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July-Aug. 2019



Wayne W.

Presidents Message

As we look forward to this upcoming hunting season, I hope everyone is as excited as I am for another great year! Life is full of changes, and with that, comes new experiences and new opportunities. First and foremost, I would like to thank James S. for the incredible amount of time, talent, passion and tenacity that he has invested in this Club to not only make this the greatest Club in Arizona, but for the preparation and forethought that he put into progression planning and setting up the new president and the Club for success going forward. Thank you, James, you are a great leader and a great friend!

Looking back to my early days in the Club, I remember the excitement of preparing for the hunt, getting my gear ready, loading up the ice chest and the firearms and arriving at that first stand in the dark. That feeling as you're silently walking to your stand, setting up your chair, arranging your calls and quietly communicating with your partner before that first call is blown. A waa waa here and an ow ow a minute later, as that first coyote busts around that bush, catching you off guard, and just as quickly disappearing back into the brush without skipping a beat! The only sound is the pounding in your chest, and the thumping of your heart from the massive adrenaline shot you weren't quite ready for...

I hope that as President, I can share that passion and excitement with everyone in the Club, it's something I never get over and hope I never will.

Things to Know:

- * **The 1st Wednesday in July is July 3rd. There is NO Club Meeting in July!!!**
- * **Upcoming PPCI Event! July 5-7. PPCI Take A Kid Fishing Day!** Family focused, all ages welcome. Learn fishing, outdoor skills, more. Camp & enjoy outdoors. Location: Woods Canyon Lake, PPCI has reserved sites in the Crook Campground Pavilion B. Host: Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. **You Must Register:** <https://register-ed.com/events/view/141999> More info. next page. Questions Al, 602-751-7156
- ** **UPCOMING PPCI EVENT! Aug. 2-3, 2019 – Dates for the Annual PPCI Trail Clearing** of the See Canyon Trail, a hunter/survival trail on Rim. Breakfast Saturday before work! Work done on Saturday the 2nd. Great Potluck on Saturday night! Refreshments provided. Map & more info. inside.
- *The **PPCI August Monthly Meeting Aug. 7** may feature an Annual Bear Hunt/Calling Seminar. A guest speaker is being worked on. Also learn more about the George Knox/ Ray E. Memorial Boot Camp.
- ****UPCOMING PPCI EVENT: PPCI George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial Varmint Calling Boot Camp is scheduled for Aug. 10-11-12 2018. The location will be Vincent Ranch** in Unit 4A. This Boot Camp is designed to teach you about calling predators in an in-the-field setting. For both Youth & Adults. Meals provided. Cost is Free! You **MUST** Pre-Register! Map & more info. inside. Need Mentors **Also 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>



Pavson Wildlife Fair Booth



Native American Dancers & Cage Trap Seminar-NTA



Just being out there!

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UPCOMING EVENT: PPCI TAKE A KID FISHING DAY – JULY 5-7 at WOODS CANYON LAKE & SURROUNDING LOCATIONS!!!

It has been said that the future of hunting and fishing depends upon the Youth. So, I have a serious question for you, one that might take some thought. Do you like kids? Do you believe that they are the key to our outdoor future? Well we could sure use your help on the 4th of July weekend, July 5-7! Please read on!!!



WHAT IS HAPPENING: PPCI has signed on to have its **FIRST TAKE A KID FISHING DAY!!!** This day is designed to get both kids and adults outdoors fishing and exploring the Outdoors with the goal to achieve both fishing and hunting recruitment, retention and reactivation. If we can get both kids and adults outdoors, we have a very strong chance to get them engaged into both fishing & hunting opportunities

PPCI has reserved one of the Group Campsites at Woods Canyon Lake. It is the Crook Campground, Pavilion B. We can begin setting up camp after 2:00P.M. on Friday the 5th of July. **WE MUST BE CHECKED OUT BY 1:00P.M. on Sunday, July 7th (No Exceptions).** At 7:00P.M. on Friday the 5th of July we will meet at the Pavilion for a quick meet & greet and to review any rules. If conditions permit on that date, we will have some Dutch-Oven treats and ice cream! By the way, **CAMPING IS FREE!** 1st Come, 1st Serve while we have spots!

Fishing may begin at any time on Saturday morning. Only fish caught on Saturday may be counted for prizes. You must adhere to the legal limits for each species. You may fish at any of the Lakes in the area. There is Green Valley Lake in Payson, Woods Canyon Lake, Willow Springs, Black Canyon Lake, Bear Canyon or any of the other lakes, streams or stream tributaries within a 40-mile radius.

