

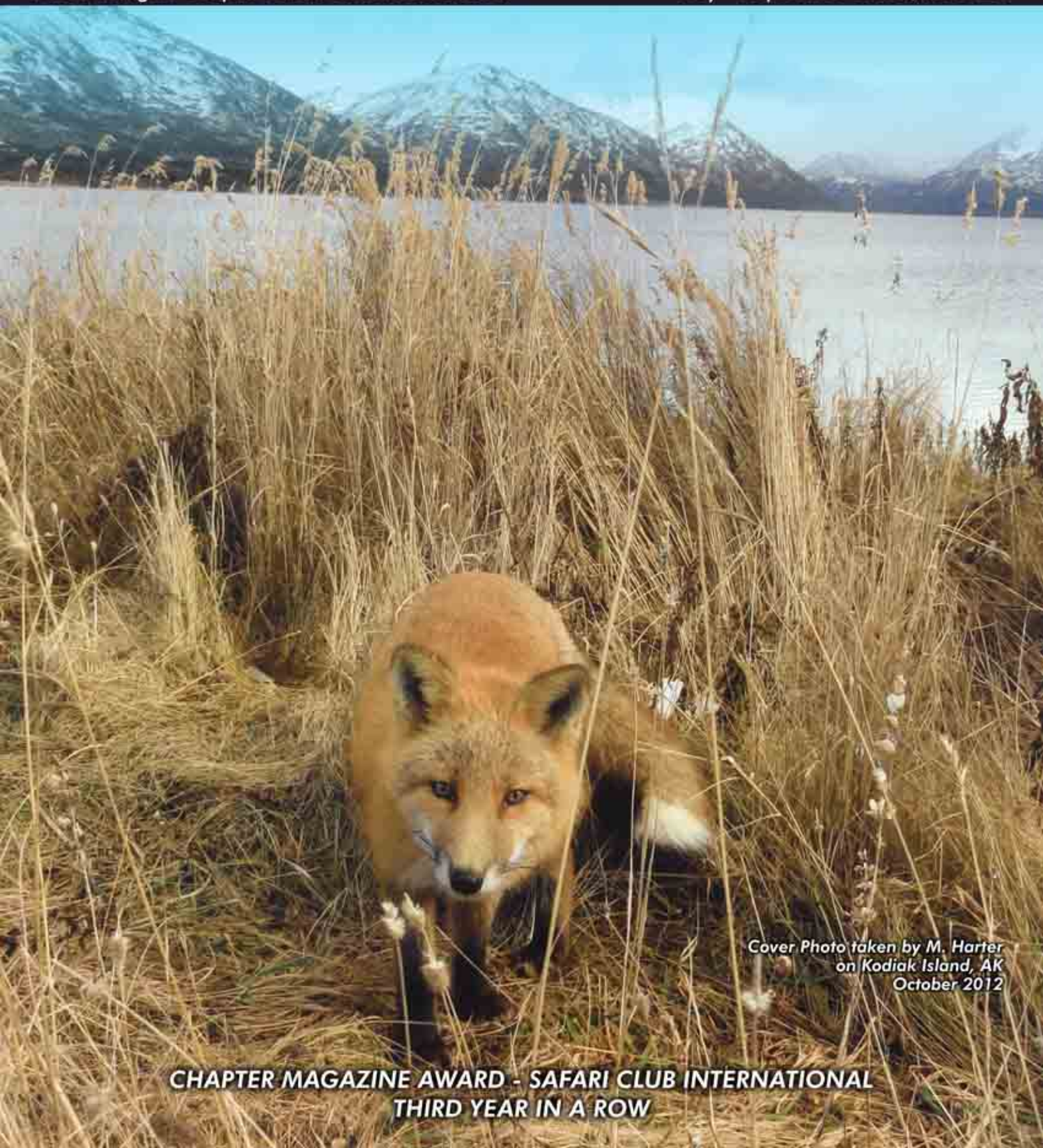
FRONT SIGHT



SCI
FIRST FOR HUNTERS

Mid-Michigan Chapter Safari Club International

July - September 2013, Issue 23



Cover Photo taken by M. Harter
on Kodiak Island, AK
October 2012

**CHAPTER MAGAZINE AWARD - SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL
THIRD YEAR IN A ROW**



JOHAN PIETERSE SAFARIS



SOUTH AFRICA
ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE



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Members of Mid-Michigan SCI or Isabella County Sportsman's Club may use the shooting range located at 2872 W. Millbrook Road just east of Winn Road. The lock combination is 4560 and changes yearly on February 15th. Please carry membership identification on you when you visit the range.



Standing Committees

Chairmen are listed first

Chapter Trophy Awards - Joanne Witte, Larry Witte, Tim Becker, Roger Card, Brad Eldred, Roger Froling, Don Harter, Larry Higgins, Scott Holmes, Mark Marlette, Joe Mulders, Bill Shelt, Art Street.

Conservation/Govt. Affairs - Larry Witte, Jim Walker

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Matching Grants - Jon Zieman

Front Sight Publication - Mary Harter

Education - Randy Raymond

Membership - Bill Shelt

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Programs - Roger Froling

Special Events - Kevin Unger, Tim Schafer, Scott Holmes, Jim Walker, Randy Raymond, Mike Strobe

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Shooting Sports - Tim Schafer

Humanitarian Services -

Handicapped Youth Hunt - Randy Raymond

Sportsmen Against Hunger - Mike Strobe

Veteran's Hunt - Bill Shelt, Randy Raymond

Public Relations - Jim Walker

The Front Sight is the official publication of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of Safari Club International, keeping club members informed about local club activities, and encouraging and defining good sportsmanship. The Front Sight Magazine is published quarterly: January, April, July and October. Distribution 400+.

Check our own www.midmichigansci.org website for copies of the Front Sight, listing of events, and fundraiser auction items.

Please support our sponsors! Call or write them for catalogs and information on their products and services. Make sure you tell them you saw their information in **The Front Sight**.

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Don Harter, Region 19 Representative,
Stony Bing, President of Michigan Chapter,
and Larry Higgins, SCI President Elect
awarding the Michigan Chapter a plaque
for their 40th anniversary.

SCI Mid-Michigan Chapter Meeting Schedule

* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Date	Meeting Type	Time	Location
August 5, 2013	Board/Budget	4:30 p.m.	Harter's
Sun., Sept. 8, 2013	Membership Trap Shoot	1:00 p.m.	Camp Misery
October 7, 2013	Board	4:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
December 2, 2013	Board	4:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
January 11, 2014	Board	3:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
January 11, 2014	Big Buck Night	5:00 p.m.	Comfort Inn
February 5-8, 2014	International Convention		Las Vegas
February 21-22, 2014	Chapter Convention		Soaring Eagle

Reservations required. Please call and leave a message at 989-560-7288

Your President - Kevin Unger

I just got back from Washington DC where we had a great board meeting with Craig Kauffman taking office as our new president and Larry Higgins selected as president elect. Larry will be the 9th SCI president from Michigan to serve as our national president. I think that says a lot about the passion Michigan has as hunters and conservationists.



