**Officers** 

**President** Wavne W.

**Vice President** Mark S.

> **Treasurer** Laurie D.

Corresponding **Secretary** Terry H.

> Recording **Secretary** Dan S.

**Board** Members Craig B. Ron H. Ricardo G. Brad S. Ray K. Steve L.

**Predator Tales** Eddie M Scott B.

**Membership** Chairman Frank B.

> Hunt Chairman Ron H. Wayne W.

Webmaster James S.





July-Aug. 2020



Wayne W.

### **Presidents Message**

Hey Guys it's that time again! Lots of great info in this edition of the Predator Tales! Some funny stories, I'm always the perpetual Boy Scout – Be Prepared! Well I finally wore out the engine in my truck and she's down getting a new heartbeat so she'll be ready for the season this fall. Sure glad it didn't happen mid-season! The 2019-2020 season awards will be given out at the next General Meeting. The Club Elections will be held then as well. I also wanted to just take a brief moment to thank everybody for patiently waiting in the wings while we wait out this Pandemic. Now's a great time to pack an ice chest and put some miles on that vehicle, scout some areas, look for new ones. With all the recent fires, we will definitely see some different landscape this season. I wish you all well, stay safe, keep your powder dry, and don't forget to practice! Aim Small – Miss Small!

### THINGS TO KNOW:

\*\*\*WELCOME ALL!!! This COVID-19 Pandemic has affected us ALL in some way or another. We pray that ALL of you are making it through this Safely & that Normal Life Will Resume Soon. Please Do Remember to Help the Club Survive and RENEW YOUR PVCI MEMBERSHIP!!! Remember the price increase. **New MEMBERSHIP Fees** are \$45 to join & \$35 to renew. Mail your MEMBERSHIP Fees to Phoenix Varmint Callers P.O. Box 87153 Phoenix, AZ. 85080.

\*\*\*PVCI normally holds its Club Elections in April of each year. ALL Officer & some Board Positions are open. Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic there were no PVCI Club Meetings in April, May, June or July & thus no Club Elections were held.

\*\* The August Monthly Meeting has also been CANCELLED.

\*\*Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic several PVCI Events both past & upcoming have or will be cancelled. These include the PVCI Campout & Barbecue, the PVCI Fishing Derby & the PVCI Trail Clearing. Just in, the PVCI George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial Boot Camp on Aug. 8-9 has also been CANCELLED.

\*\*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/PVCI.org/ Join us on Facebook Page http://www.facebook.com/pvci.org PVCI Web http://www.pvci.org







PVCI Member Tim L. w/bobcat! Ricardo Jr. w/ New Mexico gobbler Results of recent ocean fishing trip!

# PURCHASING ANY TYPE OF VEHICLE (EVEN USED?) SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR YOU & PVCI by

Most dealers pay out what is called a referral fee. This is true for anything requiring a State License including **New or Used** Boats, Trailers, Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, ATV's, etc.

### Let the Club refer you to the dealer of your choice.

Just give Scott B. a <u>call at 623-214-5091</u> let him know where you want to shop & the type of vehicle, you are interested in. He will contact the dealers & try to obtain employee pricing for you. He will then call you with the point of contact at the dealership. You then go into the dealer & ask for the contact telling him you are a Phoenix Varmint Caller & pick out the vehicle you are interested in. They will give you the best price. The Club will receive the Referral Fee.



# \*\*\*<u>ATTENTION TARGET SHOOTERS!!!</u> \*\*\*

# **NEW TARGET TYPE RESTRICTIONS: Folks Read This!**

POSSESSING <u>ANY</u> REFUSE FOR THE PURPOSE OF TARET SHOOTING IS PROHIBTED. REFUSE INCLUDES ANY MATERIAL USED FOR TARGETS, **EXCEPT** FOR THE FOLLOWING APPROVED TARGETS (THIS IS A COMPLETE LIST):

- a. Cardboard and/or cardboard targets with reusable frames (wooden pallets are not considered reusable frames), which are removed from the site after shooting.
- b. Paper and/or paper targets with reusable frames (wooden pallets are not considered reusable frames), which are removed from the site after shooting.
- c. Reactive targets that are designed to move or bounce along the ground when hit that are made of non-metallic materials and are removed from the site after shooting.
- d. Self-healing targets which are removed from the site after shooting.
- e. Metal targets specifically made for firearms that are designed to swing, spin, or knock down which are removed after shooting; and
- f. Biodegradable clay targets (clay pigeons).

