

An analogy, a husband proudly wants to show off the birth of his first child. He doesn't post pictures of the baby being pulled out of the vagina all bloody and covered in goo. No one wants to see that. The picture is delayed until after the baby is washed up and wrapped in a blanket and Mom has had a chance to wipe the sweat off her face.

We are our own worse enemy in this issue. We made this bed & need to clean it up. It's no one else's job to fix this for us or even help us on this issue. Coyote Hunting Clubs & their members need to save face and turn this perception around. We must stop GIVING the anti's fuel for their fire. We need to use the same tactics they use like, Emotion. Kara believes that perhaps we should enforce these as Skills Contests, not Killing Contests although we don't use the term Killing but rather Hunting.

One howl! And Six Coyotes Howl Back!

Austin and Billy on the March Novice Hunt. Third stand of the day, Billy's first time calling, & first harvested coyote. Coyote stood up on first series about 200 yards away & came running. She hesitated at 100 yards, one squeak & she came into 20 feet. When he picked his shotgun up out of his lap, she reversed, & he nailed her at 20 yards. The shotgun he used was a Remington 870 that I lent him. I did make him pay me back one load!

One hour earlier, sneaking into a stand, we were busted by a coyote fifty yards short of where I wanted to set up. I backed us out and drove farther down and made another unsuccessful stand. Driving back, Austin called a stand a quarter mile east of where we were busted, with no results. Billy then tried about two-thirds of a mile west of that stand, again no joy. And we were getting desperate because all we had was Billy's coyote from the morning before. This was going to be the last stand of the weekend and it was already after six p.m. Because of the thick

by Ken E.



mesquite I stopped after half and mile and we headed in, all of us carrying shotguns. I set Austin up first, sitting on my four-foot ladder and looking east. Heading directly up wind fifty yards I found a nice spot for Billy thirty yards to my left looking south and I was facing west and north. The sunset was pretty but looking into the sun sucked but was still worth a howl. The first coyote was close, to my front and left. The rest seemed to be strung out in a line to the east, all about fifty yards into the brush line and with enough separation to tell they were different coyotes. Jackpot and time to shut up and let them come in. I wait, and wait, and wait. Where is the earth-shattering kaboom? After three minutes I give a quite coaxing using my Pee-wee and wait. Nothing. Time for the Twisted Psycho and desperation. I choked up as close to the tip as I could and went to town. Ten minutes into the stand, three series on the Psycho

and we are losing the light. Is it time to call the stand? Another series with lots of emotion and I hear a scuff from my right and front. A floating rug coming right at me! But it has a head with a white stripe running front to back and claws were showing with each stride. The first shot passed over its back, since I was trying to not destroy the head, cough, cough. And it was only 30 feet out. Second load of four buck was quite effective, though. And the celebrating began! We made it to check in with seven minutes to spare and placed third with a coyote and the badger, not bad for a team with two rank novices. Billy shot his coyote on his first stand as a caller Saturday morning. By the way, Gary A. M. weighed the badger at 18 pounds. I have no idea how old it was, but all the lower front teeth were worn down to the gums.

PREDATOR CALLING ON YOUR OWN by Eddie M.

I used to go out hunting by myself quite a bit. I really liked going & doing exactly what I wanted. Like making my amount of noise in the morning or walking as far away from the road as I want or going all the way up to that far saddle, etc. There is just a certain sense of freedom that is good. Now there is entirely nothing wrong with having hunting partners, especially in these days & times. However, novices, if you really want your killing numbers to grow, then you have to be able to call and kill critters one on one. The critters then are the teachers, especially when it comes to coyotes. Don't get all dependent to where you have to have others with you before you feel comfortable about calling. You can call & kill something on your own. At the time I wrote this, being without a vehicle the last few years had kind of taken away this aspect of the calling game from me. With the addition recently of another vehicle, I am once again able to enjoy that free feeling again!

The picture is of a decent morning in the field alone. This was the 4th coyote that Chris used his skills to call in that morning. The coyote was completely fooled and came at Chris hard! Chris said that this one made him sweat a little as he was nervous before the shot. He used a shotgun and was able bring the coyote home. One thing to remember if you are hunting alone is to make sure that you have a camera that has a self-timer on it. That way you can also get yourself in the pictures. Do take tasteful pictures to honor the animal. Also pick a spot when you shoot, don't just shoot at the whole critter.



Old Tips: Bring a GPS...its awkward when you must eat your buddies!

