

# PREDATOR'S PRIDE



## ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

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July-August 2014

APC P.O. Box 1172 Mesa, AZ 85211-1172

### The President's Message

by Rich Higgins, APC President



Hello APC members. :-)

Welcome to the 2014-15 season with **Arizona Predator Callers**. Clean your rifles and scopes, check zero, tune your reeds, inventory your equipment, make necessary repairs and get ready to do some calling.

I will point out the obvious and happily report that **Tyler** and I are remaining in Arizona and I will continue to serve as president for another year. ... I know....like a bad penny.

This season I am working on booking educational, motivational and entertaining speakers from several different disciplines. Our first speaker will be **Don Martin** of **Arizona Wildlife Outfitters** who will present his Elk hunting seminar which has become a tradition for our August meeting.

Our September speakers will be **Debbie Arnold**, a certified NRA instructor and member of **AZ Womens Shooting Association**. Debbie will probably speak about women becoming active in the shooting sports. Bring your wives and share the fun with the family. **April Howard**, the **AZG&F fur and predator biologist** will also speak about sportsmens issues and answer all of your questions.

In October APC member **Jake Jaycox** will give a bear hunting/calling seminar. Jake has devoted his attention to the mysteries of the elusive black bear and has become remarkably successful at helping other bear hunters increase their success ratios.

If anyone would like us to book a specific speaker please let me know and I will do my best to oblige. We have several club members that are willing to share their expertise in many different fields and in the coming year we will be entertained and edified by **Dennis Slade** on bear hunting, **Dusty Mosier** on firearm safety, **Jerry Thorson** on advanced pole dancing, and **Paul Melching** on Calling Tips and Tactics

**Jim O'Dell** has graciously consented to revise and maintain the APC website. All members are encouraged to contribute your wisdom and experiences to the website. Jim will make the announcement at the August meeting.

**John Arterburn** has accepted the position of Vice-President and will assume an official role in service to the club. He has been a regular contributor of his time and knowledge in the past two years and provides the club with the firearms that are raffled at each meeting. Thank you, John.

I like parables, stories that are intended to teach. Be prepared to share yours at the beginning of each meeting.

*Continued on page 2*

### Inside This Issue

August Meeting Program.....	2
Membership Report.....	2
Video Library.....	2
Hunt Report.....	3
Events Calendar.....	3
June 3 Day Hunt (by J. Arterburn).....	4-5
Ads.....	6
Ariz Game & Fish Dept. News.....	7
May Meeting Highlights.....	8-9

### Coming Events

APC Board Meeting.....July 28, 2014  
 APC Meeting .....August 14, 2014  
 Monthly APC meetings are held at the  
 Mesa FOP Hall, 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa,  
 from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

**President's Message cont'd.**

APC is a social club. Bring your family. Bring your friends. Introduce yourself to any member that you do not know, they are kindred spirits, fellow sportsmen and women, embrace them. The national and state winkout date for hunting is projected for 2040. The HSUS and CBD are determined to end it much sooner. There is safety in numbers. Protect our heritage, perpetuate our sport.

Above all be safe and be happy. Call 'em close,

*Rich*

**Membership Report**

**We welcome New members:**

Larry Erickson of Caton, MS

**Thanks to the following members for renewing their APC memberships:**

Dave Pratt and Gary Thompson

**Recently expired. We'd love to have you back:**

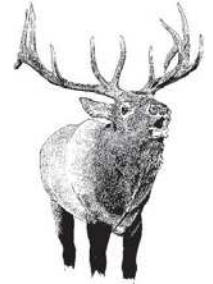
Ron Day, Susan Frabotta, Robert Hedrick, Steve Jansen, Bob Jeffery, Robert LaVoie, Don Liona, RH McGilchristy, James Petersen, James Ringle, Mark Saunders, John Schwab, Jerry Snodgrass, Loren Vickers and Patti Wooldridge

**Expiring Soon:**

Eric Ahlstrom, Ken Bird, Sid Chalasani, Robert Elliott Jr., Chuck Flewelling, Jim Hawkins, Bill Hudzietz, Don Martin, Paul Melching, Mark Miller, Michael Munroe, Bill rice, Hank Scutoski, Dennis Slade, AJ Suscavage, and Ken Waddill

**August Meeting Program "Don Martin"**

The August seminar has traditionally been about Elk hunting and this year Arizona Wildlife Outfitters owner and Arizona Hall of Fame inductee **Don Martin** is our featured speaker. I invite all APC members and your friends, neighbors and family to attend this interesting, educational and entertaining presentation by an accomplished guide and gifted speaker.



