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Nov-Dec. 2020



Wayne W.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I had the opportunity recently to take some time off work and go out and do a little scouting for the upcoming predator season. I had taken a break from the heat earlier in the summer to do a little reloading and had a couple boxes of shiny new reloads on the console, had my rifle dialed in, had my range finder at the ready just in case I came across a distant and wayward rock that needed a little attitude adjustment. I was on my way to check out an area I'd never been to before but looked promising. A night under the stars laying in my cot and staring up at the stars was very therapeutic. With all the stresses in life, politics and Corona Mania, it was a fantastic time to take a break, get away from the city and get a little reminder on perspectives and all the blessings life has to offer. I hope everyone can get away, spend a little time outdoors and get excited for the new season!

With the holidays just around the corner I would also like to encourage everyone to look for opportunities to assist in the club. We have a definite need for volunteers to assist setting up the Christmas party, and other meetings in general. If you are willing to spend a few minutes helping at any of the events, it is greatly appreciated and is a great way to rub shoulders with other members in the club you might not know. Just see me or one of the other board members or officers (the box on the box on the left of this page lists the board members and officers) & we can set you up

THINGS TO KNOW:

*****WELCOME ALL!!!** Hey members we are back to having Club Meetings and Club Hunts!

*****THE DEADLINE TO ENTER THE 2020-2021 6-MONTH HUNT** will be by **the end of the 2020 November Monthly Meeting**. Entries allowed are 1 or 2-man teams in either Expert or Novice Categories For more information, refer to Page 3.

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>



Remembering Member Bob J.



Top Novice-Chris C.



Oct. Skills Hunter Ken E.

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*****PVC members, please share your hunting experiences.** I'm always looking for material to put into this Newsletter & your stories, no matter how small you think they may be will be welcome! Stories, tips, recipes, how-to's, contribute something from time to time. Here is a story from 1995 about member Mike F.'s 1st set of doubles on coyotes. Hope that you enjoy. Again share!

FINALLY!!!

by Mike F.

I've finally done it! Not once but twice during the 93-94 winter. I've finally scored doubles on a stand I've been calling! I've had plenty of chances over the last nine years, but Wiley number II always got away.

The first double was in November. Gary R. and I were near XYZ-Ville in some sparse desert bordering a cotton field. It was about 1:30 and it was my turn to call. The only available cover was a pair of lonely mesquite trees. I sat under one and Gary the other. Coyote #1 came in on my side after only a minute or so. I watched it come in from 100 to 20 yards where it turned broadside. My crosshairs were on the shoulder where they should be. One squeeze of the Model 700's trigger equaled one coyote! Coyote #2 was spotted by both of us at 250 yards trotting in on Gary's side. At about 20 yards it stopped. Gary audibly said, "GOODBYE" and #2 felt #4 buckshot.

My second double was in December with Dave K. Dave and I decided to try a new spot that looked promising on the map. A large wash bordering fields proved to be a good spot to call from. We parked on the edge of the field with the truck behind some small trees. We sat on the wash bank facing North and South. Yote #1 came in right in front of me on the wash bank. Another squeeze of the 22.250 trigger put a 52-grain hollow point between his shoulders as Wiley looked at a camo blob sitting in a bush. In spite of a solid hit, Mr. Yote stumbled into the wash with me and my single six 22. One shot in the head made sure he was down for keeps. Number 2 came in on my left as I was thinking it's almost time to get out of here. Another hit in the shoulder let #2 run before piling up.

Getting doubles last year was exciting! I'm hoping for more action this year. See you at check-in...and don't let #2 get away!



KEEPING RECORDS by Eddie M.

Whether you are just starting out or have been calling for a while, keeping some form of good records of your harvests can be both an entertaining & potentially valuable addition to your stash of calling gear. Why? In my book **the #1 reason would be to honor the animal.** If filled out correctly, you could also start seeing trends, like when you are more successful, what your favorite habitat types are, what calls/sounds get the best results, etc. You will probably never forget the first three or so coyotes that you harvest but eventually the memory will fade & unless you have either written down or actually taken a picture you'll forget some of these critters.

The easiest way that I have found to keep track is to fill out a pre-printed form. These forms are even more interesting if they have a space(s) for a picture(s). You could also just fill out the form or just jot the details down in a notebook or just keep a photo album. If you really want details & the story with the picture, then the pre-printed forms are the way to go. I wish that I had done this throughout my career. I tried then just started doing the photo albums so now I don't remember all the details. Good Luck

YOU MIGHT BE A VARMINT CALLER IF..... (Author unknown)

-Your dog falls in love with your boots very time you return home from a hunt.
-You know to the minute how long it takes you to drive from your home to your favorite calling spot.
-Your coworkers refuse to carpool with you because you practice calling all the way to work.
-Your chiropractor cannot figure out why your neck is always in need of adjustment and you are too embarrassed to tell him it is from carrying a pound of calls on your lanyard all weekend.
-Everything on your Christmas list can be purchased on-line at "Allpredatorcalls.com". You also get a personalized Christmas card from them.
-When you pass a tree you think, "Man, that would be a good skinning tree!"
-Your dog hides under the bed every time you get your call box out.
-You see a shotgun and immediately check the barrel to see if it will chamber a 3" shell...if not. it's CRAP!
-Your handheld GPS is filled with weigh points like: Calling spot #1, Calling Spot, Good Calling Spot #3, etc.
-You see things like saltshakers, table legs, sprinkler pipe and imagine how they would sound with a JC products varmint reed shoved in them.
-You are conditioned to say, "Yuma" when anyone asks where you hunt.
-And the #1 reason you might be a Varmint Caller is...You go through more latex gloves than a gynecologist!

***This timely article has been in the Newsletter before. We are really trying to increase our active hunting members. Why aren't you hunting or competing in our fun Monthly Skills Hunts and building relationships within? I joined to hunt, you?