Kevin Unger

We must work together to protect our rights to hunt and bear arms. If you know anyone that hunts and they are not a member of SCI or the NRA, tell them that this is the time to join. The anti-hunters are organized. We must be, also.

Our next fundraiser at the Soaring Eagle Casino in February 2014 will be in the concert hall. We have outgrown the 14,000 square foot room and will be returning to the big room which is 42,000 square feet. We are looking forward to a great show. If you have any questions, please give me a call. Our next meeting will be June 3 at 4:30 p.m. at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant. This is a board meeting which is open to the public. If you would like to attend, just give me a call. We will be taking the month of July off and returning in August to set our budget for the 2013/2014 year.

Editor's Message



Mary's Marco Polo in Tajikistan

to Botswana in May for the last year of elephant hunting with Ivan Carter through Johan Calitz Safaris so Don could shoot another elephant. He shot a 70 pounder.

While at JP's in South Africa, he got word that PH Erwin Kotze from Thormahlen and Cochran Safaris had died on April 23 after being trampled by an elephant in Namibia. He was the PH that attended our convention in 2012 and prior. We were so saddened to hear of this loss. Many from Michigan have hunted with him.

Don got home from Africa just in time to attend the International SCI board meeting in Washington D.C. where officers are elected. We are so proud that Larry Higgins, past president of our chapter, was elected as President Elect. Craig Kauffman from Pennsylvania is President, Paul Babaz from Georgia is Treasurer, and Bruce Eavenson from Michigan is Secretary.

Leslie Holmes, daughter of our Chapter Treasurer, Scott Holmes, has been named Salutatorian of the Mt. Pleasant Class of 2013. Congratulations are certainly in order.

Mid - Michigan Chapter Safari Club International • www.midmichigansci.org APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership _____
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

Fill out both mailing addresses as well as email. Please indicate by placing a X in the appropriate box where you would like to receive club correspondence.

If at all possible we would like to utilize your email address for this purpose. ☐

☐ HOME

☐ BUSINESS

EMAIL ADDRESS

STREET _____

STREET _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

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MEMBERSHIP DUES (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

18 +

1 Year

\$ 65 National Dues

\$ 20 Local Dues

= \$ 85

3 Years

\$ 150 National Dues

\$ 60 Local Dues

= \$ 210

Life

\$1500 National Dues

\$300 Local Dues

= \$ 1,800

Over 60

\$1250 National Dues

\$200 Local Dues

= \$ 1,550

Check/Cash attached \$ _____

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Mid-Michigan SCI

P.O. Box 486

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0486

Book Review

by Josh Christensen

Title: BIG GAME HUNTING
IN CENTRAL AFRICA

Author: William Buckley

Publisher: St. Martin's Press (Peter Capstick, Series Editor)

Copyright: Originally published
1930, copyrighted 1988

List Price: \$15.95 (Hardcover)

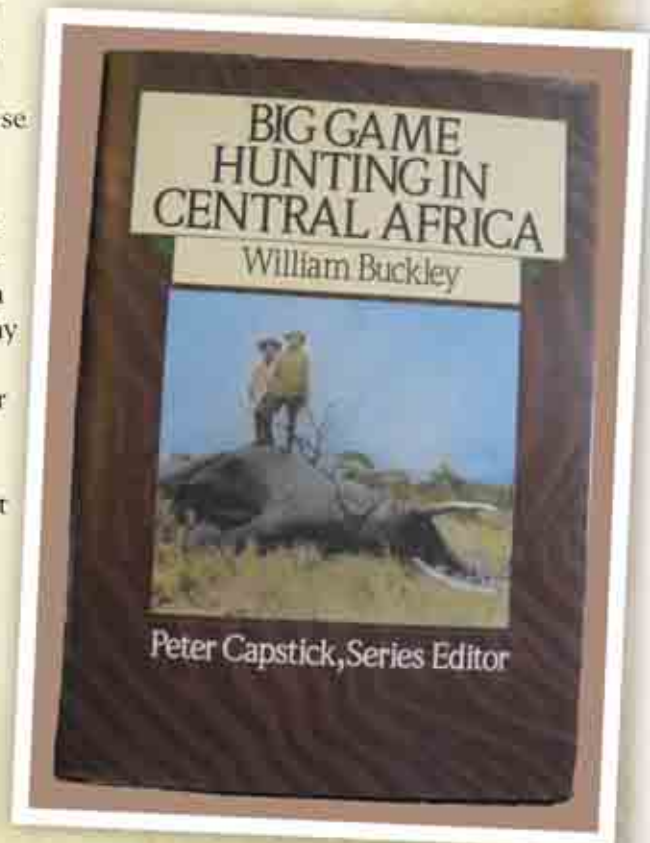
Big Game Hunting in Central Africa was an interesting read from a historical aspect as well as a hunting aspect. In fact, this book seemed to be two different books in one. It begins with tails of an ivory hunter and ends with journeys of the author in his younger years discovering everything the Dark Continent had to offer.

In the hunting chapters the author allows us to accompany him on many of his hunts through the untamed lands of Africa where we are introduced to interesting tactics of hunting elephant in the tall grass. I won't give everything away but it involves natives and a ladder. We also learn of a few brushes with death while hunting elephants, and one of these instances where Buckley's native guides desert him when facing an angry elephant and tell the authorities he is dead when in fact he survives virtually unscathed. Stories of hunting the Big 5 and traveling with valuable ivory are also found within these pages.

In the remaining chapters we learn that Buckley travels to Africa from Europe at age 17 working at the Kimberly Diamond fields as well as a few other mines alone the way. We also see how Europeans were given large parcels of land to work for very little money if any at all, very similar to what happen in our country in Oklahoma, and we get to experience some of the Boer wars where Buckley was a POW.

Overall this was an insightful read. I would say it wasn't organized the best (it wasn't chronological), but if you enjoy history and how hunting was at the turn of the century you may find this book worth your time.

This book gets 8 out of 10 bullseyes.



AWARDS PROGRAM

MID MICHIGAN CHAPTER SCI

By Joanne Witte, Awards Chairperson

Please see the following pages for the list of All-Time Winners for the Mid-Michigan chapter of SCI. The list denotes the top scoring animal for each species in our Cumulative Record Book. It was updated in February 2013 after our Hunter's Convention at the Soaring Eagle Casino. It includes animals taken up to December 1, 2012.

Check out our website! You will find the updated version of our Cumulative Record Book.