### **EXPLODING TARGETS ARE PROHIBITED!!!**

THE USE OF EXPLODING TARGETS SUCH AS TANNERITE, SONIC BOOM, SHOCKWAVE AND OTHERS IS PROHIBITED. VIOLATION OF THESE PROHIBITIONS IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$5.000.

HAPPY ANNIVERSAY to: Mike & Tricia Y.



Married 27 years -Aug. 28

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Lew E.



Happy Birthday - July 3<sup>rd</sup>

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to: Tim & Eunice N.



Married 13 years on July 7

Would you like for your Birthday, Anniversary, or other Special Event to show here? Send your info to coyotecaller@cox.net

Here is a story from Facebook. It is nice to know a covote was putting the bite on the Nazi army. How non-surprising the poor fellow died from a vehicle accident. THE FLYING COYOTE!!!

Remembering Captain John "Wild Bill" Crump (Washington) and "Jeep," the only coyote who flew in combat during WWII. After graduating from high school, Bill joined the USAAF and prepared to fight for his country. One day, during his pilot training, he found a little coyote, named him "Jeep" and the pair became inseparable. In a world ravaged by war, Bill couldn't wait to go overseas and confront the forces of tyranny.....but not without his four-legged friend so he smuggled Jeep aboard the RMS Queen Elizabeth and they both went to England. The covote became a formal member of the 356<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, had his own dog tags and accompanied Bill on 5 combat missions. Sadly, on October 28, 1944, Jeep was run over by a military vehicle at Playford Hall, Ipswich and died of his injuries. He was buried with full military honors at Playford Hall (a plaque marks his resting place). To honor the memory of his faithful friend, Bill



decorated his P-51 Mustang (named Jackie) with a portrait of Jeep. He then flew 77 missions, putting his life on the line to liberate Europe and managed to survive the rest of the war. In 1992, Bill returned to Playford Hall and spent a moment at Jeep's gravesite. This American hero passed away in 2008 and is now resting in peace at Evergreen Washelli Memorial Park in Seattle, Washington.

# **Summers Fishing Trip**

Declan has been on some adventures this summer one of which was his first 1.5-day deep sea fishing trip! He left out of Seaforth Sport Fishing in San Diego on a Friday night. The Pacifica traveled south a hundred and forty miles off the coast of Mexico.

The fishing started off slow. We trolled most the morning looking for some sign of fish. In the meantime, he enjoyed some awesome breakfast! The Sea was nice and calm, and we had a slight overcast which made for perfect conditions. All we needed was some fish to finish the recipe.

Just when thing weren't looking too good for us, the Captain set us up on a kelp paddy and the madness erupted! The Yellowtail started hitting everyone's line. On one drift we picked up 83 Yellowtail! Almost everyone on the boat hooked up on a fish. It was awesome! By the time the bite was over, Declan bagged 6 Yellow's ranging from 10 to 20 lbs.

Philly Cheese Steaks. That really hit the spot.

When the bite was over, it was just in time for lunch. The cook made us

by Sean Y



Back on troll looking for tuna. We had to make another large move to get to warmer water. 2 o'clock rolled around and the deckhands spotted some tuna boiling. Again, the Captain set us on a drift. Baits went in the water and it was on again! We were able to keep the school following the boat. Boil after boil! The boat ended up with 22 Bluefin and Declan pulled out 4 Bluefin on his own! I couldn't be prouder of him. The best thing for me was being able to see the smile from ear to ear on him. Being the youngest on the boat, by the end of the day, everyone on the boat was cheering him on! It was neat to see how much confidence he had by the end of the day. I'll be hard pressed keep him off the water now. You can view this fishing trip on U Tube, Hardcore Hunting. Also check the website hardcorehunting@az.com where you can see this & other videos. While there help them out & subscribe it is free.

### NOW, NOW, NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE FOR FALL-WINTER SUCCESS!!!

During this year of 2020 there is no doubt that the flu virus or rather the country's reaction to the flu virus has altered and/or changed many lives in different ways. Of course, most of us will make it through this & life will continue to go on. One thing that won't change though is the fact that for most of us, NOW, is the off-season as all the predator seasons are closed except for coyote & skunk. Most of us don't hunt coyotes during the spring\summer while they're raising their pups unless either invited to do so or those that are actively involved in some much-needed control work in certain areas & who hunts skunks, especially in the summer? NOW, during this summertime off-season remains an excellent time to prepare for the upcoming fall-winter season & some of your actions now could really help determine the success this fall.