GETTING YOUR PREDATOR CALLING CAREER GOING OR GOING OUT WITH OTHERS IN THE CLUB

by Eddie M.

Question: I JOINED THIS CLUB TO LEARN TO PREDATOR CALL/HUNT AND TO GO HUNTING YET I HAVE NOT BEEN HUNTING YET. WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO GO HUNTING WITH SOMEONE? This is a question that is probably asked & thought about more than about any other. Well let's take an honest look at this question. Yes you did join the Club for various reasons including beginning a predator calling career however **this is your career and like the start of most new things you are sometimes going to have to be proactive and do & learn some things on your own, the Club does not owe you. There are 30-31 days in a month. The Club only meets one day a month for most members. If you do go on a weekend Club hunt that adds 2 more days. What are you doing the other 27-28 days?** Yes, do consider yourself fortunate if you are lucky enough to go out your first time or two with a more experienced caller. Doing so can really boost your calling career. After all it is one thing to read about or watch a (DVD) about what you are supposed to do yet things can be quite different once you are really actually doing the deed like calling on a stand or picking a spot to call from or actually watching a critter come running in and you are actually shooting & trying to not let the critter get away & all this under the watchful eye of the more experienced who is telling you what you're doing right & wrong. However, this is just not going to happen to everyone for various reasons. Maybe you joined in the summer or in months that do not have Novice Hunts? Regardless there is really no reason to fret. **Learn what you can at the Club Meetings by paying attention and asking questions. Bring a predator call or two or three with you & learn some of the sounds that can come out of them by asking.** Heck ask the call box guy if no one else! Then practice these sounds while driving to & from in your daily activities. **Try to be available for both days on the Club hunt weekends** in case someone asks you if you're hunting. I can remember one year when I had no transportation not being able to hunt on 3 different Club Hunts because the members I asked (mostly newer ones) had other plans or were already booked! It is a known fact that the Club Meeting is the first Wednesday of every month. The Club Hunt is that upcoming weekend from September through March. If you want to hunt PLAN on having that time FREE! Also, we have said this before however it bears repeating; **go to the various Club Meetings & functions. Just by you being there you are helping yourself as you get to know the other members & they get to know you. Be around those campfires at night, listen to the stories and tell some of your own. In doing this you are building relationships. Volunteer to do something & you really can put a star by your name on your calling career sheet!** Also bring your wife, family & friends to these Events so that they can make new friends.

Don't forget to practice on your own & you simply must expect to do some hunting on your own. Then you can go where you want and do or try what you want. In fact, **if you really want your kill numbers to go up then you must do some calling/killing on your own.** My rookie year I killed 23 coyotes & I use to average 20 plus coyotes a year. You don't do that by just hunting Club Hunts one weekend a month. Yes, there are some cliques in the Club, people that mostly hunt together all the time and rarely if ever take someone else. This is America and you are allowed to do that. That doesn't make them bad Club members. Many times, there may be a reason like the 6-Month Hunt competition, etc. or maybe they just like hunting together. **Regardless, don't be scared to ask someone to go on a hunt, if not a Club Hunt then what about a hunt on one of the other weekends? However also don't be destroyed if they say no.** People have lives, some busier than others. **Most no's are no not right now and future plans can be made.** On that note here is a question for you. **What kind of a person are you or better yet what kind of a person do you project or portray?** In other words, **if you didn't know you, would you hunt with you?** How is your appearance? Do you have and/or can you get most of your own gear or must you borrow constantly? There is absolutely nothing wrong with borrowing especially in the beginning. Can you help with the gas? Can you only hunt one day or two? If always one perhaps a day that is not on a Club Hunt weekend would be better? Do others have reason to fear you? For instance, do you portray that you are dangerous or potentially dangerous? Again, would you hunt with you? These are just some questions to ask yourself. **Whatever you do don't just sit around not saying anything to anyone, expecting someone to ask you & then get mad when it doesn't happen. If you do then it is your own fault & you are putting a stick into the spokes of your own predator calling career tires.**

GOING PREDATOR CALLING/HUNTING IS AN ADVENTURE. Yes, it is sometimes nice to share the adventure however **don't limit yourself into only hunting with others (unless medically unable), get out there by yourself now & then.** Enjoy your predator calling career, true adventure is waiting for you.

P.S. The Monthly Skills Hunts are for 1, 2, and 3-man teams. The PNCI Hunt Chairman is really trying to boost the number of participants on these fun hunts. We need your participation though. The after-hunt check-ins are also fun with laughter, food, storytelling and sometimes a view of a bobcat or other critter. Come on over and join us whether you hunt or not.



SAYING GOODBYE TO BOB J.

Bob J. passed away Oct. 3, 2020. He was born Aug. 20, 1947 in Glendive, Montana to Ole J. and Thelma L. He was raised in Richey, Montana, baptized and confirmed at the American Lutheran Church. Bob graduated from Richey High School in 1965, then attended Northern Montana College, graduating in 1969 with an Associate's degree in drafting. On March 20, 1971, he married Lyla Lynn H. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Havre, Montana. Together they graduated with Bachelor of Science degrees in Secondary Education, May 1971. That fall Bob and family moved to Twin Bridges, Montana where Bob taught drafting, metal trades, welding, and carpentry. During the summer, he did remodeling in the vicinity. In 1976, along with their young children Kristin and Bryan, Bob and Lyla moved back to Havre, where Bob pursued a career in construction.

Tired of cold winters, Bob, Lyla, and family moved to Phoenix, Arizona in 1986. He continued his career in carpentry. His craftsmanship was known by many. Throughout his lifetime, he met wonderful friends who shared his passion for hunting, target shooting, reloading and quadding in the desert and mountains of Arizona. Bob was a lifelong member of the NRA, Phoenix Varmint

Callers, & Hassayampa Gun Club.