Our deadline for score sheet entries for the 2014 Awards Program is:

DECEMBER 1, 2013

Animals taken between December 1, 2011 and December 1, 2013 are eligible for the awards competition. Remember, you must be a member of our local chapter when you took the animal to enter it in the awards competition. However, once you are a member, any animal taken in the past is eligible for entry into the Cumulative Record Book.

If you have youth hunters they do not have to be members to be recognized at the Hunter's Convention. Please send me score sheets for their animals so I will know who to honor at the Awards Program. Youth hunters are children under the age of 17.

Mail score sheets to me at:

Joanne Witte
11219 Birch Park Drive
Stanwood, MI 49346

If you have questions I can be reached at home at 231-796-4927 or on my cell phone, 231-250-5528.

Good Hunting!



AWARDS INFORMATION

MID-MICHIGAN CHAPTER SCI

By Joanne Witte Awards Chairperson

I thought you might be curious about who our all-time leaders are for each species recorded in our Record Book. Each year after the Hunter's Convention I list the all-time leaders. In some cases the hunter changes and in some cases the hunter remains the same for many years. It is interesting to note that for some more common animals the all-time leader was taken many years ago. My theory is that the country is no longer producing huge animals in some categories.

AFRICA

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Abyssinian Bushbuck	2008	Larry Higgins	35 12/16
African Cheetah	2001	Tim Torpey	13 10/16
African Civet	2011	Larry Higgins	9 10/16
African Elephant	2004	Jeffrey Chaulk	144 1/2
African Leopard	1993	David Petrella	17 12/16
African Lion	2005	Michael Moir	27
African Lion			
(South Africa and Namibia)	1982	Roger Card	27 13/16
African Wildcat	2008	Larry Higgins	7 5/16
Barbary Sheep (Aoudad)	2011	Larry Higgins	87
Bates Pygmy Antelope	2007	Larry Higgins	4 12/16
Bay Duiker	2007	Larry Higgins	11 10/16
Beisa Oryx	1989	Roger Card	86 5/8
Black Faced Impala	2005	Jeffrey Chaulk	59 2/8
Black Lechwe	2008	Larry Higgins	60 5/8
Black Springbok	2003	Larry Higgins	41 4/8
Black Wildebeest	2004	Maryanne Belyea	94 7/8
Blesbok	1983	Sid Smith	48 7/8
Blesbok	2004	Tim Bentley	48 7/8
Blue Duiker	2003	Larry Higgins	7 6/16
Blue Wildebeest	2000	Gerald Schave	85 4/8
Bontebok	2008	Terry Braden	43 5/8
Brown Hyena	2009	Joanne Witte	16 6/16
Bushpig	2000	Roger Card	17 12/16
Cape Buffalo	2007	Terry Braden	121 2/8
Cape Bushbuck	1998	Tim Torpey	42 7/8
Cape Eland	2008	Terry Braden	107 3/8
Cape Grysobok	2003	Larry Higgins	11 10/16
Cape Hartebeest	2001	Pat Brennan	72 5/8
Caracal	2003	Larry Higgins	9 3/16
Central African Giant Eland	2004	Roger Card	126 7/8
Central African Kob	2011	Roger Card	46 4/16
Chanler Mountain Reedbuck	2008	Larry Higgins	11 4/8
Chobe Bushbuck	2004	Douglas Chapin	49
Coke Hartebeest	1995	Ken Keeley	61 3/8
Common Nyala	1999	Tim Hauck	77 4/8
Common Reedbuck	2004	Owen Eldred	28 4/8
Common Sable Antelope	1981	Pat Bollman	104 4/8
Common Waterbuck	2007	Mary Harter	87 1/8
Copper Springbok	2008	Larry Higgins	35 2/8
Cookson Wildebeest	1997	Roger Card	82 5/8
Cordeaux Dik-dik	1991	Pat Bollman	9
Cordeaux Dik-dik	1991	Roger Card	9
Crawshay Defassa Waterbuck	2008	Larry Higgins	69
Damara Dik-Dik	2008	Larry Higgins	9 11/16
Damara Dik-Dik	2005	Tim Torpey	9 11/16
Dwarf Forest Buffalo	2001	David Petrella	49 2/8
East African Bushbuck	2008	Larry Higgins	46 2/8
East African Bush Duiker	2004	Larry Higgins	15 5/16
East African Defassa			
Waterbuck	2004	Larry Higgins	77 5/8
East African Eland	1996	David Petrella	104 5/8
East African Greater Kudu	2004	Larry Higgins	124
East African Impala	2008	Larry Higgins	66 1/8
East African Roan Antelope	2002	Jeffrey Chaulk	78
East African Sitatunga	2011	Mary Harter	64
East African Suri	2008	Larry Higgins	8 14/16
Eastern Bohor Reedbuck	2004	Larry Higgins	20
Eastern Cape Great Kudu	1998	Tim Torpey	128
European Fallow Deer	2009	Joanne Witte	174 7/8