Checking Your Gear: This will probably be where most of us will start. How is the condition of your camo outfit? Did you lose your facemask, gloves, cap? Has the barbed wire on certain fences left holey rips and scars on your camo shirt or pants? Has the space between your legs worn through? Were the gloves/boots/long underwear you used warm enough, this past winter? What condition are your boots in? I know that I need another pair. I also purchase mine with between 800/1000 grams of insulation, the reason being that even in the desert, with my 200-gram Herman Survivors or any 400- or 600-gram boot, my feet would get cold and the problem would only get worse if I went to hunt antelope country or the junipers or pines. Many retail establishments that sell camo often have deep discounts on camo once the fall/winter & spring turkey hunting seasons are over & the summer fishing seasons begin. Do take advantage of these discounts, NOW!

Vehicle: Club member/President Wayne W. wrote a similar article in the July 2018 Newsletter about preparedness NOW for this season's hunt success. One thing that he does concerning is hunting vehicle is to put it through all its needed routine things NOW during the off-season. Wayne wrote: This is the time I go through each of my vehicles and replace belts, hoses, radiator flush, and battery checks, whether it is due or not. Replacing a \$25 fan belt or battery cable now could save you a long walk home, and who wants to leave thousands of \$\$ in equipment sitting in a broken-down truck on the side of the road? The reason I fix this stuff now is so that if there is an issue, I find it now, not the night before the hunt because I waited too long and now the auto parts store is out of stock on what I need. This is also the time to consider upgrades to your trail rig. Where will you be hunting this fall, is it time for shocks, wipers, camper shell, a new winch? Maybe a bed liner to keep the leaky stuff off your paint?? Sadly, last year Wayne was one of the recipients of one of the infamous Sucks-To-Be-You-Awards for his vehicle breaking down! Still this is Good Advice.

Firearms: Since (in most cases) making the shot is what enables us to be successful (we are hunting), knowing how to shoot accurately & having firearms that can do the same are particularly important! Many big-game rifle hunters annually re-sight their rifles before their hunt. Many rifle predator hunters on the other hand, mainly inexperienced & casual hunters, do not & the #1 reason for rifle hunters missing shots at approaching predators is that their rifle is not hitting where it is aimed. That is one of the reasons that I say beginning predator hunters would probably harvest more critters if they used a shotgun instead of a rifle. The shotgun is not a guarantee though, you can & still will miss occasionally. One of the reasons is that this predator hunting that we do is different than any other type of hunting that most of us have experienced. Instead of us going out & looking for critters, we make noises that make the critters come looking for us, often on the run & often with the intention of them eating what is making the noise, You! This act of a critter (in many cases) running at you with the intention of eating you is different for many & thus shooting mistakes are made. Another reason for shotgun hunters missing shots is that I will bet that probably 60% of predator shotgunners have never patterned their shotguns to see where the pattern of the predator load, they are using is hitting. Lots of turkey hunters & some waterfowl hunters might do this but predator hunters? Pattern your shotgun & use the predator load with the best pattern. Off-season is also a great time to **Practice** your shooting & become familiar with your firearm. All of the above scenarios could be & probably are related to lack of practice. The best teams in the Club have members that are remarkably familiar with their firearms due to practice. Body-Exercise: You owe it to yourself to try & stay somewhat fit for the outdoor activities that you do as the critters that you are after sure are. For most big-game hunting & turkeys, I often climb a lot of big hills & I have a saying that if you can't do the hills then you probably shouldn't be out there. Life is sure easier if you are somewhat fit. Now for some predator hunting, the hills aren't really an issue yet it is astonishing to me that many/most of the folks that I hunt with get more exercise in one day just making stands on the flats predator hunting than they ever seem to do in their normal life! Many are just winded at the end of the day & grateful for rest. I know I have a reputation for walking far but I do not walk that far! Your diet plays a big role in your fitness. As a rule, we Americans eat/drink too many sweets. Candy, cookies, pies, soda, alcohol, ice cream, doughnuts, etc. Sugar turns into fat and we are an obese nation. One of the best ways to reduce your backpack load if walking in as I do for bear, whitetails, javelina, bighorns, is to lose weight. They say you should talk to your doctor first before starting a diet or exercise program? There are plenty of exercise DVD's. Pick some.

### NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE (CONTINUED)

Scouting Areas- (Old & New): It is a well-known fact that those who go and scout their areas before a hunt usually tend to have better success. Many hunters do this before going big-game hunting however when it comes to both small-game and predators, many do not. Most predator hunters either hunt familiar areas or go to new areas blind meaning they have not scouted the area(s) before and thus have no idea of anything about the place except for the immediate past/recent sign. Well here is a fact you can take to the bank. The most successful hunt teams in PVCI now and in recent years, take the time to go actively scout areas, both old and new during the offseason. What about you? I have 3 questions to ask. #1) Do you scout the areas that you will be hunting? Have you ever scouted for predators? How has your success been lately? Might not your success improve if you did scout? In the past, I used to go looking for new places or scouting for predators much more than I do these days. In the past, my success was also much better than it is these days. You have your areas and over the years you share these areas with others, especially novices. These lands are always public lands in my case, and I am not one to say, "Don't come back here hunt without me." Instead, I might even give tips on a way to better hunt the place should they return. These places then get added to this hunter's \_\_\_\_\_\_

"Places I can Hunt Book" and over the years, especially when you have been in as many years as I have (I joined in 1985), places get hunted, critters get killed or educated and the place often just is not what it used to be. When I scout, I physically go and check areas by either driving in or walking in and looking for sign like tracks, scat, visual sightings (live or dead). Also cover, available water, prey species, roads, trails, land configurations, etc. Many these days though, scout from home using the computer and Google Maps, Onyx, etc. I am mostly unfamiliar with these new computer methods however much detail can be observed even down to individual juniper trees next to fence openings! These details are so good in many cases, I'm kind of surprised that you can't see actual animals on them! Scouting does not just produce potential good areas it can also help you eliminate areas that are no good and do it now during the off-season instead of hunting time. One more thing, for coyotes, I like to send a night or two in different areas so that I can listen for howling, how much, where, when, etc. Be someplace where you can hear. I guess you can induce howling however I like to just let things happen naturally. By Eddie M.

Well here we are in the HEAT of the summer. Most of us are enjoying the air-conditioning as it is supposed to be close to 111 degrees today! The stupid Pandemic is still hanging on or at least the Media is saying that it is, false reporting and all. If you ask me, they are going to keep it up and even make it worse before the election in November. In the meantime, we can still remember what it used to be like.

Here is a fun article from the past that could still pertain.

### **BLAST FROM THE PAST – From the March 1974 PREDATOR TALES**

By Shorty L.

Don't let this happen to you! Choose your hunting partner very carefully. What do you think of a guy who takes his boss hunting to "Show him how it's done" and leave him hopelessly stranded with a bad alternator 20 miles from the nearest main road? Well, they weren't hopelessly stranded; but they did have to follow a semi back to Phoenix because they didn't have any lights. I call that real close. I wonder if Norm still works for Garland?

And what do you think about a guy who does this? "See him?" "No, I don't see him." "It's a cat." "Where?" "Ooooh, ooooh, I see him!" "Shoot him@#\$\$ it!" BOOM! "Hit him again!" BOOM! "He's getting away!" BOOM! "He's trying to get under that bush!" BOOM! "Whatcha going to do with that hide Tom?" "I'm gonna have it tanned and then I'm gonna make a strainer for Judy out of it."

And what do you think about a father and son team that amigo out and seats him under a tree near a big ant mound. Covered with ants the partner frantically tears at his clothes with wild gestures in order to aid himself. Meanwhile Wayne jumps up and shouts, "Hey buddy you better come see about Denny, he's acting awfully strange!" "Stand back son," Buddy replies, "I may have to down him!"

Ah yes, the memories of the hunt gone by.

### VIEW ARIZONA GAME & FISH COMMISSION MEETINGS LIVE

Due to COVID -19, the public will not be able to attend the Commission Meetings in person until further notice. The public can still view the Meeting at <a href="www.azgfd.gov/commissioncam">www.azgfd.gov/commissioncam</a> or listen to the Meeting by calling (602) 666-0783, access code: 280 046 234##. Members of the public who listen by phone should keep their phones on mute. Members of the public wanting to speak to the Commission on specific agenda items, can call (602) 962-8790 and follow the prompts to say your name, where you are calling from, and the agenda item you wish to speak about.

