



January 2008

PO Box 601, Chandler, Arizona 85244  
[www.chandlerrodandgunclub.com](http://www.chandlerrodandgunclub.com)

The mission of the Chandler Rod and Gun Club is to preserve the heritage of hunting and fishing through its volunteer efforts with family, youth and individual activities by providing opportunities that encourage the proud tradition of hunting, fishing, and their associated activities. Educational opportunities promoting safe and responsible use of wildlife and our natural resources by teaching wilderness skills, resource management, and conservation.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **General Meeting – January 16<sup>th</sup> (note date change and location)**



## Dear Friends of Marks Southwest Taxidermy Studio

I was recently invited and accepted to participate as a People to People Student Ambassador to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji this summer. This 20-day exchange consists of meetings with government officials, interaction with other students my age, educational activities, and home stay with host families.

I am currently asking my family and friends for financial sponsorship to help me with tuition and I hope I can count on your support. In case you haven't heard of People to People, I have enclosed the web site [www.studentambassadors.org](http://www.studentambassadors.org) where you can look up a description of my program. President Dwight D. Eisenhower founded People to People in 1956. He believed that if people from different cultures could come together in peace and friendship, so eventually would nations. Programs like Sister Cities, Project HOPE and Student Ambassador Program were

created by People to People and have become independent programs since then.

People to People Ambassadors are carefully interviewed and evaluated before their acceptance into the program. I am excited to share my experience with my peers, family, and friends when I return. As an Ambassador, I can earn high school and college credit because of many educational elements in my program. This experience will increase my understanding of the world and give me the opportunity to learn firsthand about new places and cultures. Such knowledge will help me become the best citizen I can be.

The program tuition is \$7000.00, which includes meals, transportation, accommodations, and educational activities. I am asking friends and family to donate what they can to help me reach my goal. Is it possible for you to assist me by making a contribution? I plan to share my experience with friends and family when I return by presenting my journal and photographs.

My tuition is due 1/25/2008. Checks may be made payable to Kathy Miller and forwarded to me at 924 N. Allen Circle, Mesa, AZ. 85203. Your generous contribution would enable me to share in this wonderful opportunity. Thank You in advance for your gracious consideration and support.

Sincerely Yours,  
Savanna H. Miller

## From Randy Krecklow CRG President

Mark Miller is the owner of Southwest Taxidermy Studio. Mark has for the past three years donated at **no cost**, six full mount squirrels and two Javelina skull mounts. I think this is a perfect opportunity to give back something to Mark for his donations to CRG. When we have asked for a squirrel mount he has always donated two per season, the second is so we can have a youth category for Trophy Squirrel Hunt. He has an honest place in him for junior hunters. He

has told me more than once, "Anything for the kids". I hope that the CRG membership can consider a personal contribution. This would help his daughter Savanna as he has helped CRG in the past and the future. Please send what you can and let's help out a CRG supporter like Mark Miller get Savanna down under.

Thank You.

## JANUARY 2008 MEETING

Eddy Corona

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone. Welcome back everyone and let's get ready to hunt and fish. This year we are starting our meeting at Archery Head Quarters in Chandler. We are moving it for this month from Chandler Community Center and having it at Archery Head Quarters located at 6401 W. Chandler Blvd., Chandler, AZ. 85226, phone 480-961-3100. The date is also changed from 01/09/2008 to 01/16/2008 starting at 7:00 pm. Please show up early and on time. Bring your bows and questions for the boys at AHQ. They will cover how to purchase bows, arrows, and equipment. How to shoot and sight in and many other topics that relates to shooting bows for fun and for hunting different kinds of game. Bow hunting is not just for big boys but also for women, young boys, and girls. We will meet from 7:00 pm till 9:00 pm. For any questions please contact Eddy Corona at 480-529-8340.

## WE NEED HELP

Eddy Corona

Chandler Rod and Gun Club has a great issue that needs attention ASAP. As most of you know, CRG was given a grant from AZGFD to purchase items to put on Cast and Blast weekend on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Now here is the problem. We need somewhere to store these new items and along with many other items that is part of CRG along with the CRG trailer. I am asking our membership to help with this issue. We are looking for anyone who knows or would like to pursue in helping write or visit a self storage unit and ask if they can donate a storage facility to CRG to use for us to store all our gear. A few years ago CRG had the trailer stolen and we lost everything. Currently David has stored the trailer and other items at his home for the last few years. Now we need to help David by allowing him to get his home back and stop using it as a CRG storage area. The Hoyle's have been nice enough for many years. If anyone knows or can help with this matter please feel free to contact Randy 480-239-1361, Eddy 480-529-8340 or David 480-290-8344.