All entrants must be in line by 5:30p.m. to have your catch measured and counted. We will then prepare the fish to be cooked. Dinner will be served when the fish have been cooked. Dinner will be a pot-luck affair so please bring a dish to share. After dinner we will award prizes and share stories.

You are ALL encouraged to bring kids or any friends that are interested in learning to fish or interested in learning about more outdoors activities or joining our organization.

IMPORTANT: EVERY PERSON MUST REGISTER ON-LINE: (Again, No Exceptions!)

Register at: <https://register-ed.com/events/view/141999>

Questions please call Al O. 602 751-7156.

WHEN: July 5,6 and 7. Friday the 5th is for set-up and Meet & Greet Only. The Fish Contest/Potluck is on Saturday from let's say daybreak to 5:00p.m or so. Really try to be in line at the Campground with your fish by 5:30p.m. We will measure & count the fish, then prepare them and have our Wonderful Potluck, then award the prizes and do the campfire thing (anyone have marshmallows?) until we go to sleep. **Remember we ALL must be out of the Campground by 1:00p.m. on Sunday!**

WHERE: Woods Canyon, Willow Springs & Bear Canyon Lakes & their tributaries with the Official Camp Location being inside the Woods Canyon Lake Campground at **Crook Campground, Pavilion B.**

TIME: Daybreak until 5:30 p.m. You can check-in anytime during the day however the FINAL check-in will be between 5:00/5:30pm at the **Crook Campground, Pavilion B.** one of the Woods Canyon Lake Campgrounds.

Contest Open to All those who registered at: <https://register-ed.com/events/view/141999> Open to kids and adults

There will be 2 categories: Adult – ages 14 and older and children – ages 13 and under. 1st Place prizes will be awarded for the longest fish, smallest 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 these lakes are eligible for the Contest.**

ENTRY FEE: None, however a general fishing license will be required to participate. This is **NOT** Free Fishing Day. The Trout limit is 6 fish. Only boats w/electric motors on Woods Canyon. Gas-powered 10HP limit okay on Willow Springs.

P.S. In addition to the prizes for longest fish, smallest fish & longest stinger, there may be other prizes. **Do bring an extra frying pan, fish batter, aluminum foil, etc. to help with getting the fish fried.** Many consider the Potluck Meal the BEST part of the day, eating & mingling with the others. ***** DIRECTIONS to Camp Site*** Coming from HWY 260, At the top of the rim turn onto the FS 300 "Rim Road."** Continue to the Woods Canyon Lake Road turnoff (FS 105) and look for the Camp Road (the first road on the right) probably within 350 yards from FS 300. The Crook Campground, Pavilion B Group Camp Site is on the left after the Camp Host.

WARNING: This column is not suitable for human consumption and may be inappropriate for people with an I.Q. above eleven. READ AT YOUR OWN RISK.

ITEM#1) As we all know, predator calling is not an exact science. Of course, there are a few hard and fast rules but there is plenty of room for individual preferences and styles in many areas of calling. Some callers prefer one call or type of call over all others. Other callers make it a point to master all types of calls and use any or all of them as the mood strikes (Bob B. for instance). Some callers use rifles exclusively, while others prefer the shotgun only. Many use either one depending upon the situation and a few take a shotgun and rifle to every stand.

One area that preference plays a role in is deciding when to shoot. Today we will consider two different strategies. The accomplished Jacob J. says that he prefers to take the predator at the earliest opportunity. If for instance, the coyote presents a standing shot at 300 yards and he has a good steady rest and is confident of a clean, one shot kill, then he will go ahead and take the shot.

On the other hand, Ray E. (Ray is deceased now) prefers to call the predator in as close as possible. This way he gets in a lot more shooting before the predator gets away. (Side note: It is said that the reason Ray has such a hard time hitting coyotes may be that incoming objects "FREAK" him out!!! Speculation has it that when Ray was a baby, his parent would strap him in a highchair and feed him grapes with a slingshot!!!)