Vegetarian: Old Indian word for lousy hunter!

THESE PREDATOR HUNTER SKILLS HAS MADE A BETTER OVERALL HUNTER

by Eddie M.



Welcome, welcome, welcome PPCI Member, especially if you are new (we need new blood) welcome! You have joined a fine organization made up of fine individuals. I am proud to say that I have been a member for more than 30 years. If you will open yourself and make yourself available you can make friends here, even life-long friends that among other things should you decide to participate, can also share in the thrill of the hunt!!! (and sometimes not)

Before joining PPCI I like to think that I was your typical, normal person. One day a long time ago, a friend on my paper route that was my age (Vincent) gave me a 6-week old beagle pup. At 6 months old I had that pup running rabbits like a pro. Vincent also had beagles. He also had an Uncle named Bobby that would take us and our beagles to different areas to hunt rabbits. This happen in Ohio and I started hunting when I was 12 following the beagles after cottontail rabbits with my 20-gauge shotgun! There were also pheasants & bobwhite quail. I also trapped muskrats and fished when it wasn't hunting season. When 18, I joined the Marines and ended up back in

my Birth State, California (I left when I was 2). California is a LOT of things! It was the place where big-game hunting was introduced to me. From my home in Bakersfield, in 30 miles I could be in the ponderosa pines on the West Side of the Sierras. California is where I saw my 1st bear, shot my 1st deer, caught smallmouth bass and trout in the deadly Kern River, limited out on crappie at Lake Henshaw, even fished the enormous ocean! My last 16 months in the Marines, we moved to Yuma, AZ. Here I had to learn to fish and hunt also in order to be happy. Catfishing for channel cat and flathead & gigging bullfrogs at night became the norm. Most hunting was done on the Kofa Game Refuge for small game. I remember one year I killed 51 quail, 31 cottontails & 1 jackrabbit. I used to not want to shoot the jackrabbits as they seemed as big as a beagle & carrying one back to the truck just didn't seem appealing. I'm still normal, right?

From Yuma, I ended up in Phoenix. One day I stopped at this Outdoor Show going on at Sanderson Ford. There were different Outdoor Sporting Groups at these tables. At one table there was a guy named Lew E. that was from the Phoenix Varmint Callers and he was blowing a call. The sound the call made was sort of like a baby crying but with some pain. I looked at some of his photo albums and saw pictures of coyotes, foxes and bobcats. It then dawned on me that these guys were hunting the hunters. I walked up to the table and looked at Lew, cocking my head from one side to the other and asked if that was what the sound was supposed to sound like? "Something like that" he said. He then invited me to a Club Meeting at this Grade School on Indian School Road. I went and joined PPCI that first night, changing me forever.

Skip A. was the first to take me under his arm. If you want to hunt this weekend paint your shotgun. Paint your shotgun? The thought had never even occurred to me. Unpainted rifles & shotguns can reflect like a mirror in the sun! That reflection in many cases can be seen for miles. I had no problem painting that gun whatsoever and to this day have absolutely no use for a shiny firearm. Why I would paint a Benelli in a heartbeat if given a chance without batting an eye.

There was one other Novice on that hunt besides me and early on Skip taught us about wind direction. What upwind, downwind and crosswind was. Every creature downwind of you already knows you are there because they can smell you.

We learned how to "smoke up." What you do is make a fire and let it burn down to coals. Then you put the green boughs of the native vegetation onto those coals. This produces very thick smoke. You smoke your clothes in this smoke until the smoke turns to fire. When the fire is gone you smoke more items. Now you will smell more like the vegetation in the area than a human or that is the hope anyway. Warning: Do NOT put your facemask in this smoke as you will cry all day if you do.

What is the most feared sound in the wild animal world? The sound of the human voice. We learned how to not talk out loud but instead to WHISPER.....No, not talk in a low tone, WHISPER! We also learned, just like ALL of you have, to not do the one thing that is the Most Neglected No-No in the hunting world although talking out loud may beat this and that is closing or slamming the door when you get out of your vehicle. Something again most humans/other hunters do not even think about. How many times when you are quail, rabbit, squirrel, deer or elk hunting have you heard the sound of vehicle doors being closed in the distance? Be it in camp, where every time they open the door, they close it loudly to folks that are actually out hunting. They drive past you, pull over, get out, close or slam their door shut and usually start talking out loud. This just doesn't usually work when hunting predators. You are trying to get into an area quietly, make your distress sounds without letting them know you are in the area and dispatch them before they find out they have been fooled. I follow good practices and close my doors quietly even when home. I also learned to not just walk but to try to walk quietly. When growing up hunting rabbits, this is just the opposite of what you want to do. You want to make noise and bust brush then stop and be quiet for a bit, then proceed. A rabbit's best defense is to just be still & let you walk by. If you're making noise then stop for a spell, they begin to believe they've been seen & get nervous enough to run. These learned predator skills & others have made me a quieter, more conscious overall hunter which has helped me in about all my hunt situations. Perhaps, if you follow them, they will help you also.