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Forest Sitatunga	1997	David Petrella	62 4/8
Fringe-Eared Oryx	1997	Ken Keeley	74 6/8
Guenther Dik-dik	1989	Roger Card	9 2/16
Harnessed Bushbuck	2011	Larry Higgins	33 5/8
Harvey Red Duiker	2000	Roger Card	13 12/16
Hippopotamus	2008	Mary Harter	71 2/16
Hyena (Spotted)	1996	David Petrella	18 5/16
Kafue Flats Lechwe	2008	Larry Higgins	86 2/8
Kalahari Gemsbok	2005	Jeffrey Chaulk	97 2/8
Kalahari Gemsbok (RSA)	2001	David Rusch	94 6/8
Kalahari Springbok	2004	Maryanne Belyea	46 5/8
Kirk Dik-Dik	2005	Jeff Chaulk	10 8/16
Klipspringer	1992	Terry Braden	15 2/16
Lelwel Hartebeest	2001	David Petrella	66 7/8
Lesser Kudu	1993	Pat Bollman	68
Lichtenstein Hartebeest	2011	Mary Harter	68 1/8
Limpopo Bushbuck	2002	Brad Eldred	46 7/8
Livingstone Eland	2003	Larry Higgins	107 5/8
Livingstone Suni	2005	Jason Pirtott	11 8/16
Meneliks Bushbuck	1991	Roger Card	35
Mountain Nyala	2008	Larry Higgins	97 5/8
Natal Red Duiker	2001	Phil Seybert	12 1/8
Neumann Hartebeest	1989	Pat Bollman	55 6/8
Nigerian Bohor Reedbuck	2009	Larry Higgins	16 6/8
Nile Buffalo	2009	Larry Higgins	93 3/8
Nile Bushbuck	2009	Larry Higgins	41
Nile Crocodile	2002	Jeffrey Chaulk	14' 10 1/2"
Northern Gerenuk	1991	Roger Card	36 7/8
Northern Grant Gazelle	1989	Roger Card	63 4/8
Nyasa Wildebeest	1995	Jan Keeley	88 4/8
Oribi	2004	Larry Higgins	16 4/16
Peters Duiker	2009	Larry Higgins	14 12/16
Puku	2004	Larry Higgins	50 7/8
Red-flanked Duiker	2011	Roger Card	13 2/16
Red Lechwe	2001	Jeffrey Chaulk	70 7/8
Red River Hog	2001	David Petrella	11 8/16
Roberts Gazelle	2008	Larry Higgins	56 4/8
Roosevelt Sable Antelope	1996	David Petrella	136 6/8
Salit Dik-Dik	2008	Larry Higgins	8 10/16
Serval	2011	Larry Witte	8 9/16
Sharpe Grysobok	1988	David Petrella	7 12/16
Sing-Sing Waterbuck	2011	Larry Higgins	75 1/8
Soemmerring Gazelle	1991	Roger Card	45 3/8
South African Springbok	1981	Roger Card	43 4/8
Southern Bush Duiker	2004	Owen Eldred	16 4/16
Southern Gerenuk	2004	Larry Higgins	42 2/8
Southern Grant Gazelle	2004	Larry Higgins	67
Southern Greater Kudu	2009	Scott Holmes	140 6/8
Southern Impala	2008	Larry Smith	62 3/8
Southern Mountain Reedbuck	2003	Roger Brown	15 7/8
Southern Mountain Reedbuck	2007	Jim Maciateg	15 7/8
Southern Roan Antelope	2008	Joanne Witte	73
Southern White Rhinoceros	2009	Joe Janicke	102 5/8
Steenbok	2007	Tim Becker	15 9/16
Thompson Gazelle	2004	Larry Higgins	37 4/8
Tiang	1989	Pat Bollman	57 2/8
Topi	2002	Jeffrey Chaulk	53 6/8
Tsessebe	2003	Larry Higgins	48 2/8
Ugandan Kob	2009	Larry Higgins	58 5/16

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Vaal Rhebok	1998	Tim Torpey	20 2/8
Warthog	2008	Gail Dawson	39
West African Savanna Buffalo	2001	David Petrella	71 5/8
Western Bongo	1997	David Petrella	84 3/8
Western Bush Duiker	2009	Larry Higgins	12 8/16
Western Hartebeest	1998	David Petrella	69 7/8
Western Kob	1998	David Petrella	56 4/8
Western Mountain Reedbuck	1998	David Petrella	13 10/16
Western Roan Antelope	2001	David Petrella	82 2/8
White Bearded Wildebeest	2004	Larry Higgins	85 7/8
White Blesbok	2007	Bill Shelt	48 5/8
White Springbok	2005	Jason Parrott	37 1/8
Zambezi Sitatunga	2008	Larry Higgins	62 6/8

ASIA

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Afghan Urial	2003	Larry Higgins	119 4/8
Altai Argali	2004	David Petrella	235 5/8
Anatolian Chamois	2008	Roger Card	27
Bezoar Ibex	2006	Larry Higgins	107 3/8
Blanford Urial	2004	Larry Higgins	117 2/8
Caucasian Chamois	2007	David Petrella	24 7/8
Chinese Blue Sheep	2002	Larry Higgins	119 2/8
Chukotka Moose	2002	Larry Higgins	479 5/8
Dwarf Blue Sheep	2006	Larry Higgins	73 4/8
East Caucasian Tur	2005	Larry Higgins	150 6/8
Eurasian Wild Boar	2005	David Petrella	21 11/16
Feral Yak	2005	Roger Card	78 3/8
Gobi Argali	2001	Larry Higgins	201 6/8
Gobi Ibex	2002	David Petrella	96 5/8
Gray Wolf	2002	David Petrella	13 8/16
Hangai Argali	2004	David Petrella	225 5/8
Helan Mt. Blue Sheep	2006	Larry Higgins	114 7/8
Hillier Goitered Gazelle	2005	Roger Card	31 6/8
Himalayan Blue Sheep	2006	Larry Higgins	117 6/8
Himalayan Ibex	2004	Larry Higgins	86 4/8
Kamchatka Brown Bear	2002	Larry Higgins	26 6/16
Kamchatka Snow Sheep	2002	Larry Higgins	174
Kolyma Snow Sheep	2007	David Petrella	147 7/8
Konya Mouflon	2006	Larry Higgins	125 5/8
Koryak Snow Sheep	2007	Larry Higgins	140 6/8
Maral Stag	2008	Roger Card	223 3/8
Marco Polo Argali	2007	Roger Card	201 6/8
Mid-Asian Ibex	2004	David Petrella	109 1/8
Mid-Caucasian Tur	2007	Larry Higgins	141 2/8
Mid-Eastern Red Stag	2011	Larry Higgins	265 1/8
Mongolian Gazelle	2002	David Petrella	34 6/8
Nemrut Ibex	2006	Larry Higgins	94 1/8
Okhotsk Snow Sheep	2005	Larry Higgins	140
Persian Goitered Gazelle	1998	Larry Higgins	36 6/8
Philippine Warty Pig	2009	Roger Card	7 2/16
Punjab Urial	2005	Larry Higgins	130 2/8
Servetov Argali	2005	Larry Higgins	143 3/8
Siberian Ibex	2002	David Petrella	111 2/8
Sindh Ibex	2004	Larry Higgins	92 7/8
Tibetan Gazelle	2001	David Petrella	33 5/8
Trans-Caspian Urial Sheep	1998	Larry Higgins	146 4/8
Water Buffalo	2009	Roger Card	103 6/8
West Caucasian Tur	2007	David Petrella	144 7/8
Yakutia Snow Sheep	2009	Larry Higgins	146

EUROPE

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Alpine Chamois	2008	Roger Card	24 5/8
Alpine Ibex	2005	David Petrella	101 2/8
Balkan Chamois	2005	David Petrella	24 6/8
Balerean Goat	2011	Larry Higgins	59 6/8
Barbary Sheep	2008	Roger Card	121 1/8
Beceite Ibex	2002	David Petrella	84 4/8
Cantabrian Chamois	2008	Roger Card	20 2/8
Carpathian Chamois	2005	David Petrella	28
Eurasian Brown Bear	1998	Tim Hauck	22 2/16
Eurasian Feral Boar	2006	Roger Card	14 6/8