The Arizona Predator Callers meeting is on **Thursday, August 14, 2014 at 7:00 PM.**

**The meeting will be held at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #9 at 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa. The FOP Lodge is on the north side of Main Street between Stapley and Gilbert Road in Mesa, 2 doors west of the Radio Shack.**

The meeting is free to APC members and students under 18, and \$5 for non-members. Refreshments and door prizes are included in the admission price.

**Treasurer's Report**

Checking Account Balance	
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	
05-01-14.....	\$7,237.67
Check #1855...Tournament Supply, Awards.....	(\$207.92)
Check #1856...John Harry, refreshments.....	(\$29.32)
Check #1857...Waldo's BBQ.....	(\$533.98)
E-payments	
Pinnacle Peak Ace Hdwr.....	(\$648.78)
AJL Sporting Goods.....	(\$300.00)
AZ Corp Commission.....	(\$10.00)
Deposit - memberships.....	\$345.00
<b>07/30/14 end balance.....</b>	<b>\$5,852.67</b>
Petty Cash Beginning Balance.....	\$77.61
Call Sales.....	\$0.00
Merchandise.....	\$0.00
Dues Received.....	\$30.00
Raffles Received.....	\$253.00
Deposit to Checking.....	(\$250.00)
<b>Petty Cash Ending Balance.....</b>	<b>\$110.61</b>
<b>Total cash.....</b>	<b>\$5,963.28</b>
<b>Total Inventory of Goods.....</b>	<b>\$1,402.75</b>
<b>Total Assets.....</b>	<b>\$7,366.03</b>

**APC Video Library**

The following individuals have videos checked out. **Please return in a timely manner so others may view also.**

3/13/14	John Anderson.....	Bullet Myths
5/7/14	Dave Warren.....	Calling Coyotes Like The Pros
3/13/14	Jerry Snodgrass.....	Coyote Behavior
3/13/14	Charlie Innacone...	Crazy Like A Coyote
5/7/14	Dave Warren.....	Elk Calling DVD
3/13/14	Charlie Innacone.....	Operation Predator

Thanks *Jerry*

**Please renew your APC membership before it expires. You don't want to miss a single issue of "Predator Pride". The membership form is available on the last page of the newsletter.**



# Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman



My "summer vacation" of two weeks in Heber zoomed by, you can sure get spoiled by the weather. With it in the 80's during the day and the 50's at night and rain almost every afternoon it was heaven. Now I'm back to reality (and work) and it sucks.

This fall our Novice Hunts are scheduled for 11 October and 15 November. Let me know as soon as you can if you are interested or if you can help out. I know that some of you hunt all year so please remember to fill out your hunt records, I will be asking for them in April!

It's time to start checking over all your hunting equipment, and make sure your truck is up to par. I always hit the range in late summer to check the zero on all the rifles that I plan to use this season. I will also pattern all my shotguns and make sure that I have plenty of my favorite rounds on hand. It's always better to discover any problems or discrepancies well ahead of time rather than the night before you leave.

Also I always load up my truck and keep it loaded all season with some basic gear. A second spare tire, some tools, a couple

## Hunt and Events Calender

APC Board Meeting.....July 28, 2014  
 Denny's at 1368 N. Cooper Rd., Gilbert, AZ

APC General Meeting.....August 14, 2014

APC Board Meeting.....August 25, 2014

APC General Meeting.....September 11, 2014

**Please get these dates and events onto your calendar.**  
**Club hunting events are in red type.**  
**Dates and events are subject to change.**

All APC General meetings are held on the **second Thursday** of each month.

All APC Board meetings are held on the last Monday of each month. Any APC member is welcome to attend.

of sleeping bags, and a large first aid kit for starters. Then there is several gallons of drinking water, dried food, a small propane stove, lantern and fuel. I believe in being prepared in case things go south. Hope for the best and plan for the worst is a good rule of thumb. If you can keep your truck loaded, except for your weapons, it makes it easier to take off when ever you get a chance.