ARIZONA GAME & FISH EXPO REPORT

March 30-31 were the dates for the 2019 Arizona Game & Fish Dept. Outdoor Expo held at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix, AZ. off the Carefree Highway. This Event transformed the Shooting Facility into the largest hands-on Outdoor Expo in Arizona with outdoor adventure and fun for the entire family! As in years past admission and parking were totally FREE, as were the shuttles to and from the parking to different points of the event. Once inside there were Loads of hands-on activities, educational presentations/demos & chances to meet with outdoor groups & agencies plus exhibitor booths displaying wildlife & the shooting, hunting, fishing & outdoor sports. PPCI had a Booth at the Event with a decent number of volunteers on both days. Our Mission at these Events is to promote the sport of Varmint Calling. As usual there was a LOT of interest in what we do, and we'll probably see some new faces from this Event in upcoming Meetings.

A new record 52,000 people attended the Event! The crowds did seem larger to me this year. What a Great Idea by whomever in the Arizona Game & Fish Department thought to do something like this. Having an annual event where you give the public a chance to learn about the many wildlife related and outdoor recreation activities possible here in Arizona from practically from A to Z.



PVCI YOUTH TURKEY HUNT REPORT

by Ken E.

The Marvin Robbins Memorial Youth Turkey Camp in Unit 23 at the Colcord Ridge Campground was held April 18 -21. This Camp was hosted by the NWTf, AES & PPCI with Turkey Hunter Rich W. presiding. My sources tell me there were 65 registered youth and around 250 folks total here. As usual there was Free Food. Seminars were also taught on turkey hunting/calling and varmint hunting plus Jerry the eagle guy was there (and, also mentoring). Two gobblers were killed on Friday and 1 more on Saturday. About 10:00a.m. the wind hit the North Country pretty hard & kept getting stronger. Then Sunday was Easter.

The AZ Elk Society now has the permanent Ray E. Kitchen as tribute to our former president with a handsome wooden sign that will go to every camp from here on.

Thank you NWTf, AES, PPCI, and AZGFD for all your support and efforts!

A WORD ABOUT COMMISSION MEETINGS! (We should be there)

There is a tremendous amount of apathy among the sportsmen of Arizona. It is interesting to note that about the only time a large number of people show up is when there is the very real possibility that something is going to be taken away from them! The proposed ban on predator hunts 20 years ago is a case in point. There were literally hundreds of sportsmen who drove to Flagstaff & Tucson from all over the state to express themselves on this issue. The antis were there too. The question then is, "Where are these people when other issues that affect them are discussed & voted upon?"

When an issue comes up that needs to be discussed too often there is no one there to discuss it, no representation.

We all live busy lives. Just in the course of daily events it is hard to find time to do all that needs to be done. Yes, these Meetings are also boring however we ALL must wake up to the fact that this is the place that major decisions & changes are made that affect all sportsmen in our state. The Commission NEEDS TO hear from us! It is not enough to look back after the fact and say, "Well the Commission can't do that, it violates my rights!" Friends, they can and do & then it's up to you to prove otherwise. Who wants to step up and be the "trial court case" with the associated expense to attempt to prove them wrong? On the predator issue at hand concerning predator contest hunts, will the predator groups say/do anything? What will be the next contest that the AZGFD believe the public doesn't like, bass fishing contests? I believe that if the Meetings main day was not held on Friday, more would attend (we work on Friday's) however it was recently explained the reason they went to Fridays main days instead of Saturday main days was because no one was showing up on Saturday's anyway.

*** PVC I MONTHLY GUN

The Gun for May: Ruger Security 9mm. The Gun for June is to be determined.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 1 - This is the 1st Wednesday. PVC I Monthly Meeting, (Elks Lodge) 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. 7:00P.M.

May 2 – All Rifle Spring Bear Seasons End. Check your Hunt Regs.