ITEM#2) In an effort to generate more interest in the 6-Month Hunt, Hunt Chairman Bob B. has decided to institute a program to recognize the most attractive members of each participating team. Each team will vote for which member of that team will win the honor. In the matter of the team of Bob. and Terry J, the vote was split, with only one vote for Bob and one vote for Terry. The tiebreaker was decided in favor of Terry J. by yours truly for obvious reasons, and all decisions are final. When asked to comment on winning the title of "Most Attractive Team Member," Terry was quoted as saying, "I'm good looking. "Congrats Terry! All the other 6-Month teams are urged to turn in the results of their votes to hunt chairman Bob B. as soon as possible.

ITEM#3) An unreliable source reports that when asked about, "the wig," Brent F. replied, "I don't really mind being bald, but I do regret the Dolly Pardon tattoo and I never liked wearing a hat in the house."

ITEM#4) Rumor has it that Dick S. is pregnant. When questioned, his response was, "Poppy Cock." Je is registered at Baby's R Us and the shower is May 23rd.

DISCLAIMER: The author has no control over the reliability of sources or alleged sources & claims complete irresponsibility. Any resemblance to any real people, living or dead is unfortunate & completely co-incidental (except for that little short guy that runs the call box.) The deadline for all complaints concerning this column shall be Feb. 16, 1986.



Favorite Predator Calling Story (From the Past)

by Gary A. M.

I have been hunting since I was four years old and didn't see my first bob cat until I was 24. In the last 2.5 years I have seen six of them! Out of those six I have called in three. The first one was with Jay N. in July 1999. We were on our way home from the State Calling Contest, (where I just finished last in the expert division) and we decided to do some hunting. I pulled a brand new 'Rhino Call' out of my call box and walked out to the stand. About a minute into the stand Jay said, "Bob Cat" I look his way and thought to myself, "Yeah Right". The Cat came in from about 150 to 170 yards away to within 10 yards of Jay! Since Bob Cat was not in season, Jay spooked the cat and it run away. I couldn't believe it, 2 O clock PM and 100 degrees, and that Bob Cat came right in! Even thought that Bob Cat wasn't taken, it was a real convince booster.



*****TO SUBMIT A STORY OR ANYTHING TO THE "PREDATOR TALES" NEWSLETTER*****

Do you have a story to share about your predator-calling or other story? Well we would love to hear from you. In fact, being the Newsletter Editor, I'm practically begging you to write or type up some type of story about ANY of your experiences and not just doing it once but doing so on an ongoing basis please. This is YOUR Newsletter and should include in my opinion stories, tips, experiences, recipes, etc. from YOU THE MEMBERS! Simply write down and hand your story to me at a Monthly Meeting or e-mail coyotecaller@cox.net. If you send an e-mail, please flag what you send as something for the Predator Tales Newsletter. Please also include a picture or two with your story. If a real picture, I will do my best to return the picture back to you if that is your request. Come on PVC Members, please get involved, it can be so much fun!!!

PVCI ANNUAL CAMPOUT & BARBECUE REPORT mostly told by Ken E.

Make no mistake, PVCI is a Club of hunters and outdoorspeople, many of whom are out hunting something in the fall and winter months. We are also a Family-Oriented Club and really try to schedule things in the spring and summer months that include the family. The May Campout & Barbecue is one of these Events.

This year's Event was mostly a Campout & Barbecue with folks mingling and having a good time in the cool woods. Cool? Ken said Saturday morning all woke to 27-degree temperatures! There were a few Shooting Events, the .22 rifle and .22 pistol and I believe that Ken said the Gong. There were a lot of shooting events also that did not take place. No archery or muzzleloader. Also, no jug shoot? Ken said that the bowling pin shot was replaced with a 5-paper target shoot. Regardless a good time was had by those that were present. The Dinner on Saturday night I hear was borderline Fantastic! We need more folks here next year. If anyone took any pictures, no one sent any to coyotecaller@cox.net so I can't put them in the Newsletter. Perhaps there are some on the Facebook thing? I don't do Facebook so I wouldn't know. Ken thought that perhaps Gary A.M. would have gotten Top Overall Honors for the men and probably his daughter Kendall may have taken Top Honors for women.