Bob was an avid reader. He never passed up a John Wayne or Clint Eastwood movie, and loved documentaries about WWII. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

Through his retirement he enjoyed extended vacations to Montana. Highlights included attending the all-class reunions in Richey, reconnecting with classmates and spending time with family and lifelong friends. He often pulled out his Richey reunion books, which he jokingly renamed his "Richey Bibles." He loved recollecting his life's experiences with names in that book.

A proud son of second-generation Danish and Norwegian immigrants, his favorite time of year was lefse season. His close family members still have the handmade lefse sticks he spent many hours crafting.

Bob is survived by his wife Lyla, daughter Kristin and wonderful son-in-law-Derek P., son Bryan, granddaughter Aimee P., sister Mary (Bryan) D., several nieces and nephews, and beloved beagle Maggie. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Virel and Bobby J., Alan & Gerald H., sisters June S. and Donna P.

Private inurnment will be at Christ the Lord Lutheran Church in Carefree, AZ. A celebration of his life will be scheduled later.



THE PVCJ Family recently lost a very beloved & valued Member with the passing of Bob J. If you are new to the Club, then you probably have no idea who he was however many of the older and some of you intermediate members did know him. Bob was a good friend too many and had a good soul. A kind, compassionate, member who loved his family, the outdoors, shooting and hunting. I believe that Bob cut his eyeteeth in the BIG state of Montana. He sure talked about it there a lot. When it came to shooting, if he was not building, working on a load or trying this or trying that then Bob wasn't living correctly. He had some mighty accurate firearms.

I remember being invited to Bob's 50th (Surprise) Birthday Party and not being able to go for some reason or other. I always regretted not going because I know that I would have taken some good pictures. Bob shot his first shotgun coyote on one of my Monthly Skills Hunt teams many years ago. It was a cloudy overcast day, probably mid-morning. We walked in & I set the guys up. Bob was the caller & called in a coyote that Scott A. dropped with his shotgun. We celebrated and then I tied a red bandanna to a high Joshua stick so we could find that coyote again and we continued walking in further. Scott called next, & Bob dropped a coyote with his shotgun. There is nothing wrong with returning to the truck with a double load.

Back then Bob wasn't so confident about his calling sound. I remember the last stand of this hunt on Sunday. It was Bob's turn to call yet he didn't want too. He wanted me to call as he said that I sounded better. I refused reminding him that his sound was good enough to have called in something earlier. He eventually gave in & did call & called in a triple or 3 coyotes at once! We ended up not getting any of these coyotes however Bob did call them in & I'm sure it was a boost to his confidence. Eddie M.

MY MEMORIES OF BOB J.

by Mike F.

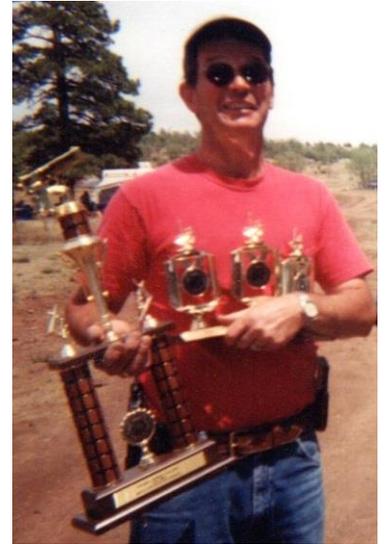
I can't remember when I met Bob J. since it has been over 20 years ago. I do remember taking him on one of his early coyote hunts. Bob didn't have a dedicated coyote rifle back then so I let him use one of my 22.250's. Bob being the great shooter that he was shot a coyote at a pretty good distance with an unfamiliar rifle.

In 2013, I didn't have anyone to go deer hunting with so Bob put in with me and we drew tags for 17B. We took his truck to do some scouting. We started out on Camp Wood Road the north side of our unit. We had maps that showed we could get to the middle of the unit so off we went. We encountered some low range 4WD areas and eventually ended up near Spider Ranch. Our problem was the gate was locked to get to the road that we wanted to be on. We unwound the barbed wire off the pole to make a hole in the fence to get through. Then we wound the barbed wire back on the pole. It was getting dark about then, so we headed into Prescott for dinner and a tasty beer at Prescott Brewing.

I think that it was 2013 again that Bob and I arrived at the Boot Camp on Friday afternoon. Having a couple hours of time to burn before dinner you guessed it, we went to shoot .22's. On our way back we saw a bear cub all by itself. I was able to get several pictures from inside the truck.

As we all know, Bob loved to shoot about anything. We went to a spot in the Mazatzal's where I found a place where we could shoot 600 yards. Bob hit the gong with open sights on his M1A more than you would think possible with open sights.

It's going to be difficult looking at Bob's camp spot at the PPCI BBQ and not seeing his vehicle there. Until we meet again at that shooting range in the sky my friend. We will drink a tasty beer after going shooting.



Bob & Mory T. also hunted together from time to time. I can remember getting a call, then calling member Ricardo & meeting Mory & Bob in Buckeye. One of them had called in a bobcat that Mory shot however they were a little unsure about skinning it. I took the bobcat out in the field & Ricardo filmed me skinning it with just a knife blade. I didn't have the knife. I was fortunate enough to also be on a hunt with Bob & Mory. Mory was a bit heavier then & needed help putting his socks & shoes on. I was overly impressed by how compassionate Bob was. He made sure Mory was taken care of. They were obviously good friends. EM

SEPT. 2020 PPCI MONTHLY SKILLS (NOVICE) HUNT REPORT

Mark M. & Shawn G. were the only team to check in with one coyote, but with no novice in the party.
Hey, can we get some more active PPCI hunter participation here? Why did you join the Club?

OCT. 2020 PPCI MONTHLY SKILLS HUNT REPORT

This was a windy weekend, not ideal predator calling weather however it put everyone in the same predicament. Five Teams went out, third place was, Ken E. & Chris C. checked in with 1 Coyote. Wayne W. & Craig B. checked in earlier with one coyote also for 2nd. Mark S & Nathan S. & Tim L. is the first-place team with ten coyotes.