May 3 – Archery Spring Bear Season Opens in certain Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

May ? – Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meetings 5325 N. Stockton Hill Rd. Kingman 86409 (926)-692-7700

May 14 - URGENT! Deadline for the 2019 fall hunts, deer, turkey, bighorn, etc. for Paper Applications by 7:00p.m.

May 15 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVC I Board Meeting at Barro's Pizza 3053 W Aqua Fria FRWY

May 17-19 – PVC I Annual Campout & Barbecue: One of our largest Family-Oriented Events. Let's grab the wives, kids, significant others, friends & camp together in the cooler than desert woods. Let's eat together & have some friendly competition amongst each other. This is an excellent way for you to introduce those you care about to the PVC I members. Location: Moqui Draw. See Schedule of Events, Map /Directions inside. Fire Restrictions Permitting.

May 23 – All Arizona Spring Turkey Seasons end.

May 31 – Day Long Shooting Hours or Night Hunting ENDS in ALL Hunt Units for Coyotes. Check your Hunt Regs.

May 31 - Tassel-Eared Squirrel Season ends in Hunt Unit 33.

June 5 - 1st Wednesday. (Elks Lodge) PVC I Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. 7:00P.M.

June 8-9 - Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meetings 7200 E. University Mesa 85207 (480)-981-9400

June 12 - Deadline for the 2019 fall hunts, deer, turkey, bighorn, etc. for Online Applications by 11:59 PM

June 19 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVC I Board Meeting at Barro's Pizza 3053 W Aqua Fria FRWY

June 30 - Tassel-Eared Squirrel Season ends in Hunt Unit 31.

July 3 – 1st Wednesday. (Elks Lodge) PVC I Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. 7:00P.M.

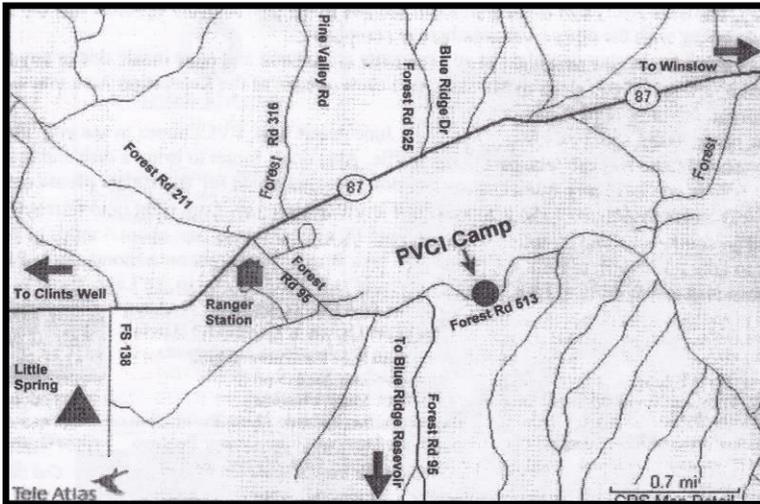
July 6-7 – PVC I Fishing Contest/Outdoor Skills Take a Kid Fishing Event: Let's do Woods Canyon, Willow Springs & Bear Canyon Lakes & their tributaries with the Official/Measuring/Potluck Camp Spot Location inside the Woods Canyon Lake Campground. Potluck/Fish Fry Saturday Evening after the Official Measuring. Please bring a dish.

Refer to page 24 in the 2019/2020 Hunting Regulations to Register due to limited number of Camp Sites.

***** NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: DO NOT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP to stay a PVC I Member!** On Jan. 1st, 2018 the PVC I Officers & Board decided to do away with the hard copy Newsletter & **go to an on-line only issue.** To receive an e-mail Newsletter, you MUST send your info to pvcigroup@yahoo.com Once you receive the E-Mail copy you will be notified by E-Mail when your Membership is due. Please submit proper payment to keep your Membership current. The fee to renew remains \$25 and should be made payable to PVC I. Send payment to PVC I c/o Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 87153, Phoenix, AZ. 85080-7153. For new members the fee is \$35, and forms are available at the Monthly General Meeting. Questions: Contact Ruth S. 602-524-3586. **PVC I Membership Count: 156 PVC I Welcomes New Members: Patricia C.; Grant C.; Robert E.; Phillip G.; Dale K.; Mike R.; Jesse R.; & Jacob S.**