Now is also a good time to make sure your camouflage is sufficient. This includes your clothing and cover for your firearms. If you need to repaint or paint your new rifle or shotgun, do it now so the smell of the fresh paint is off of the weapon before the first hunt.

Remember you won't kill anything from your couch, "nothing is dying unless lead is flying!" See you in August.

Be Safe, Have Fun,  
 Shoot to Kill !

*Dusty*

### August Firearm Raffle

**This months firearm will be a Savage Axis rifle in .270 caliber.**

**Buy your tickets at the meeting. 5 tickets for \$20.00 or \$5.00 each.**

The word "coyote" is derived from the Nahuatl (a people found in central Mexico) word "coyotl." The coyote's scientific name, *Canis latrans*, means "barking dog."



***"If coyotes are there, they leave sign."***

Rich Higgins, Nov. 2013



# *June Three Day Hunt*

*by John Arterburn*

This hunt was a June three day hunt with **Jim O'Dell** and **Hank Hay**, and our two dogs. **Tucker** a Mountain Cur belongs to Jim and **Cody** a Whippet mix is mine. We were going after Coyote this trip.

We traveled the night before the hunt so rise and shine and came early the next morning. Jim had searched the area on Google Earth to determine areas of opportunity and found the prevailing wind directions. This would later determine where we would have to drive through or around an area to avoid hunting downwind. The area was ranching and farming so the wildlife was used to trucks and riders on horseback.

The first stand of the first day we setup in a canyon. Three of us spread out to cover our sectors of 180 degree field of fire. We had a side wind and were facing south. Jim had calling duty and both dogs. Tucker understands what to do. Cody does not and usually walks around as my decoy. In this case he was walking around Jim and Tucker who were sitting dead still.

As the calling started Hank who was to the east end of our group heard whistling from an outcropping of rock high up on the ridge across from us. As time and Jim's calling progressed the whistle turned to a growl. Hank and Jim could hear it across the canyon. Jim was not able to coax the lion down. I surmise Cody moving around as much as he did was not an aid for us as a kitty snack, but an alert. The hunt was starting out first class. First stand a lion replied.

The second stand we had a head wind that would shift to a crosswind. We were spread out up against a hillside-facing north. I was calling and my e-caller quit after a couple minutes. We didn't know it but a coyote was on his way. Jim sat and waiting for me. I had left my hand calls in the truck. This was going to be a "less is better" calling stand. When Jim determined something was wrong he started with his hand call. Jim redirected the coyote on his way to my call location toward Jim. It was not a good situation I had created. Jim took a shot and the coyote got away.

At the third stand as we were walking into position Jim woke a sleeping coyote under the north side of a Juniper. We were busted but this was starting to be an incredible trip. Three stands and three animals, I was in hunting heaven.

The rest of the day we were still on a high from that morning. Working to find transition areas where the wind was in our favor was our challenge for the rest of the day. We knew the area was inhabited it was up to us to find them. We were looking for areas where we could lure them out of a tree line.

Midday the next day we ran into a coyote while driving through an area where the wind was not in our favor. Once we had gone as far as we decided to go, we started back. Our spirits were at a low point. The only thing keeping us going was watching our dogs who always seemed to find something interesting to do.

We were driving back through the area we had traveled earlier that day. The wind was in our favor, a head wind as we headed home. We were driving through a rolling hill area. Cattle were roaming in front of us the same direction we were driving. A lone coyote was ahead of us a couple hundred yards and 50 to 75 yards off the road. The coyote continued to run ahead and then crossed the road off into a valley.

We turned off the road toward the direction of the coyote. We stopped below the crest of the hill. We walked over the crest staying close to trees with rifles and a hand call. We surveyed the valley and the far side looking for the coyote. Not seeing anything as we stood in the shade of a Juniper, Jim started his hand call. In less than a minute the coyote came from the other side of the tree and no more than 30 to 50 yards in front of use. He was moving and our rifles were down at our sides. No time to bark to stop him so a fast shot took the coyote down. Tucker went into action like a greyhound at the sound of the shot to secure the coyote. We went back to our camp with one down.