Thanks to ALL involved from the planning, getting the food, the j-johns, safety officers, cooks, shooting participants, eating participants, Larry S. for running the Event and for all of you who came up. **Bring someone else next year!**

2019 PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR REPORT by Eddie M.

On Saturday MAY 18, 2019 the town of Payson held its 25th Annual "Payson Wildlife Fair!" Once again, this was held the same Saturday as the **PVCI** Campout & Barbecue so as in the past I opted to attend the Fair with my things and the **PVCI**



Banner representing the **Phoenix Varmint Callers** and predator calling in general. Amy B. of the AZGFD told me I could have 2 tables this time so I could bring lots. I ended up bringing both my mounted bobcat and coyote plus assorted skins and skulls, pictures and photo albums and of course some sounds or predator calls. The Payson Wildlife Fair is an Annual Wildlife Awareness Fair held at Green Valley Park in Payson and on this day, it comes alive with a multitude of wildlife & outdoor fun activities for the whole family. You can catch a monster-sized trout, cruise the lake in a kayak, 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. There were booths from many local & state wildlife organizations including the **PVCI** Booth, youth pellet gun & archery ranges plus door prizes for the kids such as free fishing rods & lures. Live wildlife was also on display, the Fair celebrating Arizona's great outdoors and diverse wildlife. Smokey the Bear even made an appearance! For the Event, Green Valley Lake (one of the Urban Lakes) was 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 were provided at the Free Fishing Booth at the Fair. The Event offered lots to do and Admission was Free. As mentioned **PVCI** had a booth at this Event promoting the sport of Varmint Calling. There's always Lots of Interest!

The Payson Wildlife Fair is a cooperative effort between AZGFD, USDA Forest Service, Mogollon Sporting Assoc. & Payson Parks & Recreation Dept. After the Event I headed for the Unit 27 woods to try to fill my turkey tag.

WORD ABOUT COMISSION MEETINGS! (We really 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 that many people show up is when there is the very real possibility that something is going to be taken away from them! 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's hard to find time to do all that needs to be done. Yes, these Meetings can be 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! AZGFD Comm. Meetings listed below.

*** PVC I MONTHLY GUN

There will be no Monthly PVC I Meeting in July

The Gun for August will be a Remington Model 783 7mm Mag. Black Synthetic Stock, Bolt Action, good Bear Medicine.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 1 – Gunnison Prairie Dog opens statewide. Tassel-Eared Squirrel Season opens in Unit 31.

July 3-PVC I Monthly Meeting! This is the 1st Wednesday. NO PVC I Monthly Meeting! No AZGFD Commission Meetings

July 4 – HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!!! No AZGFD Commission Meetings in July.

July 5-7 - PVC I Take A Kid Fishing Day: Family focused, all ages welcome. Learn fishing, outdoor skills, about the outdoors & critters. Bring your kayaks, fish poles, tents & trailers. Camp & enjoy outdoors. Location: Woods Canyon Lake, Crook Campground Pavilion B. Host: Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. You Must Register: <https://register-ed.com/events/view/141999>
More info. on Page 2 of this Newsletter.

July 16 – Elk Hunting Seminars/Show CHA – Largest Event of its kind. Doors open 5 p.m. for dinner/vendors. Presentations 6 p.m. Raffles, auctions, hunt trips, guns, optics, bows, taxidermy, more. Limited seating. Bring non-perishable food item to be entered into a Special Raffle. Calvary Church 12612 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Western entrance. Host: Christian Hunters of America/AZ Elk Society. Info: davidmyrick@christianhuntersofamerica.org 602-309-3430.

July 18 – This is the 3rd Wednesday-PVC I Board of Directors Meeting – Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy.

July 19-21: Bowhunter Happening 3D Shoot/Mormon Lake. Location: Rodeo Grounds. Info: hunterwall@cox.net

July 25 – Web-Cast Drawing held for the Big-Game Super Raffle.

July 27-Aug. 3: Cabela's Fall Hunt University-Early season deer & elk hunting: 2 separate dates, same great event. Cabela's Pro Staff Corky R. & Mike O. teaching archery/rifle mule/Coues deer & elk hunt tactics. Bring can of food donation. Attendees have chance at \$50 Cabela's gift card. Location: Cabela's. No registration needed. Visit www.cabelas.com/Glendale for details.

July 27-28: **AZ. Elk Society Wapiti Weekend.** A 2-day intro to skills related to outdoors in AZ. w/classes on archery, fishing, .22 rifle, glassing, geocaching, gold panning, more. Fee: \$50 for youth. Info: www.arizonaelksociety.org or 602-492-5319.

July 31 - Fall Hunt Permit tags mailed out by now. If you were drawn for a fall big-game hunt you will know.

Aug. 2-3 – AZ. Game & Fish Commission Meeting, Region II 35005 Lake Mary Road, Flagstaff, AZ. 86001 (928) 774-5045.