## ARCHERY JAVELINA HUNT

Eddy Corona

Chandler Rod and Gun Club Archery Group has been going out hunting archery deer since it reopened December 14<sup>th</sup>. We have been trying to master our skills and getting used to the cold weather. As of December 24<sup>th</sup>, AZGFD has 340 Archery Javelina tags left over for hunt number 5095 including units 36A, 36B, and 36C. We are planning a big group hunt for January 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> in these units and are inviting anyone who wants to come out and join us to contact Eddy Corona 480-529-8340 for information. We currently have 13 CRG members going out to hunt Archery Deer and Javelina two for the price of one. Some are leaving on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> any others on Friday the 11<sup>th</sup>. We are going to have a meeting on Saturday January 5<sup>th</sup> at Eddy Corona's home at 6:00 pm to discuss the final details on who is driving, food cost, and camp rules. The area where we are camping is a few miles away from Arivaca Lake where the BASS are hungry and looking for a new home in a freezer. You do not have to hunt archery to come out camp, hunt, and tell lies amongst honest friends.

## AZGFD OUTDOOR EXPO

Eddy Corona

Arizona Game and Fish Department is having an outdoor expo from March 28<sup>th</sup> to March 30<sup>th</sup> at Ben Avery shooting range, which is now the headquarters for AZGFD. We will be setting up Friday morning and are currently asking for volunteers to help out for all three days. The expo is free to the public and is expecting to break last years attendance record of over 17000 visitors. CRG has been giving a booth free of cost and this gives us a chance to inform the rest of Arizona what Chandler Rod and Gun Club is all about. Please wear any CRG attire you may have when you are helping at the booth or out enjoying the expo. You may contact Eddy Corona for information on helping out or visit [www.azgfd.com](http://www.azgfd.com) for expo information. **"The exposition includes activities, demonstrations and exhibits in the areas of hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, archery, off-highway vehicle (OHV), and watercraft recreation, conservation and wildlife education, camping and other outdoor elements."** (Taken from the AZGFD website). Schedule is as follows: Friday, March 28, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. (youth/school day only), Saturday, March 29, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Sunday, March 30, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Location is at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility, 4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd. Phoenix, Arizona 85086.

## November 6A Elk Bull Hunt

Eddy Corona

When I found out that I had got drawn for elk, I felt like a little kid going to Disneyland for the first time. I told my wife Karen and she was excited for me as well. She also let me know that I can not come home without bringing an elk with me. So I either had to shoot one or run one over, either way I was coming home with an elk.

I got out my new Remington 300 Winchester Magnum (I have had for 3 years) and went out to the range with it. Finally after waiting five long years, I had gotten drawn for my 4<sup>th</sup> time on bull elk. I joined up with Hunt of a Lifetime and agreed to do all the cooking. After doing the food shopping and getting everything loaded it was too late for me to leave on my scheduled day 11/21/2007. Chris Denham called me and we agreed to leave Thursday at 5:30am. The alarm went off and I was on my way. Chris was running late so he told me to go ahead and we would meet up at the campsite. We set up camp and started Thanksgiving dinner. Deep fried turkey and all the side along with pumpkin pie, YUMMY. I would like to take all the credit but I couldn't have done it with out Marilyn Hop, Carla Denham, and Sue Howell these great ladies helped with the cooking and brought desserts and side dishes. They are invited for next year and, if they must, they can bring their husbands.

