

Gary Laubscher, Master Predator Hunter By Red Barbarossa



Gary on right, customer on left.

In 2004 Gary entered the electronic age and began making a line of electronic callers.

In 2005, Gary began manufacturing his own brand of red lens hunting light with an inno-



the Cape Town Area and capture the wild African animals with a camera.

But wait, there's more. If there is one thing Gary is not, it's lazy. He

One of the most rewarding things about making and selling my own predator calls via the Internet is meeting some really interesting people from all over the world. One of those people is Mr. Gary Laubscher, from Cape Town, South Africa.

Gary is truly a predator hunting mas-

ter and since 1984 he has spent his life in the field hunting all sorts of African game. After establishing his guide business, Gary became the very first manufacturer of game calls in South Africa. Gary makes all sorts of mouth blown and electronic game calls for jackal, lynx, buck, crow, geese, duck and a variety of other wild game found in the African bush and plains.

Yes, and if that's not enough, Gary is constantly developing new mouth calls and an improved line of game traps. He is one busy guy.

Gary's business, Feather & Fur Varmint Hunting, actually has two divisions; the hunting division and the touring division. He guides hunters as well as guiding visitors that want to take in all of the wildlife in



also operates a predator hunting school for serious want-to-be predator hunters. In addition, he edu-



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Rigged for night action

cates farmers and other land owners on the proper ways to deal with the variety of African predators that thin out their herds. Like I said, he's a busy guy.

Gary's school includes a four day predator calling course that is unmatched anywhere in South Africa. The success rate of the graduating hunters is said to be excellent. If you are curious about some of the techniques that are taught in the four day course, you can

“Feather and Fur Varmint hunting” in Cape Town S.A.



you may consider booking a trip in the future.

The following information will really make you jealous...Gary lives on a family farm and has hunting rights on more than 47 other properties. As you can well imagine, South Africa has a wealth of hunting



get a sneak peek at the curriculum by going to Gary's website:

<http://www.africanpredator.com>

The courses teach predator calling from top to bottom and Gary leaves no stone unturned. It's a four day cram course that will turn a novice into a potentially excellent predator hunter. Gary's operation stands tall because it is based upon top notch customer service and the teaching of proper conservation policies and ethical predator removal.

Even if you don't plan on going to South Africa to hunt predators (I do!) you'll find Gary's website very interesting indeed. Lots of cool photos and a world of valuable predator hunting information. As a matter of fact, after visiting the web site and getting your juices flowing,

areas and a vast variety of predators to call.



Paradise is not without its pitfalls however. Gary is constantly struggling with a very corrupt government that over-regulates, over taxes and generally has screwed up a country

that was once a beautiful place to live. It's Gary's home though and he manages to hold on to the things he loves, despite the ever-encroaching government hacks. He's a tuff guy and I am confident that he will prevail.

In the course of our long-distance relationship, Gary and I swap countless e-mails, mouth blown and electronic game calls and photos. He has me drooling most of the time with the photos he sends.

For the moment, I can only dream of being there and hunting African predators. Perhaps we should work up a group and make a date to join Gary on the African predator hunt of a lifetime. I'm sure it would be a hunt we would be talking about for quite some time to come.

THANKS FOR THE RAFFLE DONATIONS!!! By Bob Peters

Hopefully, the raffle prizes have been measuring up to expectations. If you have any suggestions for future prizes, please feel free to let me know and I'll try to locate the items and rotate them into the monthly raffles.

Special thanks to Lee Reader, Dick Culver, and Don Jamroz for the recent raffle donations. Lee was cleaning out his garage and gave us some great stuff. Dick came through with some solvents and Don donated a back pack. If any of you have items you'd like to donate, just bring 'em to a club meeting and we'll certainly find a use for them.

Thanks again Lee, Dick, and Don!