Aug. 2-3- PVC I Annual Trail Clearing: Come help clear the See Canyon Trail. Work done Saturday the 2nd. Breakfast before/ Potluck Dinner Saturday night. Questions call Chris/April B. 623-414-5428 Map & more information inside.

Aug. 7 – This is 1st Wednesday/PVC I Monthly Meeting: 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale 7:00p.m. Bear Hunt/Call Seminar.

Aug. 9 – Rifle Bear Season opens in select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Aug. 9-11-Predator Hunting Boot Camp: Adult focused, family & youth welcome. Beginners can learn about predator calling, hunting, life history of predators, outdoor skill activities. Food provided & camping. Location: Vincent Ranch in Unit 4A. Host: Phoenix Varmint Callers, AZ. Elk Society. To Register/Info: James Strang, pvcigroup@gmail.com More info. inside.

Aug. 21 - This is the 3rd Wednesday-PVC I Board of Directors Meeting – Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy.

Aug. 23 – Archery Deer, Antelope, Bear, Turkey, Javelina, Ltd. Buffalo & Rifle Bear Seasons open. Lion opens. Check Regs.

Sept. 4 – This is the 1st Wednesday, PVC I Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. Special Novice Meeting. The Novice/Expert groups will be chosen for **Novice Hunt** after a multitude of info. is heaped upon you. Start time 7 PM

*** **NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON: DONT 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: Frank Budde 602-758-8714.

PVC I MEMBERSHIP COUNT: 161

NEXT UPCOMING EVENT: PPCI ANNUAL TRAIL CLEARING AUGUST 2-3, 2019

Can you believe that it will soon be that time of year again? Time to head north and clear/maintain the See Canyon Trail, a Forest Service Trail that **our club has maintained since the 1960's!** What is the PPCI Trail Clearing? The See Canyon Trail FS184 is a hunter/survival trail that runs from the top of the Rim near Promontory Butte down to Christopher Creek & is used by many hikers, hunters, horse riders, etc. Basically, instead of taking the roads all the many miles around to get off the Rim and to the bottom, this Trail will get you off the Rim in only 3.2 miles!

PPCI members mark your calendars for the weekend of Aug. 2-3. This will be the dates for the Annual PPCI Trail Clearing. The actual work will take place on Saturday Aug. 2nd 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 **PPCI** sign off FS Road 300 (where the See Canyon Trailhead begins) at 9:00a.m. on Saturday morning. Here we will pass out the tools & take a PPCI Trail Clearing group shot by the **PPCI** sign then split into upper & lower crews. **PPCI** will be offering water/Gatorade for refreshments. Volunteers need to bring all other supplies, gear, food & water for the weekend. **Fire restrictions permitting**, we will be camping off FS Road 84. This Road is on the Rim Road or FS300 past the Woods Canyon Lake Turn-off but before the Bear Canyon Lake turnoff. See the "Directions:" below. **This place where we camped last year!** If you show up Friday evening, expect a campfire but bring & cook your own meal. **There will be a PPCI Hot Dog BAR-B-Q/ Potluck Dinner on Saturday evening (5:00P.M.) with the Club providing the Hot Dogs! Please Remember To Bring A Dish!** This Trail Clearing Dinner has really turned out nice over the many years & is most definitely worth sticking around for! We will also traditionally have a Potluck Breakfast on Saturday morning before the work begins. We'll need 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 August during monsoon season be sure to take your raingear as brief afternoon showers in the high country are common!

This is a family affair so do PLEASE DO Bring Them. Friends are also invited. Don't forget the POTLUCK DINNER items! Hope to see you at Camp and on the Trailhead! Questions call Chris/April B. (623) 414-5428.

DIRECTIONS: From Phoenix take Hwy 260 to FS Road 300 (the Rim Road), turn left. Take FS Road 300 to FS Road 84 and turn right. They say there will be marked PPCI signs to direct everyone. The campsites will be on FS84. The Brewer family may go up early, so they can secure sites to accommodate the Club on FS Road 84.

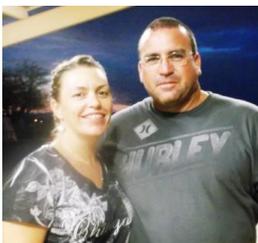


2015 PPCI Trail Clearing Crew



ANNOUNCEMENTS: HAPPY B-DAY to Baby Girl "Hallie" P.
Will turn 1year old on Aug 24

HAPPY ANNIVERSAY
Mike & Tricia Y.