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
European Fallow Deer	2007	Larry Higgins	234
European Golden Jackal	2012	Larry Higgins	9 12/16
European Gray Wolf	2012	Larry Higgins	14 2/16
European Mouflon	2012	Larry Higgins	124 7/8
European Red Deer	1993	Roger Card	299
European Roe Deer	1994	Ken Lehman, Sr.	55 1/8
Feral Goat	2009	Larry Higgins	73 6/8
Gredos Ibex	2002	David Petrella	78 6/8
Hog Deer	2009	Larry Higgins	98 7/8
Japanese Sika Deer	2008	Roger Card	128 7/8
Manchurian Sika Deer	2008	Roger Card	176 7/8
Pere David Deer	1993	Roger Card	228 7/8
Pyrenean Chamois	2005	Larry Higgins	25 1/8
Reeves Muntjac	1993	Roger Card	18 3/16
Ronda Ibex	2006	Roger Card	67 5/8
Scottish Red Deer	1985	Ken Lehman, Sr.	262 3/8
S.E. Spanish Ibex	2005	Larry Higgins	79 5/8
Spanish Red Deer	2007	Larry Higgins	276 5/8
Water Deer	1994	Bob Bohn	9
Wild Boar	2009	Larry Higgins	24 9/16

NORTH AMERICA INTRODUCED

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Addax	1999	Brad Eldred	83 1/8
Aoudad (Barbary Sheep)	2004	Paul Spencer	146 3/8
Armenian Mouflon Sheep	2008	Roger Card	116 4/8
Axis Deer (Non-typical)	2006	Brad Eldred	157 5/8
Axis Deer (Typical) Estate	2008	Larry Witte	152 3/8
Axis Deer (Typical) Free Range	2009	Joanne Witte	143 3/8
Barasingha	2000	Larry Higgins	186 6/8
Barbarosa (Marino Ram)	1997	Sylvia Becker	154 6/8
Bezoar Ibex	1997	Larry Higgins	91 4/8
Blackbuck	2005	Lawrence Witte	70 3/8
Black Sheep (Hawaiian)	2000	Tim Torpey	126 5/8
Corsican Sheep	2005	Tim Becker	144 4/8
Dama Gazelle	2003	Tim Becker	36 3/8
Eland	2002	Brad Eldred	84 4/8
European Fallow Deer	2000	Jeff Sackett	254 1/8
European Mouflon Sheep	1996	Tim Becker	134 3/8
Feral Boar	2007	Randy Raymond	22 8/16
Feral Goat (Catalina)	1996	Tim Becker	94
Feral Sheep	2012	Larry Higgins	111 1/8
Gemsbok	2004	Tim Becker	90 1/8
Hog Deer	1997	Larry Higgins	63
Hybrid Ibex	1999	Larry Higgins	98 1/8
Markhor	2001	Larry Higgins	90 5/8
Multi-Horned Sheep	2004	Tim Becker	116 3/8
Nilgai	1999	Tim Becker	33 4/8
Nubian Ibex	1998	Larry Higgins	98 1/8
Pere David Deer	1999	Larry Higgins	271 1/8
Red Deer	2003	Tim Becker	286 1/8
Red Sheep Iranian	1996	Larry Higgins	133 5/8
Reeves Muntjac	1997	Larry Higgins	10 7/16
Reindeer	1998	Roger Froling	420
Roosevelt Elk	2006	Craig Chapman	169 6/8
Scimitar-Horned			
Oryx Free Range	2009	Jeff Sackett	94 2/8
Scimitar-horned Oryx	2008	Bill Shelt	95
Sika Deer (Non-Typical)	2005	Tim Becker	109 7/8
Sika Deer (Typical)	2006	Brad Eldred	144 1/8
Sitatunga	2004	Tim Becker	61
Texas Dull	2003	David Gloss	147 2/8
Waterbuck	2002	Tim Becker	47 2/8
Water Buffalo	2006	Larry Higgins	104 6/8
Watusi	2005	Roger Card	115 1/8
Yak	1999	Doug Heeter	79 3/8

NORTH AMERICA

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Alaska Brown Bear	2007	Jeff Chaulk	29 7/16
Alaska Yukon Barren			
Ground Caribou	Jun-05	Pat Bollman	476 7/8

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE	CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Alaska Yukon Moose	1999	Debra Card	731 1/8	Typical	2007	Marilyn Parr	204 6/8
American Alligator	2002	Edward Peters	11' 10"	Roosevelt Elk	1996	Larry Higgins	297 6/8
American Bison	2003	Glenn Belyea	75 1/8	Roosevelt Elk Santa			
American Mountain Goat	2002	Jeffrey Sackett	33	Rosa Island	1999	Terry Braden	350
Arctic Islands Caribou	1993	Larry Higgins	345 6/8	Shiras Moose	2008	Steven Bair	250 6/8
Atlantic Walrus	2010	Roger Card	99 6/8	Sitka Blacktail Deer	2001	Brad Eldred	114
Barren Ground Muskox	1997	David Petrella	87	Southeastern Whitetail Deer			
Bobcat	2010	Joanne Witte	9 10/16	Typ FR	2005	Roger Card	130 2/8
California Bighorn Sheep	2004	Larry Higgins	165 1/8	Southeastern Whitetail			
Canada Lynx	1994	David Petrella	9 8/16	Deer Typ Est	1999	Larry Higgins	121 1/8
Central American				Stone Sheep	2004	Jeffrey Chaulk	176 1/8
Whitetail Deer	2000	Larry Higgins	75 1/8	Texas Whitetail Deer Typical			
Central Canada Barren				Free Range	1999	Larry Higgins	151 5/8
Ground Caribou	1998	Seth Hootman	462 4/8	Texas Whitetail Deer			
Coastal (Island) Black Bear	2002	Jeffrey Chaulk	21 1/16	Non-Typ Estate	2006	Tim Becker	159
Collard Peccary	1992	Harvey Pfeiffer	15	Texas Whitetail Deer			
Columbia Blacktail Deer	1994	David Petrella	140 1/8	Typical Estate	2001	Tim Becker	154 1/8
Columbia Blacktail Deer				Tule Elk	2006	Roger Card	283 3/8
(Non-Typical)	2009	Tim Torpey	149 7/8	Western Canada Moose	2004	Keith Davis	553 4/8
Columbia Whitetail Deer				White Lipped Peccary	2002	Larry Higgins	15 13/16
(Typical)	2007	Owen Eldred	103 1/8	Wolverine	1992	David Petrella	10 8/16
Columbia Whitetail Deer				Woodland Bison Free Range	2006	David Petrella	66 4/8
(Non-Typ)	2007	Corey Hyde	133	Woodland Caribou	2003	Tim Torpey	326 6/8
Common Grizzly Bear	2004	David Rusch	26 2/16	Yucatan Gray-Brown			
Continental (Inland)				Brocket Deer	2005	Larry Higgins	16 9/16
Black Bear	2007	Randy Raymond	21 6/16				
Coues Whitetail Deer	2008	Glenn Belyea	100 5/8				
Cougar	1998	Terry Braden	15				
Cougar	1985	Bob Doerr	15				
Cougar	2000	Patrick Brennan	15				
Dall Sheep	1980	M. Wernette	168 6/8				
Desert Bighorn Sheep	1985	Pat Bollman	181 1/8				
Desert Mule Deer Non Typical	1993	Debra Card	145 5/8				
Desert Mule Deer Typical	1997	Larry Higgins	199 4/8				
Eastern Canada Moose	1969	Roger Card	443				
Eastern Turkey Multiple Beards	2008	Marty Sheridan	67 12/16				
Eastern Turkey	2008	Anthony Urr	59				
Gould's Turkey	2007	Roger Card	33				
Gray Wolf	1988	Roger Card	17 5/16				
Greenland Muskox	1995	David Petrella	79 5/8				
Jaguar	1986	Roger Card	16				
Merriam's Turkey	2004	Maryanne Belyea	28 4/16				
Mexican Whitetail Deer							
Typical	1996	Debra Card	114 6/8				
Mid-Western Whitetail Deer							
(Non-Typical)	2007	Dana Hodges	207 3/8				
Mid-Western Whitetail Deer							
(Typical)	2008	Tim Torpey	168 5/8				
Mountain Caribou	1980	Gale Hixson	420 3/8				
Northeastern Whitetail Deer							
Non-Typ, FR	2005	Randy Raymond	270 1/8				
Northeastern Whitetail							
Deer Typ FR	2010	Keith Davis	170 3/8				
Northeastern Whitetail Deer							
Non-Typ, Est	2007	Tim Becker	313 2/8				
Northeastern Whitetail							
Deer Typ, Est	1985	Pat Bollman	181 7/8				
Northwestern Whitetail							
Deer Typical	2003	Robert Davis	169 4/8				
Ocellated Turkey	2011	Joanne Witte	36 14/16				
Osceola Turkey	2009	Glenn Belyea	62 8/16				
Polar Bear	2006	Jeff Chaulk	26 14/16				
Pronghorn	1993	Ron Mohrke	84 7/8				
Quebec-Labrador Caribou	2001	Mark Pellerito	439 1/8				
Red Brocket Deer	2001	Larry Higgins	11 4/16				
Rio Grande Turkey	2009	Joanne Witte	46 8/16				
Rocky Mountain Bighorn							
Sheep	2007	Larry Higgins	181 1/4				
Rocky Mountain Elk							
Non-Typical	1986	Gale Hixson	453				
Rocky Mountain Elk							
Typical Free Range	2005	Jeff Chaulk	382 7/8				
Rocky Mountain Elk							
Typical Estate	2001	Brad Eldred	424 1/8				
Rocky Mountain Mule Deer							
Non-Typical	2005	Jeffrey Chaulk	215 4/8				
Rocky Mountain Mule Deer							