Please take pictures and share them with the Newsletter Crew!!

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 www.azgfd.gov/commissioncam 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 November will be a Thompson Center Compass .270 w/synthetic stock, black finish.

The Gun for the December Christmas Party: We are trying for a Mossberg Predator 6.5 PRC. This may/may not happen but there will be something good!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 2 – Mountain Zone Duck Season opened! Oct. 23 – Desert Zone Duck Season opened!

Oct. 30 - Dec. 31 – Last chance! Rifle Bear Season Opens in Hunt Units 4A, 5A, 27, 29 & 30A. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 1 – Trapping Season Opens statewide. No leg-hold traps allowed on public land. Cage Traps okay. Check Regs.

Nov. 4 – This is the 1st Wednesday. PVCI Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ. 7:00p.m.

Nov. 6 - Dec. 31- Various Deer & Elk Seasons open & close statewide. Nov. 7 – Desert Scaup Season Opens. Check Hunt Regs.

Nov. 7-8 – PVCI MONTHLY SKILLS HUNT!!! Nov. 8 – Blue Grouse Season closes. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 18 - **This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting:** Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy. Phx. 7:00p.m.

Nov. 20 - Late Dove Season opens statewide. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 20 – Dec. 16 –Various Sandhill Crane Seasons open & close. Check your Hunt Regs.

Nov. 20-29 – Youth Only Javelina Season opens in Select Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Dec. 1 – Daylong Shooting Hours for Coyotes open in many Hunt Units. Bighorn Sheep Season opens. Check Hunt Regs.

Dec. 2 – PVCI Annual Christmas Party/Potluck/ Fundraiser – Doors open at 6:30p.m. 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ.

Dec. 4 – Mearns Quail Season opens statewide, limit 8 Mearns. Successful Spring 2021 Hunt Permits mailed out by now.

Dec. 4-5 – Arizona Game & Fish Commission Meeting in Region VI (Hunt Orders)

Dec. 5-6 – PVCI MONTHLY SKILLS HUNT!!!

Dec. 16 - This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: Barro's Pizza 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy. Phx. 7:00p.m.

Dec. 25 – Merry Christmas to ALL! Happy Birthday Jesus!!!

Dec. 31 – All Bear & Crow Seasons & most Squirrel Seasons end. Check your Hunt Regs.

Jan. 1 – Happy New Year! Year 2021! Archery Deer & Javelina Seasons open in many Hunt Units. Check your Hunt Regs.

Jan. 3 - Late Dove Season closes statewide. Check your Hunt Regs.

Jan. 6 - This is the 1st Wednesday. (PVCI Monthly Meeting, 6822 N. 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ.) 7:00p.m.

Jan. 9-10 - PVCI MONTHLY SKILLS HUNT!!! Jan. 10 – Mountain Zone Duck, Scaup & Goose Season closes.

Jan.20 -This is the 3rd Wednesday. PVCI Board of Directors Meeting: Barro's Pizza, 3053 W. Auga Fria Hwy. Phx. 7:00p.m.

Jan. ?? – (Tentative Date) MULTI-CLUB HUNT, pits our Calling Club against the other Calling Clubs in the state. Check-In Location ??? More details to follow as we get more info. If you hunt no other hunt this year, hunt this one day!

Jan. 31 – Desert Zone Duck, Scaup & Goose Season closes.

. *** **Note From The Membership Chairman: DONT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP to stay a PVCI Member! Fees went up on Jan. 1. 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 can be made payable to PVCI. and paid on-line at PVCI Website <http://www.pvci.org> (go to membership) or 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: 137 PVCI WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS: NONE

HARD COPIES OF THE PREDATOR TALES ARE AVAILABLE FOR A SMALL FEE OF \$10.00/Yearly

For the Annual Fee of \$10, those who would still like to receive the Hard Copy can do so! Give your \$10 payment to Membership Chairman in person or mail the \$10 fee 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

PVCI CHRISTMAS PARTY/POTLUCK/AUCTION DECEMBER 2nd, 2020 by Eddie M.

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 will be the date; the location is **6822 N. 57th Drive, the American Legion Hall Post 29 in Glendale, AZ.** our regular Monthly Meeting place, the Christmas Party taking the place of the regular Meeting. Of course, you & yours and all (family, friends, kids) are cordially invited to attend this Event, you do NOT have to be a member. **The entry fee to get into the Christmas Party is typically at least 1 can of food or water per person.** All food/water donations are donated to the Desert Mission Food Bank by members Gary A.M. & Ginger. Some Remarkable Amounts of Food/Water have been donated by this Club in the past. **Dinner will be a "Potluck Affair"** & we ask you the members to please bring a dish or dessert to share. **The PVCI Christmas Party is a Major Fundraiser for PVCI. As you can imagine this year especially Event Organizer? is having Trouble getting** donated items from the various Outdoor & Sporting vendors. **PVCI Members, WE NEED YOUR HELP AND WILL TAKE YOUR GOOD NEW OR USED Donated items, Including GOODS or Baked Goods, Services, Hunts, etc.** Generally, this is also the night that our **"Member of the Year" & "President's Award" recipients** are named while their family & friends are present. All in all, this should be a good night of seeing new & familiar faces & celebrating **the Christmas Spirit!** Hope to see you! **P.S. If you do have some good items (outdoor or not, remember this is a Fund-Raiser) that you'd like to donate make arrangements with Ray Keenen 480-294-7676 - via voice mail or text message try to get the items to him BEFORE the Christmas Party! It will just make it a little easier if we know before what we have for the party.**

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENT: MULTI-CLUB HUNT JANUARY (?), 2021