Married 26 years –Aug. 28



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to Lew Early



93Years Young on July 3rd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
to Tim & Eunice N.



Married 12 years on July 7

MORE AUGUST HAPPENINGS

THE “GEORGE KNOX/ RAY EVRIDGE MEMORIAL” VARMINT CALLING BOOT CAMP AUG. 10, 11, 12, 2019

The Phoenix Varmint Callers, Inc. (PVC I) is planning its own Varmint Calling Boot Camp in conjunction with AZGFD & the AZ. Elk Society and the Arizona Predator Callers (APC) on – August 10, 11, 12. 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. This Boot Camp is for both the youth & adult. Friday is just for camp set-up & a late meal. On Saturday the 11th, members of PVC I will give seminars related to predator-calling covering a variety of topics & answering your questions. The AZGFD may also say a few words. Then around lunchtime the different groups will be paired with a mentor for a hands-on predator hunt! Sunday morning will feature more hands-on hunting if desired. The idea of having predator instruction in the outdoors was thought about by our own beloved, the late George K. More recently the late PVC I member Ray E. who worked tirelessly cooking, doing seminars & working on the relationships between the

various Clubs trying to get them all to work with each other especially when it came to promoting youth activities, (Ray passed in 2017) his name was also added to the Memorial. The AZ. Elk Society & APC will also be on hand & will provide meals & other support during this Event. So, if you’ve any interest in learning how to successfully call-in predators, then this Camp’s for you. More info at www.pvci.org

WHO: PVC I will conduct a “Varmint Calling/Hunt Seminar” covering all aspects of calling in critters.

WHEN: August 10,11-12, 2019. Please Pre-Register: More info: www.pvci.org Friday the 10th for set-up only.

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

Cost: Free to all, adult, youth & family. Come on out & learn instructions from hunters who have harvested many critters. We plan to go hunting too! 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 may find a spot to camp outside of the Vincent Ranch area on National Forest land which is public land. Bring a stool for use in class & hunting. Bring your camouflage, calls & if you have a shotgun or rifle bring them also, as the plan is to go hunting sometime during the weekend.

FOOD: Meals provided Friday evening, Saturday morning, afternoon & evening & Sunday morning.

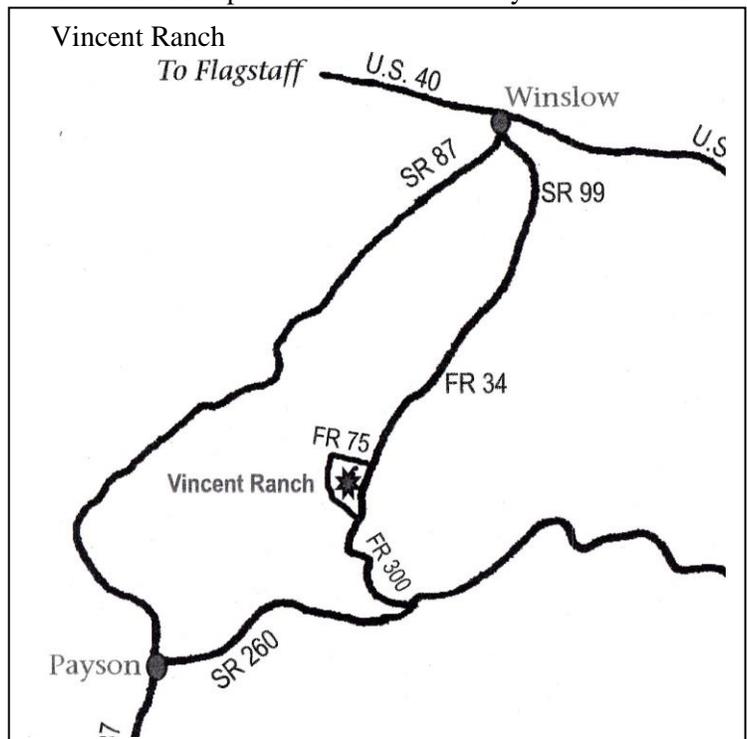
***** REGISTRATION:** Please do pre-register so that we have an idea of how many to expect. To pre-register as a participant <https://register-ed.com/events/register/142036> The plan is for a limit of only 75 students.