PVCI ANNUAL CAMPOUT & BARBECUE – MAY 17-19, 2019

(Fire Restrictions Permitting) This year's Annual Campout & Barbecue will be scheduled for May 17-19, 2019. We are planning on the Moqui Draw area near the Blue Ridge Ranger station as the location again which we have successfully used several times in the past. This Event is one of our most attended off-season Family-Oriented 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. In between the shooting look forward to some really good food & having a great time up in the cool pines. Hope that you and the family and friends can make it. Member Larry S. has graciously accepted to head this Event again! 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. To get 1st pick at running an Event or to volunteer call Larry at For a status update look at the **PVCI** website www.pvci.org or Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pvci.org>



Route #1: On Hwy 87 go through Payson, Strawberry, & Clints Well. Stay on Hwy 87 to the first right (Fr 95) Past the Blue Ridge Range station. Take FR 95 South go approximately 1 mile to FR 513. Camp on the East side FR 513

**Route #2: Go north on I -17 to camp Verde
Turn right on either Exit 287 or 288
Go East on Hwy 260 to Hwy 87.
Turn Left on Hwy 87 and
follow Route #1 Instructions**

PLEASE only camp on the right side of FR 513 as you drive in. According to the NEW Coconino Forest Rules; **PLEASE DO NOT camp more than 100 yards from the main road! You will probably be cited if you ignore this rule!** Shooting will be on the left & again according to the New Rules **Please DO NOT park more than 10 yards from the main road on the left side.** * **Keep ALL dogs on a leash.** Portable toilet will be provided. Please clean up your camping area before going home. Pack out all trash & drown your ashes w/ water & dirt & scatter the camp fire ring rocks. Please bring canopies or tarps for shade, plus extra chairs & ice.

REMEMBER GUN SAFETY: No loaded firearms in camp. Please No alcohol & guns. SHOOT ONLY when directed to do so & in designated area. Use the proper firearms for targets.

REGISTRATION: For Target Shooting Events: See ??? Cost is \$2.00 per shooter per event. All shooting events are to immediately follow each other. Times may vary.

NOTICE: In most cases all events are shooting what you brought, all Optics OK – except no magnified optics for jug shoots. A Red- Dot sights (no projected laser beams) is considered the same as an iron sight as long as there is no magnification. No .22's on Bowling Ball Event.

SATURDAY'S EVENTS: Start Time: 8:00a.m. **SUNDAY'S EVENTS:** Start Time: 8:00a.m.

.22 pistol – men, women, kids (10-16) 5 pin shoot – men, women, kids

.22 rifle – men, women, kids Jug shoot - \$1 per shot: (buy as many as you like

Gong shoot – Big bore pistol only – men, women, kids but only 1 shot taken until your turn rolls around

Kids BB gun shoot?? or the jug is hit). Pull a number from a hat & that's

LUNCH TIME (sorry, food not provided) your order to shoot.

Archery Muzzleloader – men, women, kids Kid's calling contest* If we have at least 3 Kids!

DINNER: PVCI will provide (some sort of Main Dish) till it's gone on Saturday night. The Club will also provide a grill for cooking on both Friday and Saturday. PLEASE DO bring a POTLUCK dish/dessert to share! **Dutch oven** cook-off also. Bring your favorite dish for the cook-off.

P.S. There may be PRIZES for the Top Men & Women's Shooter so PRACTICE UP!!!

UPCOMING EVENT: PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR – MAY 11, 2019 by Eddie M.

On Saturday MAY 11, 2019 the town of Payson will host the 25th Annual “Payson Wildlife Fair!” This Wildlife Awareness Fair held at Green Valley Park in Payson comes alive with a multitude of wildlife & outdoor fun activities for the whole family. Catch a monster-sized trout, cruise the lake in a canoe, try your hand at archery or touch a live snake, there is something for everyone! People come from all over the state for this one-day event. It’s a good day up in the cool air of Payson. There will be booths from many local & state organizations, pellet gun & archery ranges plus door prizes for the kids such as free fishing rods & lures. Live wildlife will also be on display, the Fair celebrating Arizona’s great outdoors and diverse wildlife. Smokey the Bear has also been known to make an appearance. For the Event, Green Valley Lake (one of the Urban Lakes) will be double-stocked with hundreds of lbs. of trout (including some HUGE incentive fish) & open to all to fish for FREE from the hours of 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. Equipment and bait plus instruction are provided at the Free Fishing Booth at the Fair. The Event lasts from 9:00A.M. to 3: 00P.M. and offers lots to do. Admission is Free. PVC I will have a booth at this Event promoting the sport of Varmint Calling. There’s always Lots of Interest! Volunteers needed to help run the booth. The Payson Wildlife Fair is a cooperative effort between AZGFD, USDA Forest Service, Mogollon Sporting Assoc. & Payson Parks & Recreation Dept.