First Hand Africa Hunt Report

By David Vance

Just returned from a hunting trip to Namibia with Gary Laubscher and his crew of Feather & Fur. The area just outside of Okahanja is vastly wild beyond belief. It holds the largest cheetah population in the world within 150 kilos of the town. The general area is extremely dangerous with lion, Cheetah, Hyena and Leopard. Gary and I, along with François his partner, and Francois' brother, Nick, walked within 100 yards of a growling Leopard while tracking an Oryx. Nick also had a Cheetah pass within 20 meters of him. The walk through the bush gave me a rush like no other I have ever experienced. I knew that danger lurked about and we were constantly on guard. A Leopard had been spotted in the area three times within the last two days.

Results were an absolute blast, literally, more than I could have imagined. It is a pleasure to call with professional people who know what they are doing. I came away with lots of education in the way it is done. We called at night and due to the moon, our first night's worth of calling was 2 hours before the moon made an appearance. The second night yielded about 2 1/2 hours, and the third night approximately 3 hours. So, in total we had about 8 hours calling time.

We called in and shot 26 Jackal and a cat, but due to safety reasons of getting too far away from the truck at night, and an odd miss or two, we could only find 17 of the Jackal. I was constantly warned of dangers in the areas and never wondered far to pick up Jackal. In fact I never went alone to retrieve any. That was left to Africa Predator and his crew. On one particular hunt, we called for about 10 minutes and had 5 Jackal respond to the call, and we got all 5. Average shooting range was about 40 to 110 yards. In the light, it seemed a lot closer. The Jackal seemed to trot continuously, and offered only little standing shot opportunities. They circle downwind as coyotes do.

Our basic setup consisted of placing camo material completely around the

truck. We had more than one person manning rifles on the same dog as to cut down on escapes.

Between the hunts, we socialized, drank coffee and talked on both day and night hunts. At night, we kept the lights on around the truck. In the wild at night, one needs to be aware of what might be lurking about.



In addition to predator hunting, I took a fine Wart Hog at an African water hole. I used a 308 which yielded a one-shot kill. The distance was approximately 140 yards. The hog had very nice tusks and was a good specimen.

As well, I took a very respectable Springbuck, again with the 308. That one was taken at 280 yards.

Some other critters I hunted were Dassies and crows. Dassies are rock chuck-like animals and are found in very rocky outcroppings. Due to time limits, I was only able to shoot a few, but thoroughly enjoyed. We were warned about the area where we hunted them. A lioness and her cub had been spotted at that place just a short time before we hunted there. So, my entire trip was full of suspense.

I personally skinned the nicest Jackal taken during the trip and will have it tanned and shipped to me. The black back on a decent Jackal is a beautiful thing, and it will make a great addition to my trophy room.

One thing I found of interest was the fact that I was constantly drinking water, yet rarely had to go to the bath-

room. Gary commented that on the Wart Hog stand, he watched me drink about three or four bottles of water within a three hour period, and still I did not go to the bathroom. The climate there is hot and dry at this time of year, and the body uses the water almost completely. I was able to capture most of the hunts on film, including the night hunts.

Of other interest were termite mounds, some of which were over 8 feet tall. All were facing North, due to the pull of gravity. We counted 85 termite mounds within eye sight as we sat at the water hole.

The variety of animals there is astounding. We saw several species during the hunt, and at night while calling, and on the way back to camp. One of the most unusual critters I have ever seen is the locally named Karoo Kangaroo, but true name is Spring Hare. This little critter looks like a rabbit's body, hops like a Kangaroo, and has a long black tail. That is

the strangest thing I have seen. These little animals were constantly fooling us while calling. Many times they would come to the call and appeared to be a Jackal at first sight. As a result, it's important to identify the target before shooting.

This time of year is a great time to hunt in Namibia for predators. It is Jackal breeding season (late April), and it is also lambing season for sheep, and that spells great opportunities for predators – as long as the moon is good, as it was. The one neighbouring farm had just lost 80% of its live stock due to Lion, Jackal, Hyena, Cheetah and Leopard. So, we knew we were sitting in an area with high predation numbers, and with a good location, success was basically guaranteed.

This is the finest hunt I have ever been on, with lots of shooting opportunities, not to mention the cautious nervousness of knowing I was in Lion and Leopard country. The trip was worth every penny I paid, and all I can say is that I am looking forward to the day that I might be able to return. There is nothing like it. You owe it to yourself to try a hunt like this. You won't regret it.