SOUTH AMERICA

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Axis Deer	2002	Steve Diekema	138
Axis Deer Non-Typical	2007	Roger Card	152 3/8
Blackbuck	2002	Steve Diekema	73 2/8
Brown Brocket Deer	2007	Larry Higgins	14
Capybara	2007	Roger Card	16 1/16
Collared Peccary	2011	Terry Braden	16 4/16
European Fallow Deer	2007	Larry Higgins	241 6/8
European Mouflon Sheep	1998	Roger Card	95 3/8
Feral Boar	2009	Terry Braden	26 15/16
Feral Goat	2011	Larry Smith	74 1/8
Gray-Brown Brocket Deer	2011	Terry Braden	15 10/16
Hybrid Sheep	2007	Larry Higgins	160 1/8
Multi-Horned Sheep	2007	Larry Higgins	98 5/8
Puma	2007	Larry Higgins	13 12/16
Red Brocket Deer	2007	Larry Higgins	14 13/16
Red Deer	2007	Larry Higgins	328 4/8
Water Buffalo	2002	Steve Diekema	95 7/8
White-Lipped Peccary	2011	Terry Braden	17 3/8
White-Lipped Peccary	2011	Terry Braden	17 6/16

SOUTH PACIFIC

CATEGORY	DATE TAKEN	HUNTER	SCORE
Arapawa Ram	2011	Bill Shelr	121 6/8
Axis Deer	2008	Larry Higgins	121
Banteng	1988	Roger Card	71 6/8
Blackbuck	2003	Nan Riley	69 3/8
Chamois	2005	Terry Braden	28 6/8
European Fallow Deer	2007	Mary Harter	233 6/8
Feral Boar	1995	Roger Card	28 2/16
Feral Bull	2011	Keith Davis	70 6/16
Feral Goat	2011	Keith Davis	80 2/8
Feral Sheep	2003	Joe Janicki Jr.	126
Himalayan Tahr	1995	Roger Card	44 4/8
Himalayan Tahr	2006	Larry Higgins	44 4/8
Hog Deer	1996	Roger Card	71 3/8
Mulocccan Rusa Deer	2006	Larry Higgins	133 4/8
Red Deer	2012	Jeff Sackett	427 2/8
Rusa Deer Javan Non Typ	2006	Tim Becker	162 5/8
Rusa Deer Javan Typ	2006	Larry Higgins	153 5/8
Sambar	2009	Mary Harter	140 2/8
Scrub Bull	2006	Larry Higgins	61
Sika Deer	2009	Mary Harter	161 5/8
South Pacific Turkey	2011	Josh Christensen	41 5/8
Wapiti - Non Typical	2011	Keith Davis	419
Wapiti - Typical	2009	Nick Johnston	383 4/8
Water Buffalo	2006	Larry Higgins	101 4/8
Whitetail Deer	1996	Roger Card	75 3/8

Awards *Night* Winners



JoAnne Witte, North America Introduced
Scimitar Horned Oryx
Mary Harter, African Sitatunga

Mid-Michigan SCI Hunter's Convention February 22, 2013



Jeff Sackett
South Pacific Red Stag



Glenn Belyea
African Southern Mt. Reedbuck



Steve Galgoczi, Muzzleloader
Hunter of the Year



Larry Smith
Hunter of the Year



Casey Hixson
North America Dall Sheep



Scott Holmes, Cross Bow
Hunter of the Year



Paul Spencer -North America
N.E. Whitetail Deer (estate)

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Many thanks to the members/businesses who donated funds that went directly to help defray the costs of this event.