*****Jan. (?), 2021 – MULTI-CLUB HUNT** – This hunt pits our Club against the other predator-calling Clubs in the state for bragging rights. Who is the "BEST" calling club in the state? The Arizona Predator Callers (APC) won in 2020. PVCI members, **if you hunt no other hunts this year, please hunt this one!** It is only a 1-day Hunt. All hunters are allowed to use both hand calls & electronics. **Proof of kill will be the whole critter or the skin & the matching carcass.** Points awarded are usually lion-100, bobcat-(?), coyote-(?), fox-(?). Again, this is a One-Day Hunt. Only critters harvested on this day in 2021 are eligible. **The Deadline is 9:00p.m.** Saturday evening. This is according to the Hunt Chairman's watch. Anything turned in after 9:00p.m. is disqualified. There will be food & possibly drink served until it is gone. PVCI members again **we really need your help. We can win the Trophy back! THANKS in advance!**

EDITOR'S NOTE: PERHAPS IT IS TIME TO MOVE ON??? by Eddie M.

Looking back at my saved copies of Newsletters, the earliest Predator Tales that I can find where I was either helping on or Editor of this Newsletter, the "Predator Tales" was back in 1989. This may be before some of you reading this were even born. I joined PVCI back in 1985 because I wanted to be part of what this Club was about, namely beginning my predator hunting career! When predator calling, every stand has the potential for something to happen that will be unforgettable. I have had MANY unforgettable stands having called and killed numerous coyotes, foxes, some bobcats, badgers, one bear with a slug at 19 steps and one mountain lion at 5 steps! Besides the hunting I also wanted to get involved and have held many Board & also been Corresponding Secretary a few years. Through it all I've also been the Newsletter Editor for 32 years! Just helping in the beginning. Well I have recently been diagnosed with liver cancer & though I feel fine now and expect to fully recover, it has taken a lot out of me. Perhaps it is time to move on and think about asking for a Newsletter Editor replacement? Interested, let myself or President Wayne W. or Vic President Ricardo G. know. I'm not gone yet, and I sure have enjoyed serving You the members these many, many years.



Eddie M.

By Brent F. Larry S. Ron H. & Ken E.

Recently I had the opportunity to hunt Sandhill Crane with some members of PVCI. We had a great time. The weather was crisp in the mornings and mild in the afternoons. We would sit motionless in our blinds and watch hundreds, no thousands of cranes wing over our heads severely out of range. Once the early morning darkness turned to light and the frost was burned off the fields and all the cranes had successfully flown the gauntlet of hunters to their feeding grounds we would exit our blinds and walk the 500 yards to our trucks and drive back to camp for an early lunch. This regime continued for three days. Each and every day we followed the same routine and so did the cranes. No tags were filled but as I mentioned we had a great time. Conversation around camp was informative and fun. Besides not getting a crane we found out we had something else in common. We have all hunted with the infamous Eddie Murdock. In fact my first club hunt was with Eddie. My first shot gunned coyote, My first Fox and my 100th coyote all with the tutelage of Eddie. Most recently Eddie even packed out the lion's share of a Aoudad sheep I killed in the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico. Everyone in the crane camp had a story of or pertaining to the nuances of Eddie. We dubbed them "Eddie-O-Syncrasies". In order to write them down (there were quite a few!) we had to define just what an "Eddie-O-Syncrasie" was.

ED-EE-UH-SING-KRUH-SEE: *Sin*

Definition: a Characteristic, Habit, Peculiarism or Mannerism or the like indigenously to ONLY Mr. Edward Murdock.

Synonym: Eccentricity, Quirk **Here they are in no particular order of occurrence or importance.**

*An early morning with Eddie consists of waking up very quietly, shaking the scorpions out of your boots carefully set next to your hip hole. Get dressed without the help of lights, grab your shotgun and walk into the wind a quarter mile or so for your first stand of the day. Shoot a coyote at daybreak, then return to camp for breakfast.

*Just a little further to that next hill. Eddie is a big fan of getting away from the truck when calling. I mean WAY AWAY. If it looks good here it must be better over there. Sometimes I think Eddie gets called in by the critters instead of the other way around.

*You need Carbs! Eddie's "Perpetual Pot of Pasta" takes care of all your nutrition needs! Start the pot the first night with cans of olives, tomato sauce, Vegall, a bag of Rotini and enough water to cover then boil the crap out of it till done. Run out of PPP halfway through a hunt? Just open another can of whatever and dump it in and malnutrition is avoided!

*Just ONE more stand! Its "prime time" you know! Eddie is famous for trying to squeeze one more stand into the day before closing the case on his shotgun. This method has resulted in a few extra critters and at least one disqualification on a monthly PPCI scramble hunt for checking in past the deadline.

*Eddie has a tendency to take napswell at the most inconvenient times like while driving between stands, on a stand, while you are opening a ranch gate so he can drive through it! And yes even while driving his truck. Sleep driving is an acquired skill that only the bravest should attempt but Eddie has mastered it." Dangerous?! Nawwwww I haven't crashed yet. Drove off the road a couple of times but that's it"

*If its worth saying its worth saying three times, you know you know you know! This is Eddie's way to emphasize a statement he is just about to make.....you know!

*Where does Eddie sleep? Well usually downwind of camp about 60-90 yards you can find him using the heel of his boot to dig a "hip hole" in the dirt then down goes the bedroll soon to be followed by some serious snoring. I always got a chuckle at the volume of the snoring and wondered if he ever called in a curious critter in the middle of the night. I have to admit the hip hole is a brilliant idea and I use it every time I take a nap in the field!

*Cell phone!?! I don't need no stinking Cell phone!!! You know what those things cost! The ever-frugal Eddie can maintain his anonymity and push technology aside. This also applies to digital cameras & GPS devices but I think he is coming around on this.