*The second  
coyote of the  
hunt  
accompanied by  
Tucker*



The third day we only had half a day to hunt then back to our families and the real world that supports our hunting. We repeated the sequence of stands we had run the first day. On the fourth stand we setup below the crest of a small rise facing a tree line about 50 across a draw. Jim was covering our back door and I was covering the draw up into the hillside. The wind was blowing out of the draw, as a crosswind for us.

Jim placed his e-caller in the middle of the draw. As Jim was calling we both watched a doe in the draw eat and drink. This went on for maybe thirty minutes. The wind had reversed direction and now I was watching the backdoor. After the doe left Jim's calling went silent. I thought I heard two beeps from Jim, meaning stand over. I beeped twice and stood up. Looking up the draw there was a coyote coming in slow. I sat back down, with only one tree disguising a small section of the draw to my front right. I watched the tree, but no sign.

Jim had not stopped and started calling with his hand call. I looked to my direct right and saw the coyote 100 yards away. It had made a right turn to get directly downwind of Jim's call. I started to bark to stop the coyote before it was directly downwind of me. After repeated barks the coyote stopped and I took a shot. I missed and stood up to see where it was going. The coyote had gone back to the center of the draw, back another 100 yards. The coyote started moving directly right, again to get directly downwind of Jim's call. The coyote stopped directly downwind of me 200 yards and sat down to determine what we were. I started to sit down for a supported shot but lost sight of the coyote, so I stood back up and took the shot not knowing how long it would stay. This was the last coyote of our trip.

This hunt emphasized several critical factors to successful hunts. Wind direction, covering the back door, positioning to see your full field on fire, cover & concealment, and patience because there is more out there than we see.

## **A.J.I. Sporting Goods**

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**Jeff Serdy, APC Member**

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**Stan Schepers** has an open invitation to APC members or prospective members for one-on-one training on skinning and preparing your fur for sale. Stan can be reached at **602-499-0505**.

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## Non-lead ammunition shortages are expected this fall and smart hunters are shopping early

July 3, 2014

If you want to use non-lead ammunition for your hunt this year, now is the time to start shopping. The Arizona Game and Fish Department is expecting a repeat of last year's non-lead ammunition shortage this hunting season. Those intending to hunt big game in California or in condor areas in Arizona (Game Management Units 12A, 12B, 13A and 13B), are strongly encouraged to buy their non-lead ammunition supplies as soon as possible.

Last year, many hunters who waited to shop at small community stores and outfitters near their hunt destinations were disappointed to find that non-lead ammunition had been completely sold out by the time they arrived. Local retailers, especially those in rural areas of Arizona, tend to run out of stock early. Hunters would be well-advised to plan ahead and check with local suppliers now. If inventory is low, call or visit larger retailers in metropolitan areas like Phoenix, Tucson, Flagstaff and Yuma.

There are many factors contributing to the increasing scarcity of non-lead ammunition. It has gained popularity with many hunters in Arizona. Some choose non-lead because they want to reduce lead exposure for condors and other raptors. Many hunters prefer the effectiveness of non-lead ammunition in dropping game. Others embrace the opportunity to put lean, hormone-free game meat on the table, but worry about exposing their families and others to the health risks of lead left behind in game killed with conventional ammunition.

California's expanded directive regarding use of non-lead ammunition for all hunting in that state is also contributing to the scarcity of non-lead ammunition here in Arizona. Hunters from California have been quick to tap the non-lead ammunition inventory of Arizona retailers and suppliers, leaving supplies depleted even earlier than expected.

Whatever reasons guide your choices, remember that non-lead ammunition is often in short supply and can be extremely difficult to find - especially right before hunting seasons open.

"Arizona has had tremendous success with our voluntary non-lead ammunition program," said Assistant Director of Wildlife Management Jim deVos. "We have a volunteer participation rate of 80 to 90 percent of hunters in the condor's core range. It's important that hunters are able to obtain adequate supplies of non-lead ammunition as they head out this season."

The California condor frequents the lands in hunt units 12A, 12B, 13A and 13B. The voluntary use of non-lead ammunition by hunters in recent years has yielded a significant decrease in the impact of lead poisoning on this recovering endangered species.