Mentors we need you also. Please pre-register as a mentor or helper at <https://register-ed.com/events/register/142036>

***There is talk that there will be an Incentive Drawing for the Mentor/Helpers and also a Giveaway for New Members.

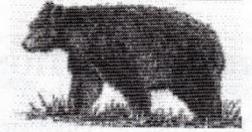
MAP & DIRECTIONS TO VINCENT RANCH

Vincent Ranch Directions: From Phoenix 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 turnoff onto FR300 (the Rim Road). FR 300 intersects with FR34 at the T. Turn right at the T onto FR34. 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.



GETTING AN ARIZONA BLACK BEAR ON YOUR WALL

PRESEASON PREPARATION. by Eddie M.



Observing black bears in the wild, especially your first time, whether you are watching them feed on a hillside or you watch your first bear coming to the call, will almost assuredly be an unforgettable moment! As I write this article, it is very hard for me to believe that the early Aug. 9th bear season is just shy of 8 weeks away and the better Aug. 23rd bear season just shy of 10 weeks away! In some ways bears hunting reminds me of spring turkey hunting in that there are many that purchase tags yet few that actually get to touch one and bring one home. If you really want to bring an Arizona black bear home this season, it is very possible, however you need to prepare some things and if possible, also do some early scouting. I would start my preparations NOW! Black bears live in Big, Rough Country! The way I hunt, you will need, at some point, to be able to get from Point A to Point B in this country, often carrying quite a load. You need to be in some sort of shape to do this or you can really get yourself into trouble! I cannot stress this enough! I remember killing a bear once just before dark, some 6 miles in the Wilderness (where we went James S.). I was alone & I can remember that I ate a cold can of mini raviolis waiting for the moon to come up so that I could see. It took me all night to skin, quarter & prepare the meat for transport. I remember the pack was so heavy that when standing next to it, I couldn't lift it straight up with my arms. Instead I had to lay down & get my shoulders in the straps, then stand up in order to walk out. Once I made it to the truck, I went home, called some people for help, took a shower, then drove and met the 3 guys that thought they might help. Right back to the Wilderness we drove, then packed up & walked back in. Only one of those 3 guys made it all the way back to the bear. The country was just too rough. I had to leave them where they stopped, with their pack & provisions mind you & pick them up on the way back out. I eventually got some sleep however it was a long 48 hours. I truthfully believe that I would've been a lot faster not calling for any help!

I would start with preparing your body. Losing some weight is one of the best things that most of us could do. Also exercising a few times a week, running or running in place somewhere and doing some weights (they call this working out). Many say they are working out, then go to the gym and train and many can do miles on regular terrain. Well bear country has mountains and hills, and there is a BIG difference between regular miles and mountain miles!

Your rifle and/or bow preparedness should probably be next. For rifle hunters, do shoot enough gun. Yes, a .22-250 or .243 will kill a bear but really! I say that the .270 should be the bare minimum for shooting bears with the .30 calibers, 7mm Mags, etc. being an even better choice! Do go to the rifle range and do zero your rifle to be dead on, not at 100 yards (this isn't the East), instead zero to be dead-on, dead center at 200 yards! With my .270, I want to be dead center at 25 yards, then I move out from there. Using 130 grain bullets (they have better ballistics than the 150's), I can kill a fox at 4 steps or shoot a close cottontail in the head or kill a doe antelope in Wyoming at 300 yards by holding the crosshairs of my 4 power scope dead center. Of the bears that I have killed or seen die; I can think of 4 that took 2 rifle shots instead of 1 shot to kill them. Two of those were shot in the lower leg first and two of those were shot in the shoulder first. My first bear I shot in the shoulder at less than 10 yards after a stalk. It went down then got right back up on two legs going around & around biting at where it got stung. The next shot was through the lungs after it went on all fours to get out of there. Rifle hunters shoot your bears through the lungs if you can as the shoulder shot often just takes out one leg and a bear just like a coyote can still cover ground on 3 legs! Archery hunters, practice both long and short shots. Bears can be stalked and/or called quite close. Stalking a feeding bear is almost like stalking javelina, their smell & hearing being excellent, the eyes being their weakness. Bears do have bigger teeth though! I'm not a fan of punch cutter broadheads, I like fixed blades like the Rocky Mountain Razor, Thunderhead, Wasp, etc.