*"I'll skin it". Eddie is not one to waste fur and has the time and energy to skin ANYTHING. Have a coyote that you shot 3 times with a 12 GA at 10 feet? Eddie can get what's left of the hide off that critter for you. Badger been living in a skunk's den for a week before you killed it? No worries cause Eddie has no sense of smell and can peel that badger without gagging once! Besides there is always room for one more pelt in one of his freezers.

* Wow, I need a shave! Why not in a restaurant bathroom? "Order me a coke and let me get into your truck so I can get my razor! You never know when you will meet that special huntress so you gotta be clean! Eddie pulled this one in New Mexico, came back to the table (freshly shaven) to order, you guessed it, Pasta.

*The shotgun is the most diverse gun in ANY arsenal. Eddie has the knack to turn any varmint calling stand into a shotgun stand. He is the undisputed Shotgun critter king! Fancy camo scheme? Nope, just some good old fashion brown and green flat spray paint and your scattergun is now invisible! Eddie's 12 GA come in handy when its quail season too! Just switch out those #2's for some #6's and you are good to chase those quail that just ran in front of the truck. Duck season? "lets see if there are any ducks on this pond on the right". Hunting fox and a bear answers the call? No worries, just ease back the pump and extract the shell in the chamber really quietly, dig into your front pocket and get out the 12ga slug you have been carrying for 3 years, slip it into the chamber and slide the fore stock back into place, shoulder and the gun and shoot the bear at close range! Just ask Eddie, the shotgun is good for everything!

* Does anyone have any questions? Eddie always asks the obvious questions for the clarification of the newbies or the folks that arrive late to the meetings. To his credit he also publishes them in the "Predator Tales" and has for more years than I can count.

In all seriousness, Eddie has been the backbone of The Phoenix Varmint Callers Inc. for decades and has worked tirelessly to improve, promote and organize our club. If you are a new member, he will most likely be the first person to come over, shake your hand and welcome you to the club as he did to me over 21 years ago. To know Eddie is to love him and accept him for the man he is. He will give you the shirt off his back and not bat an eye, carry your downed animal on his back into the night back to the truck without so much as a groan. A more selfless man I have yet to meet.

Everyone has idiosyncrasies. They make us who we are. They make us human. They should be celebrated. I write this short article to celebrate (in good humor) Mr. Eddie Murdock. I hope he will shake my hand after he has read this but if I show up with a black eye to the next PPCI meeting you will all understand and need not ask where it came from!

With Love and admiration from the Sandhill Crane Crew and other contributing authors,

HAND CALLS -VS- E-CALLS

by Tim L.

There are many types of hand/mouth calls that can be effective at bringing in our coveted furbearers. Over the past several years, my buddies and I have become very familiar with the excitement of luring in a predator with our own lungs. The most common types of hand/mouth calls are: closed reed, open reed, bite down and diaphragm. Each take practice to become proficient but are well worth the effort when you get a kill.

The easiest to learn in my opinion is the closed reed style. Simply blow into the top of the call and manipulate the sound by muffling and opening the other end with your hand. By simply changing cadence and using a trill of the tongue, you can produce rabbit in distress, bird or even fawn distress sounds. One downside to closed reed calls is a lack of volume. In general, they are quieter than open reed calls and if you blow too hard into a closed reed call, you can become potentially damage it.

Bite down calls are very similar to closed reed, however, instead of using your hand at the end of the call to change the sound, you bite the mouthpiece as you blow to change the pitch. Bite down calls are easy to learn and, in my opinion produce the most aggressive hard charging results because of the higher pitch sounds you can make. I prefer to begin most of my stands (outside breeding season) using bite down calls because you can control volume and make high pitch, frantic sounding distress calls much more easily. With practice, you can even control a bite down call without using any hands at all. This will give you the ability to hold your weapon with both hands and be ready to draw or move immediately if needed.

Open reed calls require the use of at least one hand and can be a little more difficult to perfect. However, in my opinion, open reed calls are the most versatile, because you can produce many different sounds, including howls, prey distress, and pup distress. Open reed calls can also produce the loudest volume and are really good for slightly windier days. I usually use open reed prey distress second in my sequences and employ a much louder volume to get my sound way out there. This also seems to give close responding predators a renewed sense of urgency, and I have found that this will bring hard charging aggressive coyotes especially close to my position.

Lastly, there are diaphragm calls which are more difficult to learn and perfect, but probably the most rewarding. That warm fuzzy feeling you get knowing you accomplished something that not very many hunters have. Diaphragms are great for producing coyote vocals and prey in distress and can sound the most authentic if done properly. MFK Game Calls make a lot of YouTube videos as well as some tutorials showing how effective they can be. Coyote vocals can be especially useful during the breeding season when coyotes are much more territorial. I would steer most novice callers away from using coyote vocals other than pup in distress, mainly because if you use the wrong coyote vocal at the wrong time of the year, you risk scaring more predators away than lure to your position. The art of coyote vocals with any call, Hand or E-Call, takes knowledge. So please do yourself a favor and look around on YouTube and other online resources to gain an education before attempting howls.

No matter which hand calls I use, I generally set up the same. On sunny days, always have the sun at your back, with something behind you to break up your silhouette and a crosswind going preferably from your dominant to non-dominant side. I like to have visibility of my downwind side with plenty of reaction time if I needed to shoot anything headed that way. I face the barrel of my weapon at the most difficult to maneuver spot, and try to get super comfortable, with my head facing approximately 45 degrees off my downwind. Peripheral vision will give you the ability to see downwind most of the time.

ONE OF THE MOST HELPFUL TIPS I CAN GIVE YOU IS: Learn to hand call using your non-dominant hand! This will give you the ability to always have your dominant (trigger) hand on your weapon & minimizes the very limited response time that is typical with hand calling. Begin calling with low volume but frantic sounds. Bird distress, using a trill of the tongue in a closed reed call will lure bobcats & pretty much anything else within earshot. Stay extremely vigilant. Watch low spots & watch for any movement. I have used what I call the crossed eye method to spot movement. It sounds silly, but every so often, I cross my eyes. This keeps me from focusing too much on one particular spot. I often will see even the smallest of tweety birds hundreds of yards away with this method. It takes practice, & it has worked for me multiple times, sneaky bobcats have approached my hand calling.