Some of Our Lucky Winners

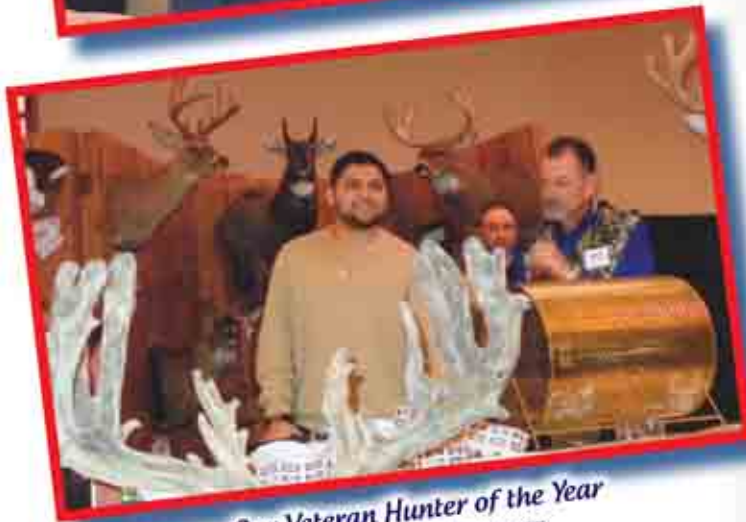


Donor Jerry Morey admiring the desserts.

Honoring our Veterans at our Convention



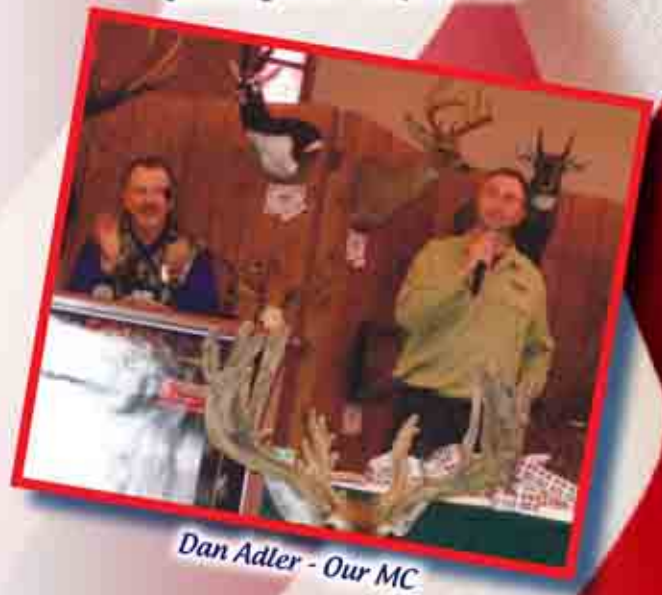
*Earliest Enlisted (1945) Veteran
Jack Feightner - 85 years old*



*Our Veteran Hunter of the Year
Sgt. Jeremy Ramirez*



*Bill Shelt speaking about our
Veteran's activities.*



Dan Adler - Our MC

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DONATING OUTFITTERS IN ATTENDANCE



CONVENTION ACTIVITIES



CONVENTION ACTIVITIES



Florida Gator Adventure

By Mike "Mac" MacEachron

Sitting at the Gerald R Ford International Airport with my son Michael an announcement comes over the loudspeaker that "there will be a delay to your flight due to mechanical problems with your plane". Hmmm...if that doesn't test your sanity about flying with this airline, I don't know what will! But "there is a replacement plane being

would be using crossbows on the hunt so Grayson went over how to use them and where to aim on the gator.

Since none of us had ever used a crossbow we each took a couple of practice shots. We wanted to make sure we knew what we were doing during this unique experience.

Grayson went on to explain when approaching a gator he would make the call to shoot or not to shoot. We were after trophy gators, 10 feet or larger.

So as the sun set Jerry gave us headsets for ear protection. We quickly found out why. When the airboat started up, WOW! I forget what Jerry said the horsepower was on the boats but they were loud.



flown up from Florida to replace the plane with mechanical problems". How kind.

So I make a couple of telephone calls to explain our predicament to everyone then try to relax over complimentary drinks and treats.

We arrive safely in Orlando, Florida and a friend of mine, Ken, is waiting to pick us up.

So now we are in Orlando. What does one do with three Floridians, two airboats, headlamps and a crossbow? If you guessed Universal Studios, you are wrong! Ken, Michael and I would be hunting American alligators with Grayson Padrick from Central Florida Trophy Hunts with help from two of his friends, Jerry and Bob.

First things first. We checked into our hotel and unloaded our gear. We then gave Grayson a call to let him know we finally made it and what would he like us to do.

Gator hunting is done at night (depending on where you are hunting) so he said grab a bite to eat for dinner and gave us directions where to meet. About two hours before dark we met Grayson and followed him to our hunting destination where Jerry and Bob were ready with the airboats.

Grayson explained how the hunt would be conducted. We would head off into the swamp. In the swamp the guides would use the headlamps to look for eyes of the gators. We



Ken was up first so he jumped in Grayson's airboat with Bob. Michael and I jumped in Jerry's boat.

As we entered the swamp it was a mixture of open water, channels, some high ground with a few trees, high saw grass and swamp as far as one could see. I'm glad we had guides. With all the channels leading from one pond to another it would be easy to get turned around. Throw in the fact it's dark and full of gators, it is why you hire a professional who knows the swamps like the back of his hand.

When we slowed down to start spotlighting for eyes I asked Jerry what exactly we were looking for and how would we know if it was a trophy gator. Jerry explained the guys scout areas just as we would scout an area for whitetails. We would head to areas that they knew where trophy sized gators lived. As they came to these areas they would slow down and shine the area looking for the giant reptiles on the banks or looks for eyes in the water. Jerry said when looking for eyes they look for distance between the eyes to indicate trophy size.

Another method would be to hunt an area with known trophy sized gators and try calling. The calls sound like baby gators. The big gators come to the sound looking for an easy meal. It was really cool to see this method used. Imagine sitting in a boat and having multiple gators swimming your way and end up right next to the boat. You could touch them if you dared. I passed!

Grayson slowed down in a spot where he knew a 12 foot gator had been hanging out. True to form, the guys found the big gator and slowly made their way towards the giant reptile. Before Ken could get a shot the big gator submerged. So Grayson turned the boat off and tried calling. We stayed back 50 yards and watched the guys' lamp the area. Twenty minutes later we found the big guy and again slowly tried to get in range for a shot. I saw Ken lift the crossbow and just as he was about to shoot the gator caught the movement and went under again leaving a wake that rocked Grayson's boat.

We gave it another half hour and Grayson decided to try another area. He had us stay back and see if the gator would come back up. We saw lots of eyes but no big buck gator. Jerry noticed Grayson's headlamp flickering in the distance and said hang on. Jerry said they probably had shot one.

As we approached the guys, sure enough, Ken had shot and had a big gator on the line. He explained they had seen the gator's eyes and Grayson said it was a good one. Ken later said he was amazed how Grayson could tell the difference among all the eyes they had seen. They were able to approach within ten yards and Ken's shot was on the mark.

With the shot the arrow penetrated the gator's hide and the special broadhead's prongs expand once it enters. The arrow has a string attached to it and the string has a buoy attached to it.