After cleaning up, I hit the sack and woke up again at 3:00 am and started breakfast. Pancakes, eggs, and bacon were hot and ready for the camp to eat. After our hunters, guides, and support staff had their fill, I cleaned up and got my hunting gear in order and headed out. I drove down dirt roads and it seemed that everyone in unit 6A was camping out every place I knew to hunt. Finally I found a spot where I was all alone and pulled off the dirt road and fell asleep. I woke up, looked around and fell asleep again. This time when I awoke I saw a bull elk working his way across the bottom of a hill. My gun was still in the case, my bullets were on the front passenger floorboard, and my seat belt that comes with my Ford blind was still on. I can say now that it was very comical to watch me trying to get my things in order. Finally I got out, had the elk in my sights and pulled the trigger. Nothing happened, I checked my safety and it was off but I forgot to put the bolt all the way in. The elk by this time was heading for the cedar trees. I pulled my gun back up, found the elk, calmed myself down, and BANG the shot rang out and Mr. Elk disappeared behind the cedars. I waited and waited starting to second-guess my shot. After having many conversations with myself and getting answers, I went up to take a look. There he was dead. I was so overwhelmed with relief that now I can concentrate on the kids from Hunt of a Lifetime that I thanked God many times over. I called my wife and told her she had

to keep me. As Howell Wildlife Outfitters would say, "Tag and Brag."

I called Chris and Mark Denham and Craig Malone and they came over to help out. After loading it into the truck, we headed back to camp. It was a 5X5 and I am very happy with my elk. Lee Hop, a very seasoned hunting guide, mentioned to me that I had the best elk blind, my Ford truck. Funny thing he found a Ford hood emblem and gave it to me. It is now being put under my elk mount as a reminder of many great people and my Hunt of a Lifetime. I have a question for all. "Have you driven a Ford lately?"

## “HUNT OF A LIFETIME”

Eddy Corona

The following two articles are in response to the Hunt of a Lifetime. The first one is written by one of the young hunters and second article is by his father.

### Cody Malone

Elk hunting in Arizona it was great. It was a long drive to Arizona we drove because dad and I wanted to see all the different terrain there. They had some cool rock formations that were very cool.

The camp there was nice and the food was good. That cook Eddy wow can he cook. Everybody there was nice and kind, they take good care of you there. They will wake you up and for my dad they would give him a cup of coffee when they woke us up.

On the third day of the hunt I had a chance at a five point bull broadside only 75 yards away. They did not have time to take my wheelchair out because when we got there the elk were already there. So they put me up on a rock with my gun, the bull stop I told my dad to shoot but the safety was half on and the bull got away. My other chance was a few days after that we sat at a water hole at night, and a four point came in and the gun mount I was using made way to much noise, the bull heard it and left. My dad was up on a hill, and told us to hold there was a six by six was coming in but that bull stayed in the trees. The last day I got 16 shots off at a six by six bull at 681 yards away I hit him but broke his shoulder but there was 15 bulls up there, and I got the big bull but he didn't die. The guys called game and fish and they let us hunt on Friday to try to find that bull but the worst storm in 3 years made it hard with fog and rain. He got away but that is ok, I just hope he does not die.

I came home with nothing but that is okay because hunting is to get away from the city and to be with your friends but killing something is the bonus. I had a great time there I hope I can come next year because it is

fun and all the same guys will be there. That is the story of my elk hunt.

God bless

## Through the eyes of a father

Elk hunt in Arizona...you gotta be kidding me, I was so excited for Cody when we received the phone call. I consider myself a die hard elk hunter, and I would kill for the opportunity to chase big bulls through Arizona! 1 application, some signed forms by the doctor, 1 month later and we received the call, Cody was going to Arizona for a "Hunt of a Lifetime".

Cody Malone is my son whom is now 12 years old. At 14 months old we received the worst news parents could imagine. Our perfect little angel had a life shortening disease; he was diagnosis with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type II. SMA is a progressive neuromuscular disease that is destroying my son's ability to do anything. It is destroying his primary muscles (motor muscles) and is now moving into his secondary muscles (organ function).

Most parents watch their kids grow and play sports, join bands, drive, and so on...I slowly watch my angel wither away. Some days, I wonder if today is the day that things turn for the worst. I don't plan for the future, Cody and I take each day one day at a time, and we try to enjoy as much as we can. So when Cody developed a love for the outdoors, and wanted to try the hunting sports I love so much, I was ecstatic. It is just another excuse to spend time with my boy!

One day he watched the hunting channel and wrote down a website: [www.huntofalifetime.org](http://www.huntofalifetime.org). He told me "Dad, I really want to try hunting elk on my own". I had always made excuses, to be honest I wanted him to hunt with me, but I was scared. I knew it meant so much, and I did not know if I could make it happen the way he deserved. I him-hawed around, trying to fabricate another excuse, but that little butt was ready for me. He educated himself and was able to argue his point. My little baby was developing into a young man! So we did it, printed the application. We completed the application, got the doctors okay and signature and away it went.....that simple. Elk Hunting, a simple request for some folks, a dream for my son.