### **PVCI MONTHLY GUN**

The Gun for August will be a: THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

The Gun for September will be a Mossberg Patriot 6.5 Creedmore Rifle w/sythentic stock.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 1 Gunnison Prairie Dog opens statewide. Tassel-Eared Squirrel Season opens in Unit 31.
- July 4 Happy Birthday America!!!
- July 22 Web-Cast Drawing held for the Big-Game Super Raffle.
- July 24-26 Wapiti Days CANCELLED at Camp Raymond on I-40 near Parks AZ. CANCELLED
- July 25 Annual Elk Hunting Clinic. I believe it is **CANCELLED**. More info. visit www.arizonaelksociety.org
- July 31 All Fall Hunt Permit-Tags should be mailed out by now. If you were drawn for fall big-game, you will know.
- Aug. 1 Fox, badger, bobcat, raccoon, weasel & ringtail season opens statewide except Refuges. Check Hunt Regs.
- Aug. 1 Sept. 10 Rifle, Non-Permit Tag, Any Elk Season opens in the Verde Valley. Check Hunt Regs.
- Aug. 5 CANCELLED: This is 1st Wednesday/PVCI Monthly Meeting: CANCELLED
- Aug. 6-7 AZ. Game/Fish Comm. Meeting, Public not allowed. View Meeting live at www.azgfd.gov/commissioncam
- Aug. 7 Rifle Bear Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.
- Aug. 19 This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday-PVCI Board of Directors Meeting Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy.
- Aug. 21 Archery Deer, Antelope, Bear, Turkey, Squirrel, Javelina & Lion opens. Rifle Bear Seasons open. Check Regs.
- Aug. 21 Rifle Bear Season opens in select Hunt Units. **Mountain Lion Season opens.** Check your Hunt Regs.
- Sept. 1 Blue Grouse, Chukar, Coatimundi & Crow Seasons open & Tassel-eared squirrel in Unit 33 open. Check Regs.
- Sept. 2 This is the 1st Wednesday. Tentative: PVCI Monthly Meeting: 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. 7:00p.m.
- Sept. 3 Archery Antelope ends. Check Hunt Regs.
- Sept. 4 Rifle Antelope opens in select Hunt Units. Check Hunt Regs.
- Sept. 5-6 Tentative: PVCI NOVICE HUNT!!! The First Organized Hunt of the 2020-2021 Season.
- Sept. 10 Archery Deer, Turkey, Kaibab Squirrel, some Bear Seasons close. Check Hunt Regs.
- Sept. 11-24 Archery Elk Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.
- Sept. 19 Tentative: Payson Wildlife Fair, Green Valley Park in Payson.
- Sept. 16 This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday-PVCI Board of Directors Meeting Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy.
- Sept. 25 Oct 1 Early Rifle Bull & Muzzleloader Elk Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check Hunt Regs.

.\*\*\* Note From The Membership Chairman: DONT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP to stay a PVCI Member! Fees went up on Jan. 1st, 2020. The PVCI New Members fee is \$45 and the Renewal Fee is \$35. How will you know if you owe? Through the On-Line Newsletter (the Predator Tales) in most cases. For the most part PVCI is only sending the Newsletter via e-mail. To receive an e-mail Newsletter, you MUST send your information to azfrank64@cox.net 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. Fees should be made payable to PVCI. Send payment to PVCI c/o Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 87153, Phoenix, AZ. 85080-7153. Membership Forms are available at the Monthly General Meeting. Questions: Contact Membership Chairman Frank B. 602-758-8714

PVCI MEMBERSHIP COUNT: PVCI WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS:

### HARD COPIES OF THE PREDATOR TALES STILL AVAILABLE AGAIN FOR A SMALL FEE

For an Annual Fee of \$10, those who'd still like to receive the Hard Copy can do so once again! Give your payment to. **PVCI** c/o Membership Chairman in person or mail to the \$10 to **PVCI** P.O. Box 87153 Phoenix, AZ. 85080-7153. Be sure to specify what the money is for. You could also include in addition to your Membership.

### The "George Knox/Ray Evridge MEMORIAL" VARMINT CALLING BOOT CAMP: AUG. 8, 9, 2020



# THE AUGUST BOOT CAMP HAS BEEN CANCELLED



If the Pandemic conditions change, we are still looking at having a Predator Calling Boot Camp in the late fall or early winter. We will try to keep you posted.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS???**

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Upcoming Events listed below are tentative. We cannot predict the future and thus have no idea what, when or where or how things might play out. We will try to let you know of cancellations.

**UPCOMING EVENT: WAPITI DAYS- July 24 - CANCELLED** 

### **UPCOMING EVENT: PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR – SEPT. 19, 2020** by Eddie M.

On Saturday Sept. 19,2020, the town of Payson will host the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 makes 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. PVCI 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.