I generally call in 30-second to one-minute increments. Call 30 seconds and wait 15 seconds or so, then start again, changing sounds every few minutes based on what animal I'm hoping to call in. I generally do 20-minute stand lengths. I've noticed that if I pause too long, I get less cats to come in, so apparently, they lose interest if you stop for too long. The purpose in stopping is not only to catch your breath again, but also to hold perfectly still. Minimize your movement as much as you can when calling, but even more so when you pause. If and when you do see a predator responding, STOP CALLING. IMMEDIATELY FREEZE. Focus on the body language of the animal. Is it looking intently? Then don't move. Is it strafing to the side, trying to find your wind? Consider stopping the animal with a grunt or bark loud enough to get its attention. If the animal is charging hard, and you have a shotgun, wait until it gets plenty close before drawing up. The best advice I can give you in any response situation is BE PATIENT and move quietly when you do, only when the animal is looking away, and trust me, at some point the animal WILL look away. Just wait and draw up when that moment comes. The more responses you get, the more confident you will become in

HAND CALLS -VS- E-CALLS -continued-

reading an animal's body language. I highly recommend watching multiple YouTube "University" as I like to call it, predator hunting videos that show longer footage of responding predators. Notice their tails and ears when they're about to pause or run away, and what they look like just before they turn to look back.

E-CALLERS

Novices Rejoice! Hahaha. E-callers have made even the most inexperienced hunters successful at times when it comes to calling. I do believe, however, there is a right way and wrong way to call using them. E-calls have multiple advantages over Hand Calls but in my opinion are a little less prestigious when you have success. In my opinion, the only downside to E-calls is that very thing, "Prestige." You still get to experience a rush, maybe not quite as intense sometimes because you are not actually the prey, but it can still be extremely rewarding, and in general I've experienced longer observation periods of live animals when E-calling because you can distance yourself from the sound origin. No one can argue that E-calling is easier. Lazy some might even say in comparison to Hand calling. I started calling with a good buddy of mine using an E-caller. That being said, E-callers can potentially produce a volume and clarity of sound that can't be beat by Hand calls. Windy days sometimes prevent Hand calls sounds from even getting out more than a hundred yards or so. E-callers also have a method of madness though in my opinion, so here we go... Always check your batteries at the beginning of the day and bring spares. I can't tell you how many times I have left the truck, or even house and forgot to change the batteries, leaving me to use hand calls whether I wanted to or not.

Then there is the setup. Look before you sit is my motto, and this is useful when hand calling too. Look while crouched from the call to where you intend to sit. Can you see your spot I.E. shooting lane and will you be plainly visible standing out like a sore thumb in the sun? Can you see the truck? I typically set the call lower or at least level with my position, so I can see all approachable paths to the call. Put the call in a bush that you can't easily see through, but that isn't too big to see the other sides of. You don't want something sneaking into the very bush you have the call set up in. Also, use the wind to your advantage when E-calling. Think about it. E-callers don't produce a scent. Use that. Make sure that wherever you as a shooter end up sitting, you can see the downwind of the call side far enough or limited enough (shotgun guys) to get a shot on that side. The chances of something approaching from that side are still the same, but you want to be able to see the whole path that the animal might take. Coyotes are usually the ones that use the wind, so once a coyote has winded basically nothing from the E-caller, it could suddenly pick up its pace. Face the call with your non-dominant knee pointed at the call if you are solo. This will give you the ability to shoot just as far around to the right and left of the call.

Start the call with low volume and work the volume up as you see fit. I've had success with high volume too, right off the bat, but one can question if that may spook closer animals that may have been right there in the area. I used to worry a lot about sequence times and how long to wait between starting different sounds. I have had success with almost all methods, but prefer to leave the call going, with short pauses between sound changes for around 20-minute stand lengths. I prefer to always target cats. From what I've heard, they can lose interest quickly if you stop the call for too long, and from what I've experienced, there is no downside to letting it go almost the whole stand. When something comes in: Identify the animal, develop a game plan, and use the aforementioned method from the hand calling portion.

You as the shooter will have much more success if you respond the same way E-calling vs. Hand Calling. Develop and polish your method. Sit the same way every time once you find a comfortable and successful position. Hold your gun the same way, and change/experiment with one variable at a time when trying to make adjustments in your method. If you shoot your weapon at an animal while E-calling or Hand Calling, consider changing the sound to Pup distress or Fox distress. Many times, I've had a second animal approach after shooting because of the sound change. Good luck to all, and I hope this information has been helpful!

Happy Hunting 😊

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Jim & Chris. K.



Married 40 years -Nov 15th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

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by Scott B.

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THE PVCI 6-MONTH HUNT ENTRY DEADLINE Nov. 4th by end of PVCI Meeting!