After the Event I’m headed for the woods to call turkeys. Need help? Remember that May 12th is Mother’s Day!

UPCOMING EVENT: PVCI FISHING CONTEST/Outdoor Skills -Take A Kid Fishing Day

When: JULY 6-7 at WOODS CANYON LAKE

This is and Outdoor Skills Activity that is listed in the 2019-2020 AZ. Game & Fish Regs. on page 24. It is asked that you register. Refer to page 24 of the 2019/2020 AZ. Game & Fish Regs. For whom to register with.

PURPOSE: To help kids learn to fish.

WHERE: Woods Canyon, with the Official Camp Location being inside the Woods Canyon Lake Campground (We Have A Campsite Reserved).

DATE: Weekend of July5-6 TIME: Daybreak until 5:00 p.m. You can check-in anytime during the day however the FINAL check-in will be between 5:00 to 5:30PM at the Official Camp Location inside the Woods Canyon Lake Campground.

ENTRY FEE: None, however a fishing license will be required to fish. This is NOT Free Fishing Day.

Questions Call Kirk D. 623-866-3036. Contest Open to All PVC I Members plus their families & friends (need not be a member) who may be interested. Plus those that register. We are going to need some mentors.

There may be 2 categories: Adult – ages 14 and older and children – ages 13 and under. 1st Place prizes may be awarded for the longest fish and the longest stringer. The longest stringer will be the total of all the fish caught. We will start with a limit of 1 prize per person so if the same person has both the longest fish and the longest stringer, he/she will choose their prize first and the 2nd longest fish gets the 2nd prize. NOTE: All fish species in the Lake are eligible for the Contest. The trout limit is 6 fish. Only boats w/electric motors on Woods Canyon.

P.S. In addition to the prizes for longest fish & stinger, there may also be a Free Members & Guests Giveaway! You need Not fish in the Contest or be a member to be eligible for this Giveaway however you DO need to be present. As soon as we get the fish officially measured & the Prizes are all given out, it’s time for our **Potluck/Fish Fry Dinner** at our Official Camp Location on FS 84. **This is a Potluck so please remember to bring a dish. Also, an extra frying pan, fish batter, aluminum foil, etc. to help with getting the fish fried up would be nice. We have really had some wonderful dinners in the past & many consider this the BEST part of the day, eating & mingling with the other Club members & company.** There is normally a small fee to stay overnight at a campsite on most of these Lakes and once inside the Recreation Area you must stay in a campground. I believe that the Club has the spot Reserved and a fee MAY NOT be charged??? Not sure?

***** DIRECTIONS Camp Site*****

Coming from HWY 260, At the top of the rim turn onto FS 300 “Rim Road.” Proceed to the Woods Canyon Lake Campground.

All participants who came to "PVCi Check In" this past season should attend the June meeting for a chance to receive an item!

PVCi TOP AWARDS FOR 2018-2019 SEASON



TOP CALLER

TOP CALLER (EXPERT): Tim L. – 255
TOP E-CALLER (EXPERT): Mark S. 380
TOP CALLER (NOVICE): Sean Y. – 35
TOP SHOOTER: Mark S. – 33



TOP E-CALLER & TOP SHOOTER

6-MONTH SKILLS TEAM RESULTS (EXPERT)

1ST PLACE: Mark S. & Tim L. – 710 Calling Points
2ND PLACE: Craig B. & Wayne W. – 330 Calling Points
3RD PLACE: Ken E.. – 75 Calling Points



**Tim L. & Mark S.
Receiving 1st
Place award**



**Sean Y.
TOP NOVICE**

(BEST OF 7) FOR 7-MONTH TOTAL

1ST PLACE: Mark S.

2ND PLACE: Tim L.

3RD PLACE: Wayne W.

TOP SKILLED CALLERS FOR THE 2018/2019 SEASON

These are Calling Points for the 7-Month (Sept – March) Totals.

- 1). Tim L – 11 Coyotes, 3 Foxes
- 2). Mark S – 7 coyotes, 2 Bobcats, 1Foxes
- 3). Wayne W. – 9 Coyotes,
- 4). Craig B – 9 Coyotes,

TOTAL PVCi CLUB SKILLS SCORE for the season: 105 coyotes, 44 fox, 9 bobcats.