# Blast from the Past: Sept. 1993-Something Funny – Product Evaluation Update: Prep H.

by Allan F.

Larry "Jeff" Green has just completed the product evaluation for the 22<sup>nd</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup> useful purpose for his secret formula, "Preparation H!"

**Use #22:** He has found it to be a very effective! LAXATIVE! During exhaustive & extensive research, in which he orally ingested the liquid. He encountered the normal blurred vision and disorientation with his surroundings. However, after he was thoroughly "CLEANED OUT," disorientation ceased, and his 500/20 vision returned to its normal ability to spot a coyote 500 yards out. In his own sworn testimony, "This stuff works better than if I would have stuck it up my ------!"

Use #23: By accident, he has come up with yet another useful purpose for this secret formula. It performs admirably as a brass and silver POLISH! While recently becoming involved in a "bonding session" with the television, one evening, he polished up the 6-month hunt perpetual trophy! Bear in mind that this edifice to excellent varmint hunting technique has not been "cleaned" up in the 30 or more years that it has been in existence! It is so highly polished now, that it can be used as a signal mirror, should he become stranded while on a coyote hunting safari. Larry had decided to carry it out to every stand this next coyote hunting season, and place it beside him, so as to blind the coyotes as they stop to admire it. This will give him that extra "half second" to successfully administer the "coup de gras" to the unfortunate varmint.

Use#24: It has the ability to act as a "Desert Protection Package," type of finish. Larry has just given his World Wrestling Federation size 1992-93 Top Caller/Shooter buckle a good coat of "Preparation H," which will insure protection against fading, discoloration, & scratches from brush during the next season of coyote hunting while wearing it on all hunts (also for the purpose of showing the varmints just "who's who")! In his words, "This one protective application will keep the buckle as good as new for the entire year!" Due to an unusually high demand for this secret formula by varmint hunters all over the US, delays in deliveries are being experienced. You too can have that Edge he exclusively has. Only \$5.00 for a highly concentrated bottle.

### HUNTING BEAR THIS FALL? SEASONS OPEN IN AUGUST. DO YOUR SCOUTING NOW!!!

By Eddie M

As Newsletter Editor, I simply cannot do an August Predator Tales without talking about hunting & calling bears. One of the things that I like best about predator calling is the fact that each & every stand has the potential to have something happen that will be unforgettable! Well whether you have just started your predator calling career of have been calling for some time, there is something about calling in a big black bear that will stick with you &most likely be unforgettable!



The first of the bear seasons begin in August & if you want to view a wild Arizona black bear in the wild, then the months of August-September are primetime! In almost all cases, bears are earned & admittedly are not for everyone. Nothing about getting a bear on your wall is easy. In most states the use of hounds is probably the best way to get a bear. This is probably also physically the most difficult way as bears live in BIG, rough, wild, up & down, brushy country & wherever the bear takes the hounds in this country, you have to follow. Not easy at all. Hounds are primarily used in the Hunt Units within the wooded areas of the this and other states. In Arizona however, more bears are killed without the use of hounds than with. Baiting is illegal with one exception on one of the Indian Reservations. The top Arizona methods involve glassing with binoculars, finding a bear, then either going to the bear by making a stalk

(spot-n-stalk) or using a predator call to make the bear come to you. There is also waterhole & trail watching and still hunting especially with folks using the trail cameras like they do.

To get a bear in Arizona, it is best to have some sort of plan and that plan had better include scouting. What with all the out-of-staters moving to Arizona, the competition for what critters we hunt will intensify as many of them will be hunters doing what the love to do, hunt. (This is why I think we need an ad in the Hunt & Fish Regs.) I have said it before and I will say it again, the best way to NOT get a bear in Arizona is to show up on opening day without having done any scouting.