THE DEADLINE TO ENTER THE 2020-2021 PVCI 6-MONTH HUNT will be on Nov. 4th at the end of the 2020 November Monthly Meeting. Entries allowed are 1 or 2-man teams in either Expert or Novice Categories. The 6-Month is a Friendly PVCI Competition that pits the competing teams against each other from the beginning of the October Monthly Meeting to the beginning of the April Monthly Meeting, the winner being the one who has taken the most predators via points during that time span. The winners (1st Place through 3rd Place) will receive recognition for their accomplishments sometime after the Hunt has ended. For a list of the points per species, refer to the 2020-2021 PVCI Hunt Rules or ask the Hunt Chairman Craig B.. You **MUST** also be in the Pin Program to be eligible for this Recognition. The Pin Program is a Good Program that cost a one-time fee of \$10 (if you stay a member) that gives you recognition for obtaining certain milestones in your calling career. You must show proof of what you have called and taken to the Hunt Chairman and he then will keep a record with you on your entries. When you reach certain milestones, Example: 5, 20, 50, 100 on coyotes, 10, 25, 50, 100 on Foxes, 1, 4 or 5 & 20 on bobcats, 1, 5 on badgers, 1 pin for every bear or mountain Lion, etc. Refer to the Club Handbook or the 2020-2021 PVCI Hunt Rules at www.pvci.org or ask the Hunt Chairman Ron H. **In my opinion, every PVCI Member that hunts should be entered in the Pin Program. Talk to the PVCI Hunt Chairman, Craig B.**

HUNTING PICS



Blake with 1st Squirrel Tom w/Coues Buck Remember young Declan? Here he is w/his 1st buck! Vice-Pres. Ricardo G. has been busy Getting gray fox & coyote this year!
His Friend Peyton is also pictured @ w/his 1st buck!

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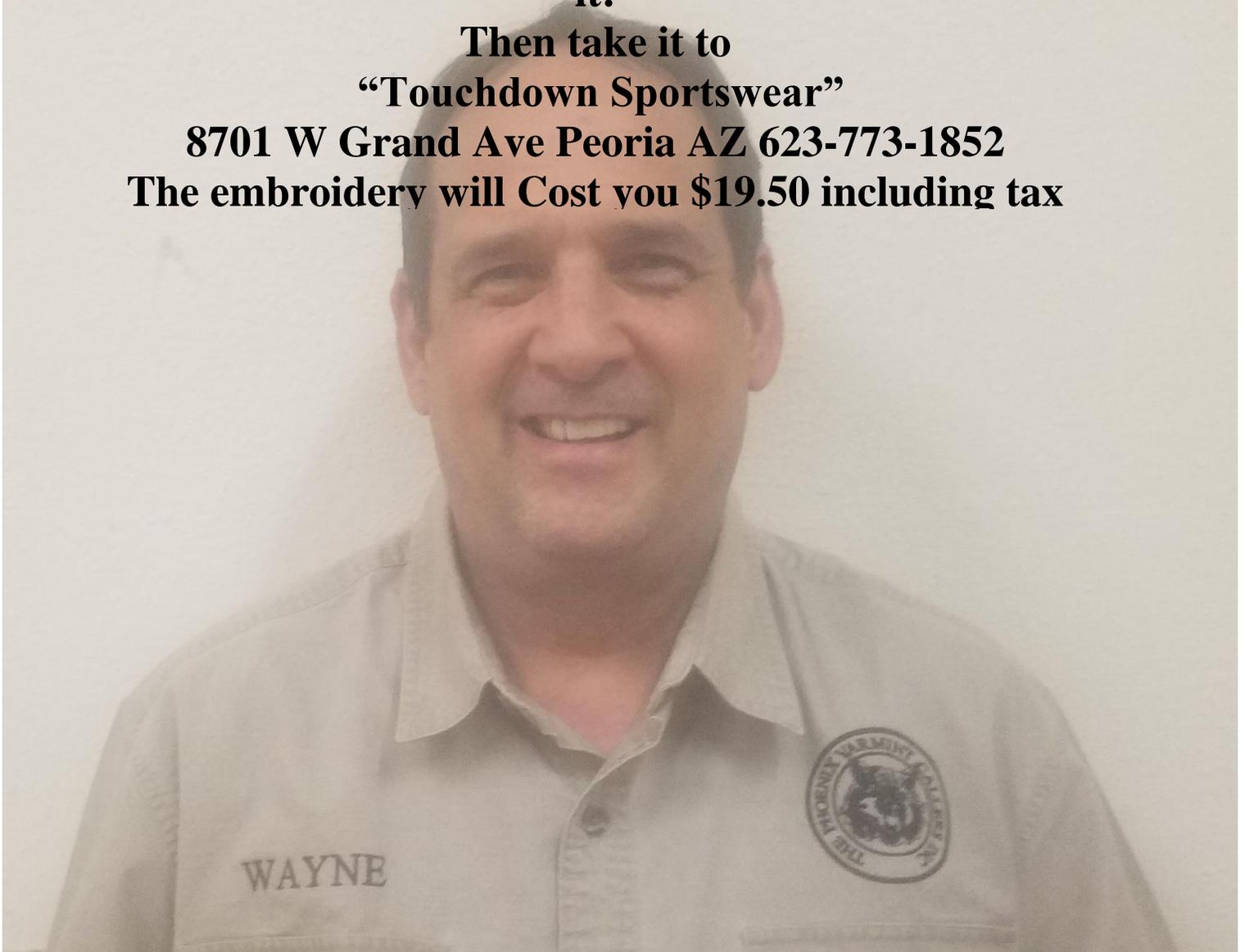
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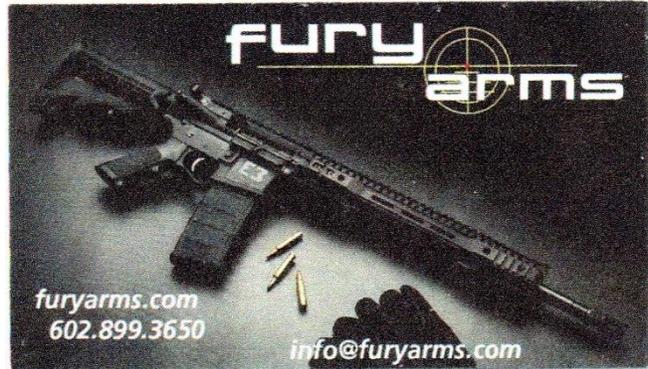


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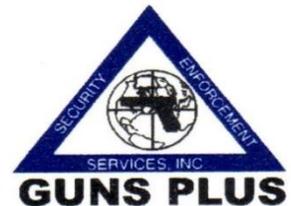
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