Each of the Top Winners above also received a John Toner knife and sheath combo. For all of you "Hunting Members" who did participate in the Monthly Scramble Skills Contest – THANK YOU! This is a Hunting Club and as such should have Members that go out and apply their skills. We are constantly trying to think of ways to get more PVCi members out hunting and applying their skills. If you have any ideas, please let the Hunt Chairman Ron H. know. All ideas will be considered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Would you like for your Birthday, Anniversary or other Special

Event to show here? Send your info to coyotecaller@cox.net



Happy Birthday Day Will H. (pictured to left) on May 16th
Ron & Lana P. married 32 years on June 13th

GOBBLER KNOW HOW GETTING HIM TO COME TO YOU by Eddie M.

P.S. The Spring Turkey Hunt in 2019 went good for us in New Mexico this year however I will have to tell that story another time. It is opening day in Unit 27 and I am still in Phoenix getting this Newsletter done! I gotta get outa here!

Hunting the wild turkey gobbler in the spring after the normal predator seasons are over is something that I look forward too with much gusto each year. The process of how I began harvesting these wild birds covers the whole spectrum. I have gone from not really seeing what all the fuss about turkey hunting was about to now counting my life by wondering how many more spring turkey seasons I have left. The many experiences have left me with many memories/adventures...and on some occasions, some good-eating meat too. Every year many hunters get drawn for a turkey tag yet not everyone tags a bird. The reasons for this are varied and many. Let's go on a typical turkey hunt to see if we can't kill us a gobbler.

It starts with signing the turkey tag that you were lucky enough to draw. You've already watched the hunting DVD's & know what the different calls mean. You have also previously visited the unit you plan to hunt on a preseason turkey-scouting trip & know where you plan to camp, plan A & plan B. You also know where to go to listen for gobblers, Plan A, B & C. You arrive at your camp area at least the evening before while there is still some daylight left & your group splits up & listens in different areas before dark, trying to roost some birds. Roosting birds is the term used when you are listening for gobblers as they sound off as they fly up into the trees to sleep for the night. When they do this, they often gobble to let the hens & the rest of the world know where they are. You may also hear wing beats as the birds fly up to roost. The whole idea is to locate some birds, especially gobbling gobblers so that you have a starting point for your hunt come morning. Try your best to pinpoint the gobbler & do not call to him now if you can help yourself after all, this is the night before the opener. As the season progresses, do call to the bird in the evening (especially if you're on top of a hill already) as sometimes, if they are alone, they don't want to go to bed alone & will come to you.

The plan in the morning is to head towards that gobbling bird & get within 100-150 yards while it is still dark. It is very important that you beat the light. Spring is breeding season & if the gobbler wants to breed, then he will start gobbling soon after it awakens. Hens are attracted to the gobbling and in nature the hens go to the gobbler. Turkeys wake up early & trees are tall. If you wait until the light of the morning and then head towards the gobbling bird that is also looking & listening for advancing hens, he will probably spot you from his tree if you get too close. When you are already in position and start to sound like a hen, you'll be more believable. There are a couple trains of thought on what to do next. Some say to wait by the tree and not make any hen sounds until the gobbler flies down. Others say to do some light tree yelping. One thing to not do is to blast the gobbler away with loud calling unless you hear some loud hens close by. Normally if you get too close and make too much noise, the gobbler will often stay in the tree longer waiting for those hens to show up. If he spots you, the gobbler may also stay in the tree or spook and fly off. What I do varies. Usually I'll do light yelping, then (after the gobbler hits the ground) stimulate wing beats like I'm a hen coming out of the tree. Then I just do clucks & purrs plus some scratching in the leaves. If I yelp, it is only sparingly. I don't want to sound too excited unless I hear some excited hens near the gobbler. If you do spot hens coming past you heading to the gobbler, scare them off. If you don't, they will walk past you and take the gobbler away.