Scouting for me begins at home, checking the opening dates and the female harvest and picking a unit or 3. Every Hunt Unit has a female harvest objective. Once you kill a bear by law you have 48 hours to report it at 1-800-970-BEAR. Once the female objective is reached the season will shut down at sundown of the immediate Wednesday following. Some units are only open 1 week. It is important after opening day to call the 800-number mentioned and check to make sure that the unit you want to hunt is still open. They will tell you this information on the phone when you call, which units are closed, and which ones are about to close. Next, I break out the topo, forest, Wilderness and BLM maps and study the land. I have my old favorites that I already know how to get too however it doesn't hurt to look at them again and get the maps you need all together. Find the food and you will find the bears. This is so true however bears also need water and shade. In the early part of the year when in some years the bears are more visible when they are feeding on the prickly-pear cactus fruits, I am looking for elevations between 3,200ft. to 4,800 ft. Any lower and it seems to just be too hot and any higher and the vegetation such as manzanita, scrub oak, etc. gets too thick making glassing more difficult. I look for the East and South Facing slopes where the sun-loving cactus are more likely to grow. When glassing, I am looking for grass as grass and pears seem to go together. On the maps look for water somewhat near these slopes. Waterholes, creeks, springs, seeps, etc. You also do not want the highest point to be the grass/prickly pear hills. Remember shade. A bear must be able to climb higher to get into some shade or go down into a deep tree-lined crack or riparian area to find it. If the hill goes all the way up to the pines, that is an ideal set-up however the north and west shady sides of juniper trees will also work.

Bears do also live in the thick manzanita, scrub oak areas. A couple of the hunters that have given seminars in the past hunt these areas. One glasses the manzanita until a bear is found and makes the shot. The other finds nearby water then breaks his way through the manzanita and gets back in a way. He then lets the area quiet down, then uses a predator call. This hunter uses a bow & has killed both bear & mt. lion doing this. Bears also live in the woods & in good acorn years a lot fewer bears will come down to the prickly pear. There are I believe 7 different kinds of oaks in Arizona. In the woods, I like to find trees with acorns on a ridge. This ridge can have a road on top, but it is better if the bottom does not. Some acorn bear scat makes this even more appealing. I will walk the shady west or north side of the hill (where the bear is sleeping) down 50 to 100 yards, then pick a good backstop & use a predator call. The fawn distress is my favorite however Reed Peterson, who founded the Mesa Varmint Callers used a jackrabbit call & called over 100 bears in his lifetime. Be loud, remember, this is BIG country. Try to call continuously. A lot of times with bears & cats, the animal is only coming to you while the commotion is going on. You pause for very long & often they will lose interest. The secret Reed told me, was to not pause for more than 30 seconds. Also, I say, believe when you are calling. If you are serious, you'll stay for at least 45 minutes to an hour & not shoot the foxes with their summer bikinis on that come to look. Remember, this is BIG country & the terrain can be difficult & it may take the animal some time to get to you. They are on the way but just need more time. Some of the most boring stands that you can make will be for bear & mountain lion however if you stay at it, eventually you will catch movement that isn't a fox or a doe & one of those unforgettable moments will happen! Don't shoot at the whole animal, pick a spot & make the shot count!

### BLAST FROM THE PAST: LOUIE (SHARPSHOOTER) E. BAGS A MOUNTAIN LION

From the Jan. 1995 Predator Tales Newsletter

Louie's story begins in Oct. when he and his younger brother Mike were scouting for whitetails. During that scouting trip while heading up towards a steep bluff they found a medium-sized cave where they rested. While resting, Louie noticed javelina-sized dung everywhere, but it had a dead animal smell to it and there was no way a javelina or even a coyote could get to this cave. Eventually Louie concluded it must be lion sign.

One month later, Louie drove to the area and that evening met an older gentleman that spoke of seeing a lion in the vicinity. In the morning, rifle in hand, he backpacked off the road for approx. an hour, making 3-4 stands with no results. Heading back to camp at noon, Louie ran into the old guy again and chatted. Louie was feeling a little discouraged, but the old timer inspired him to try one more stand. Gathering his gear, he climbed a nearby hill to search for his cousin's vehicle and not seeing it headed for the distant hills and kept going and going. Some distance later, Louie discovered he was near the place with the cave.

Louie chose a spot ½ way down a hill to call from. The spot looked good with water in the bottom, lots of thick brush around and lots of deer sign too. He had a good view of everything except directly in front where the ground dropped off about 50 yards away.



Louie used his distressed fawn imitation. He wasn't really enthused but made himself stay anyway. After 15 minutes, he'd just thought to himself, it's time to go, when he caught movement. He looked, then looked again and saw it was a mt. lion walking briskly uphill towards him. Louie thought to himself, "Oh boy, I don't want to mess this up." "Let's calm down and do everything right." He noticed the lion had to pass behind two boulders and brought his rifle up after it went behind the second larger boulder. Only nothing came out! Waiting a little while, Louie trained the crosshairs of his scope on the area he thought the lion would appear. Still nothing, so he lifted his head to survey the area again, when the cat walked out approx. 50 yards away, then suddenly stopped and hunched down looking in Louie's direction. His rifle already up, Louie put the crosshairs on the cat's chest and jerked the trigger, BOOM!!