The way that the seasons are structured anymore, there is almost no excuse for not finding bears before the seasons start although the early Aug. 9th season might be an exception. In most instances, the best time of year to see a black bear in the Arizona wilds is from about mid-August to mid-September. Find the food they are eating, manzanita, acorns, prickly pear fruit and you will find the bears. This is primetime! Many of the seasons nowadays are set to protect the bears at this time of year with either no season or with a low female harvest limit, the archery hunters being an exception. We have much good bear country, maybe too much! It can be easy to get overwhelmed figuring whether to hunt a unit while open or go scout a different unit before the opener? The way the hunts are set up with the female harvest being the controlling factor, many of the better units will probably only be open a week & some of those that are supposed to open again at a later date, just might close for the rest of the year! It is often better to just learn a unit or two or three & concentrate on them. If the season doesn't open until later or closes early during primetime, perhaps you could go in anyway & scout with a camera, ignoring the other units.

NOW is also the time to find a taxidermist! Talk to them, many are also hunters, want you to succeed & may be able to steer you here & there. Talk about skinning also! What cuts to make for a rug, shoulder or full mount. Do you case skin a bear for a full mount or cut it down the upper back? What do they want you to do? Don't forget a butcher also. Finding the taxidermist & butcher now instead of trying to find one after the kill is common sense. Make your shot count! Good luck!

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by Scott B.

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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) & 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 2019/2020 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 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.

July 16 – Elk Hunting Seminars/Show CHA: This is the largest Event of its kind. Doors open at 5p.m. for dinner & vendors. The presentations start at 6p.m. There will be raffles/auctions: hunt trips, guns, optics, bows, camping/hunting gear, art work, furniture, taxidermy, kids-only raffles, door prizes, etc. Seating limited. Bring a non-perishable food item to enter into a special raffle. Location: Calvary Community Church, 12612 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Phoenix, west entrance. Host: Christian Hunters of America, AZ Elk Society. Info: davidmyrick@christianhuntersofamerica.org 602-309-3430.

July 19-21 – Bowhunter Happening 3D Shoot at Mormon Lake: Family fun 3D animal archery target shoot w/7 courses with one extreme and 1 kids course. Raffle prizes for various shoots plus many general raffle items (bows, backpacks, optics, coolers. Location: Mormon Lake Rodeo Grounds, Mormon Lake. Host: Arizona Bowhunters Assoc. Pre-Register online: <http://arizonabowhunters.org> Info: Hunter Wall (480) 529-3871 hunter.wall@cox.net

July 27-28: AZ. Elk Society Wapiti Weekend. A 2-day intro to skills related to outdoors in AZ. w/classes on archery, fishing, .22 rifle, muzzle loading shotgun, glassing, geocaching, gold panning, more. Fee: \$50 for youth includes all classes, meals, giveaways for weekend. Info: www.arizonaelksociety.org or 602-492-5319. Registration open 60 days before Event.

July 27-Aug. 3: Cabela's Fall Hunt University-Early season deer & elk hunting: 2 separate dates, same great event. Cabela's Pro Staff Corky R. & Mike O. teaching archery/rifle mule/Coues deer & elk hunt tactics. Bring can of food donation. Attendees have chance at \$50 Cabela's gift card. Location: Cabela's. No registration needed. Visit www.cabelas.com/Glendale for details.

Aug. 9-11 – Predator Hunting Boot Camp- George Knox/Ray Evridge Memorial: Adult focused, families & youth welcome: Beginners can learn about predator calling, hunting, life history of predators & furbearers, other outdoor skill activities, food provided, camping. Location: Vincent Ranch, Woods Canyon Lake area, Unit 4A. Host: Phoenix Varmint Callers, AZ Elk Society. **To pre-register as a participant or mentor** <https://register-ed.com/events/register/142036>

ANOTHER YEAR WITH NO ARIZONA STATE PREDATOR CALLING CONTEST???

by Eddie M.

The Arizona State Varmint Calling Championship (callers competing against other callers) used to be a highly anticipated Annual Event! 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 (duck, 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 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 couple of times that it was held, many years ago now. 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. The Event still draws a crowd of spectators make no mistake! **It's getting the callers to PARTICIPATE! I can think of at least FOUR Varmint Calling Clubs in the state and with Today's Social Media being what it is... to me there is just No Excuse! Again the other Sports (duck, turkey, elk) 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 sometime in January where they really pushed predator hunting & predator-related products. My thoughts were that perhaps we could hold the State Championship there again however, Cabela's has really changed. 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 President Wayne W. know of your idea. This Annual Event was really cherished in the not so distant past.

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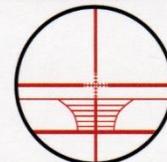
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