He got it! The phone rang, we got the news and done deal. Now we wait. Have you ever told a child he got the thing he wanted the most? Then told them now they have to wait 4 months??! For those of you that don't have kids or your kids are young, 12 year olds do not have much patience. So 4 months and many headaches later, we are on our way. Arizona here we come!!

The Hunt of a lifetime group is, well I honestly can not put into words how great they are. I had nothing to worry about, nothing to plan. They asked a couple of questions and they take care of everything. Clothing, all provided by Cabela's. Firearm with optics, provided by Savage Arms. Even transportation, they handled everything. No worries, no issues. The support staff and coordinating staff will always be in our thoughts and prayers.

We drove, most folks fly. We drove for two reasons: First, I am not accustomed too much help or financial "giving" from people and I wanted to keep cost as low as possible. Second, my son required a lot of medical equipment and adaptive equipment. His power wheelchair weighs well over 350 lbs, he requires breathing assistance at night (2007 has not been a good year for lung function), he needs oxygen for daytime emergencies, he also is unable to move his arms well and required a static gun mount for his wheelchair, and then all our gear. Imagine trying to get all that to one place and intact via the airlines!

All loaded up, hit the road, and 16 hours later we arrive to camp and all I can say is WOW. Everybody was there; just waiting...all these wonderful people gave up their time and their Thanksgiving to be here for us. UNBELIEVABLE!! Thanksgiving dinner was great, getting to meet and get to know everyone, and planning the upcoming hunt. Cody was actually treated like royalty!

How are we gonna do it? This is the question Chris Denham and I shared. The kid has the heart, he has the desire...but how can we make it happen? Imagine 2 guys, one not familiar with power wheelchairs and one too familiar with them, and big F250 not meant to get stuck anywhere, and a kid with a 350 lbs power chair. Then top it all off, we got to get him set-up in front of the elk with his static gun mount. Wanna talk about a nightmare!! Guess what, after a few tries, Chris and I had it down like art...less than 2 minutes and we could unload the chair, set Cody up in it, attached the static gun mount, load his gun, mount the rifle to the gun mount, and get him positioned for a shot. All that, just hoping the elk would cross in front of Cody, seriously all that work just hoping and praying this set-up would be the one.

I am going to be very blunt and honest; we were there to harvest Cody's bull elk. That is all that was on my mind, he wanted an elk and we were gonna do just that. But let me tell you this, after the first 48hrs, I could care less if we even saw another elk. I wanted Cody to get his bull deep in my heart, but we made friends. I am not talking about guys and gals that are fun to hang with every now and again, but life long friends that will always be in our hearts. The compassion, the drive, the desire, and the love you only hope for...well folks we found it. We found it on a ranch near Sedona Arizona and found it in the group

that I can say I am honored to know...The Arizona Chapter of Hunt of a Lifetime, the group from Chandler Rod and Gun, and finally the HWO group (Howell Wildlife Outfitters)

I could go into detail on the hunt, but why? Was it a success? Is there a huge mount at the Taxidermist? I can honestly say it was the most successful hunt I could have ever hoped for. Cody's desire and love for hunting is even stronger, the people we now call friends for life, and the special moments and bonds I shared with my son...Yes, a very successful hunt.

I truly do not think anyone realizes the impact you folks have on these kids, let alone on us parents who always struggle to give everything our angel's want and need...things that come natural to all of us. The Hunt of a Lifetime organization and all those people that give their time, energy, donations, and heart are rare rays of sunshine in what is often a gloomy world I dwell in. If anyone has a chance to participate or be involved in any activities that are sponsored or put on by Hunt of a Lifetime, I can only say I hope you take advantage of it. It will be a truly blessed experience you will cherish for all your life.

I wish I could pass on thanks to everyone by name, but I am still absorbing the experience we shared in Arizona. Goose, Lee, and the rest at HWO I appreciate all you did, and I appreciate each of you. You will forever share a special spot in my heart and Cody loves you (Lee I owe you a special thank you and you know why)...talk about a group of guys that go beyond what is needed. Chris & Mark Denham, you both should know where you stand with Cody and I, we look forward to some additional father/son adventures! Eddie, you and the crew from Chandler Rod and Gun, I can not even put into words the impact you had on us...Thank You. The Arizona Fish & Game, I tell you the local warden, wildlife manager for 6A-AWESOME. These poor guys always get the bad from folks. Hats off to you for all you did for Cody.