The lion fell back, screamed and ran downhill, falling and getting up twice before running out of sight. After chambering another round, Louie walked towards the spot, giving himself a serious tongue-lashing. How could he have missed?

Reaching the spot, he looked around and found a little blood and had a poor trail to follow. Walking downhill in the animal's flight direction, he looked and looked and eventually found the lion about 40 yards from where it was hit. Then the work began. Louie had a pack, water, rifle and a long way back to go to reach his camp. He wanted pics so he didn't want to skin or gut the cat until he tried lifting her. She was gutted shortly thereafter, lightening the load.

The cat turned out to be a young female that weighed 75-80lbs. live. She had a full belly of deer meat. Louie's still deciding what to do with the skin. Louie says he likes talking about what happen because it was so thrilling! You can put the words on paper, but those words can't express the total thrill of being there!

P.S. Remember what I said about predator calling? Every Stand has the potential to have something unforgettable happen.

# \*\*\*\*Another Bear Hunting Tip\*\*\*\*

By Eddie M

During November & December in non-acorn areas when other foods may scarce, I have observed bears laying underneath juniper trees full of dark blue juniper berries. In areas where glassing is possible you can watch these bears all day as they feed and rest under these trees. I can imagine that they are also in the thick stuff where you can not see them. The bears are putting on their last fat reserves before they hibernate. You can hunt theses bears by either the spot & stock method or by finding a good vantage spot and using a predator call and hopefully having the bear come to you. The bears especially in December tend to be on the larger size as these are usually boars. Boars are the last to go into dens to hibernate.



### LEARN OUTDOOR SKILS: 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) & 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. Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, many of the Sponsored Youth Camps this year are being **CANCELLED** until further notice. You can view the Youth Camps, etc. on pages 114 to 119 of the 2020-2021 Arizona Hunting Regulations or visit www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills for more information.

### Aug. 8-9 - Predator Hunting Boot Camp- George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial: CANCELLED

### **IMPORTANT: Club Member Positions Up For Re-Election:**

President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer & possibly 2 Board Members. This election is scheduled to take place at the next General Club Meeting. Members, we really need some "New Blood" to run for these positions as some won't be returning. If you have any interest at all, elect yourself & run.

Join the elite team of PVCI Board Members & Officers!

### PVCI MONTHLY SKILLS HUNT REPORT

**MARCH 2020 SKILLS HUNT:** We never gave the results of the March Monthly Skills Hunt the last Official Hunt of the 2019/2020 hunting season. **Results were as follows:** 

Craig B. & Wayne W. Mark S., Nathan S. & Tim L. Total: 10 Coyotes Total: 2 Bobcats & 1 Coyote

### **HUNTING PICS** by Eddie M.









These are some pics from the New Mexico 2020 Spring Turkey Hunt. This was a difficult year. Last year we filled 8 of 12 tags. This year only 2 of 12 tags. In the pics above you see Declan with an elk antler find. Also Hunting sensation, Denis of You Tube "Phantom Dawg" next to Declan and his Dad Sean. Eddie M. with one of the 2 Turkeys killed and Hunting Sensation, Albert, of You Tube "235 Hunter" cooking up some elk steaks for us all! Good Times! After the shot, I run to the gobbler and grab it by the feet and lift it up with its chest facing me. This keeps my gobblers pretty because they are not flopping around, breaking feathers. They are usually not happy about this though & do a good job of flapping & trying to get away. I really must hold on! You can view this "good action" on You Tube, Hardcore Hunting and you can also check the website hardcorehunting@az.com where you can see this and other videos. This is PVCI Club Members Ricardo/Ivan and Sean's website that they put together. Check it out!!! You will probably like what you see, and it is Free and don't forget to Subscribe (again Free!). Also check out You Tube "Phantom Dawg" (predator calling/hunting) and You Tube "235 Hunter" (all kinds of hunting, archery, blow gun, etc. plus fishing) and Subscribe.

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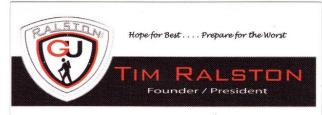
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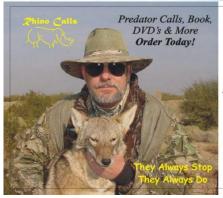




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