## Arizona Big Game Super Raffle brings in \$500,000 for wildlife

July 14, 2014

Winners of the 2014 Arizona Big Game Super Raffle drawing were announced on July 9. The prizes included 10 special big game tags, a stunning Swarovski optics package, and a New Mexico elk hunt. Raffle tickets ranged in price from \$5 to \$25 each, depending on the species. Congratulations to all the 2014 Arizona Big Game Super Raffle winners.

- Antelope - Donald Pershing, Mesa, AZ
- Buffalo - David Ryan, Wickenburg, AZ
- Desert Bighorn Sheep - William Ford, Austin, TX
- Javelina - Paul Baird, Peoria, AZ
- Mule Deer - Dan Agnew, Vancouver, WA
- Swarovski Optic Package - William Waldron, Lakeside, AZ
- Black Bear - Keith Butler, Mesa, AZ
- Coues Whitetail Deer - Thomas Woods, Cave Creek, AZ
- Elk - John Eckhardt, Mesa, AZ
- Mountain Lion - Mark Phillips, Wichita Falls, TX
- Turkey - Michael Turner, Montgomery, AL
- New Mexico Elk Hunt - Daniel Fisher, Newmanstown, PA

Our appreciation goes out to everyone who purchased tickets, the sponsoring organizations, and the many volunteers who contributed their time and talent to make this event a success. Special thanks to Swarovski Optics and James Guide Service for their generous donations.

A big game raffle is held each year to raise money for wildlife conservation efforts, and the entire state of Arizona is the true winner of this event. Every dollar raised from ticket sales for each of the species is returned to the Arizona Game and Fish Department and managed by the Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee (AHPC) for the benefit of that particular species. The Arizona Big Game Super Raffle is a nonprofit entity with a volunteer board of directors made up of representatives from sponsoring organizations

# May Meeting Highlights

## APC Awards Presentations

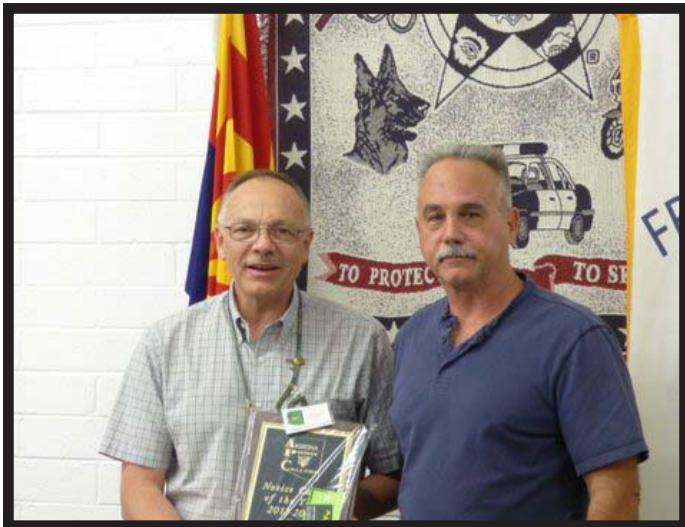
*May 8, 2014 was the Awards Meeting for APC. Waldo's BBQ catered the event.*



**John Arterburn was awarded  
2014 Sportsman of the Year**



**2014 Expert Caller of the Year award went to  
Jim O'Dell**



**Dave Pratt received the 2014 Novice Caller of  
the Year award**



**2014 Amateur Caller of the Year award went  
to Ken Waddill**





**Jerry Thorson was the lucky winner of the May firearm raffle, a Savage Axis in 22-250 caliber.**



## Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hm Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
email address: \_\_\_\_\_

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS LIABILITY RELEASE: by signing below I understand that I will not hold APC and/or APC board of directors, officers, committee Members, Judges, Members, and volunteers responsible in any way for accidents, losses, judgments, or any Act of God that may happen while participating in any APC sponsored or co-sponsored meeting or event. APC policy is to promptly report to law enforcement all suspected abuse and sexual molestation. Have you been convicted of a Crime? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Family Members

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Annual Membership.....\$30.00  
Family Membership add \$5.00.....\$35.00  
Lifetime Individual Membership.....\$350.00

New Membership  
 Renewal

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Send To:**  
**Arizona Predator Callers**  
**P.O. Box 1172**  
**Mesa, AZ 85211-1172**

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