I wish I could thank you all, but I am not going to even insult anyone by trying to put it in words...I can't. What everyone did, the time they gave up, the long hours of work...all I can say, and I truly say it from the heart, Thank You, God Bless you...you made my angel's dream come true. Each of you is an angel in my book and will be welcome by our fire anytime. Thank You.

From  
The Father of a special angel

## Holiday Beast Feast

Randy Krecklow

CRG's December dinner get together was enjoyed by about 40 hungry club members, all going home full and

with some great recipes. Smoked tuna was the fish dish thanks to James Brown and a lot of meat dishes. Josh, John, and Devin donated squirrel and rabbit to their favorite cook Grandma. She made a couple of casseroles that were gone by the end of the night. Todd created, a favorite of mine, a dish with elk. There was more than one chili to choose from and lots of deserts. The serving table was again overflowing with food.

We got to visit with Rose and Terry Biagi, and we got to meet the newest member of CRG, Jason Hurst and his wife, Brianne, and introduced their daughter, Charlotte.

Eddy Corona took some time to hand out certificates of appreciation to some CRG members who volunteered to help out with Hunt of a Life Time Thanksgiving weekend: Ray Brooks, Scott and Shane Fritz, Eddy Corona, and new members Bill and Nancy Haug (who joined that weekend), and myself.

Eddy had some very nice comments about the CRG folks who donated a couple of days Thanksgiving weekend. During the week we rotated out help at camp and hunting for two deserving hunters. What few folks know is what our man Eddy put into that WEEK. Just a few things that he took care of while also trying to fill his bull elk tag was leaving Thanksgiving morning for camp and to cook Thanksgiving diner for about ten folks. Getting breakfast, lunch, and dinner also until help arrived Friday. He also did all of the cooking, by himself, for the last three days of camp. Eddy hosted Thomas and his father for the weekend and keeping them entertained while waiting to fly home.

If you were at Beast Feast, Eddy talked about all his help, but left out all of his leg work prior to the hunt and the week he logged 14 hour days helping two hunters on their Hunt of a Life Time. Thank you to his wife Karen, for with out her he wouldn't be worth half as much.

Thank You Eddy and Karen Corona.





# CHANDLER ROD & GUN CLUB



# CAST & BLAST WEEKEND!

A weekend of outdoor fun,  
The whole family will enjoy!

When: February 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> 2008

Where: Buckeye, Arizona

Cost\$: FREE!

## Activities include:

Small-bore Range  
Shotgun Range

3D Archery Range  
Pond

Fishing

Canoeing Pond  
Small Game Hunting

This weekend is an excellent opportunity to have Chandler Rod & Gun Club introduce you and your family members to the outdoors. CRG has an outstanding history of introducing families to the outdoors. All that is required is you and some basic camping gear, we'll do the rest! If you don't want to cook ask about our meal program.

Space is limited so call or e-mail soon to secure your spots for this unique outdoor event.

Phone: 480-290-8344

Email: [crqcastandblast@gmail.com](mailto:crqcastandblast@gmail.com)



This event is sponsored in part by a grant from the Arizona Game & Fish Department.

**Chandler Rod and Gun Club  
Calendar of Events for 2007**

The Chandler Rod and Gun Club hosts numerous events and supports many opportunities for club members and for the public. Members are always invited to participate or to assist with any of our events. General club meetings/seminars are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Chandler Community Center at 7:00 PM. For more information on any of these events, please visit the web site calendar at <http://www.chandlerrodandgunclub.com/cgi-bin/crg-events/calendar.pl>.

\*\*\*RSVP denotes activities/events where club member assistance is requested for camp chores and/or to staff a booth. See the details of the event for specific contact information or call 480-829-1264 to sign up.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>RSVP</b>
<b>January</b>		
16	General Meeting - Archery Head Quarters in Chandler	
<b>February</b>		
1-3	Cast and Blast (Tentative)	
13	General Meeting	
<b>March</b>		
12	General Meeting	
28-30	Arizona Game and Fish Outdoor Expo	

### **CRG Officers**

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