Working the gobbler after it's on the ground and trying to get the gobbler to come to you instead of vice versa is where a lot of the fun of trying to call the bird in happens. You can often tell the temperature of the bird by the frequency of the gobbles. Often, I will move closer to the gobbling birds several times trying to seem like an advancing hen. Often also, once the gobbler knows where I am, I will do one of the most effective calls that you can do, SILENCE! Especially later in the season, when they have been called to by hunters often, a little bit of sound and then silence for 20 to 30 minutes can really work! If I hear no gobblers, I walk through the woods (prospecting) sounding like a flock of hens. When the gobbler is on its way and gobbling, you will know. Gobblers are loud and the closer they get the louder they will sound. Get ready and have your shotgun already up when the bird shows. Keep your movements slow & remember that sometimes the birds come in quiet. I don't shoot at the head as it moves too much. Instead I shoot just up from where the neck meets the body. I do not shoot birds while they are strutting. After the shot, I run and grab the bird by its legs and hold it up with the breast facing me. I do this even if the bird is still. Almost always the bird will come back to life and start flapping all over the place, similar to a chicken with its head cut off. If you have a hold of it, the bird will stay pretty and not break feathers, etc. This is better for taxidermy purposes. I like # 5 or #6 turkey loads in 3inch & especially like the Federal Turkey or Remington Nitro Turkey Loads.

Calling in spring gobblers is very exciting.

Hopefully this little bit of some tips will help you to get a bird.

Good Luck!

ANOTHER YEAR WITH NO ARIZONA STATE PREDATOR CALLING CONTEST

by Eddie M.

Yes, it looks like our Arizona State Varmint Calling Championship will NOT happen in 2019 either. The Championship has been held in various places over the many, many years it has taken place with Cabela's being the gracious host the last few years. Participation the 1st year at Cabela's (when we were inside with chairs for the audience) was good however participation fell off a bit since the Event was moved outside. This is not Cabela's fault. Back in the 60's and 70's there were so many callers wanting to participate, the line seemingly stretched forever! Nowadays and for many years since, just finding a handful or more of willing participants some years seems to be a chore. The reasons why are many probably including lack of some good advertising, lack of really good prizes & finding willing folks to run & judge the Event, etc. **Another reason is timid or intimidated callers and good hunting callers that enter the Contest and don't do well so their feelings get hurt and they refuse to try again. Almost ALL of the other "Calling Sports" have Calling Contest (elk, turkey, yodeling). There is nothing wrong with being versatile, in fact it is a true art form to be able to learn to call to the critters and be successful and also be able to learn to call to the judges and also be successful.** The Event still draws a crowd of spectators make no mistake! **It's getting the callers to PARTICIPATE....and with at least Three GOOD Varmint Calling Clubs in the state and with Today's Social Media being what it is... to me there is just No Excuse! The other Sports have similar Calling Contests** where they learn to call to judges and many also are successful hunters. Anyway, Cabela's used to hold an Annual Event called Predator Days each year. My thoughts were that perhaps we could hold the State Championship during those days? However, since the Bass Pro takeover, Cabela's just isn't what it used to be, especially when it comes to working with the public. The Bow Hunter Happening when it was at Fort Tut Hill near Flagstaff, AZ. was also a Good Place. Any other Event or Location ideas anyone??? If so, please let the PNCI Board know of your idea. This Annual Event was really cherished in the not so distant past. I guess that things really do change.

LEARN OUTDOOR SKILLS: HUNT, TRAP, FISH, SHOOT, WILDLIFE RECREATION

The Arizona Game & Fish Dept. is dedicated to introducing children to hunting by offering a wide variety of juniors only hunting & shooting programs. These programs are designed to get children in the field with a parent or guardian who can focus on the kid(s) and provide the guidance needed to teach the next generation of hunters how to be safe, ethical & responsible stewards. To provide plenty of opportunity, Game & Fish has partnered w/various Sportsman's clubs, groups & organizations to provide mentoring for beginners to help assure positive experience hunting in the great outdoors. Listed below are some of these events. Look on pages 22-27 of the 2018/2019 AZ. Hunt Regs. You'll note that there are also some events for the ladies. Visit www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills for more information. Consider helping out at these Events as a Mentor. You'll usually be fed & your help is greatly appreciated. I go as a PNCI member & often wear my PNCI T-Shirt. It doesn't have to be varmint calling related for me to volunteer to help get someone hooked hunting.

In the event you cannot make it to the **PNCI Camp Out/Barbecue** there is a fun shoot/sight in being held at Ben Avery Range on Saturday May 18, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Kids can learn gun safety and be able to shoot 22 caliber rifles. Bring your own 22 ammo or pay \$5.00 for a box of 50. Eye and ear protection will be required, and some may be available if you don't have your own, The event will be held at the range west of the main range. Cost is \$7.00 for adults. Children under 18 shoot for free. Large caliber guns may be available

PURCHASING ANY TYPE OF VEHICLE?

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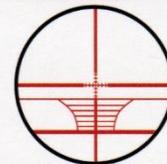
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