When we got closer to their boat Grayson was slowly pulling the gator to the boat. In the meantime Bob explained to us how to use a bang stick and where to hit the gator in the head with it. The bang stick is a 6 foot rod that holds a 357 magnum cartridge. When you hit the gator it expels the



bullet into the gator to finish it off.

After fighting the gator for about a half hour, Grayson was able to position the gator's head for Ken to use the bang stick. It was a cool experience to watch. Gator number 1 was in the boat coming in at 10' 7". To say Ken was excited would be an understatement.

Michael was up next so he traded places with Ken in Grayson's boat and off into the swamp they went. Ken said they had seen over 50 gators and this was one of the coolest things he had ever done.

Michael wasn't gone twenty minutes when we saw lights flickering so off we went. As we approached Michael was ecstatic. He said the giant gator was in a thicket when Grayson spotted him. So they slowly approached looking for a shot. They tried to call the gator out but he wouldn't budge. So they moved a little closer and found an opening and tried a shot. We all sat there and waited for the buoy to move but nothing happened. We thought maybe he had missed. Finally Grayson started pulling on the string and he said that it felt like there was something on the arrow. So he pulled harder and was able to make some headway on the string. Well, come to find out, Michael's shot had actually killed the

continued on page 18

Gator Adventure

continued from page 17

gator. That explained why there was no movement and Grayson was pulling dead weight. Just to make sure Bob still had Michael get ready with the bang stick. When Grayson was finally able to get the gator's head up to the boat, we were all yelling. Wow! The head was huge! Grayson said to hit him just for safety's sake. It took four guys to pull the gator into the boat. The gator was 11'3" and weighed in around 350 pounds. So after some handshaking, back slapping and picture taking it was my turn.

It was getting late so we slowly started making our way back towards the landing. We would try following up on some of the gators we had passed on and try some new ponds. It was amazing how many gators we had seen that night. Bob estimated around 400 gators.

Grayson said "There's a good one". Tell you what, I have hunted around the world but this really got my heart pounding. This was a whole different type of hunting then I have ever experienced. Hunting at night, using a light, never using a crossbow, and hunting a dangerous reptile was unique.

As we approached the gator I raised the crossbow and was amazed at how well you could see through the scope using the headlamps. At 15 yards I squeezed the trigger and connected on this 11 foot gator. The line and buoy went flying out. We gave it some time and then approached the buoy. Grayson grabbed the line and slowly handled the string coaxing the gator into position for me to bang stick him.

What an experience! Grayson asked if we would be interested in going out the next night. He had 60 more tags to fill. If he doesn't fill allotment, he loses them the following year. So Michael and I said sure. Grayson wanted to hunt a different swamp. We culled 8 more gators.

So for a unique experience try gator hunting in Florida. Grayson also has hog hunts and Osceola turkey hunts. Hmmm....Osceola turkey hunt....



Michael with his trophy gator

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Veteran's Pheasant Hunt

by Randy Raymond

Organizing this hunt for the disabled vets was an honor for Bill Shelt and me. The hunt was located at Tails A Waggin' Acres Hunting Preserve and took place on September 24, 2012. This preserve is owned and operated by Chuck and Joan Connel. You can find more information about their preserve if you go to www.preservehunt.com. The preserve is located at 18319 50th Ave., Marion, Michigan 49665.

The hunt started out on a beautiful fall morning. There was some wind to make things a little more interesting. Chuck and his crew placed seven pheasants out in the fields for each hunter. Roosters and hens were fast flying targets for our hunters. Lots of jokes went on from Gene Brandon about life and shooting. Each group of hunters had their own personal guide with excellent gun dogs. Tim Stein with his German shorthair pointers was our personal guide. Speed is a three year old male and Libby, an eight year old female. The other group was guided by Nels Nichols with his Brittney female, Lady. All three dogs are some of the best.

Hunting in our group was Teal Saylor, SSG, U.S. Army, Leonard Jenkins, Air Force, Jim Johnston, Air Force - U.S. Army, Reiny Eurich, U.S. Army, Leonard Eaton, U.S. Army, Gene Brandon, U.S. Army, and Ed Pekarek, Air Force. Leonard and Gene served together in the Korean War. All of these men served our country and are proud Americans. Their ages ranged from forty years to mid eighties. As the morning turned into noon time the wind had picked up into a steady, strong cross wind. This made shooting very interesting to say the least. These birds are flying at chucks place. This property has become one of the best pheasant habitats there is. The hunt was filled with lots of jokes and laughter. There was side by side off road vehicles donated for those who needed a ride around the fields. Some came from Lakeside Motor Sports and some from Voelker Implements. There was Gary Brandon's Polaris Ranger and Bob Garner's Gator. A big thanks to all who donated off road vehicles to help hunters during this hunt.

It wasn't long and the dogs were pointing, birds flying, and guns were booming. Teal Saylor was the first to drop a bird. Gene Brandon and Leonard Eaton were pounding the birds. Dogs were retrieving downed birds. Bill and I were snapping photos of all the hunters with their pheasants. Soon it was lunch time and enough for everyone to eat. After lunch, it was more photos. There were some with dogs and some taken of the group with all the birds. On this day there was no talk of wars or of hardship, only laughter and handshakes and what a wonderful country we live in. A big thanks goes out to all of these men! It was a honor to walk with them on this pheasant hunt.



1st Man Unknown, Randy Raymond, Jim Johnston, Gene Brandon, Gary Brandon, Teal Saylor, Leonard Eaton and Reiny Eurich

Cornfield Gobblers

By Mike "Mac" MacEachron

I was cleaning up around our camp in the UP when my wife, Sheila, called. I could tell by the excitement in the tone of her voice something was up. "I'm carrying out Fred", she said. I should probably explain. My family is as passionate about turkey hunting, especially big toms, as some hunters are about trophy whitetails.

We are blessed to have a handful of land owners, most of them farmers, who are glad to share their property with us to hunt turkeys. Most of them are quite glad we take a bird or two.

A huge part of our family's enjoyment together is scouting. Normally by the time it comes around to turkey season, spring or fall, we usually have names for certain big toms that we intend to hunt.

Back to Sheila's call. She explained the bachelor group of toms she had been scouting had been using a pond to roost around. They had roosted there the night before she was planning to hunt. The next morning she got set up in her blind made up of corn stalks and waited.

She heard the toms fly down. Slowly they made their way single file towards her blind in the standing cornfield.

The great part of the ambush was that she could see the toms coming. In order for the birds to get to the cornfield they had to come through a plowed field. Sheila could keep track of Fred that way.

There were eight nice toms in the bachelor group and Fred carried the longest beard. At twenty yards she shot and Fred's measurements came up with an 11 ¼ inch beard with 1 ¼ inch spurs on each side. He weighed in at 23 pounds. Not bad considering we usually hunt turkeys with archery equipment.

I was proud of my wife. Two days into the hunt and she had filled her tag already.

You see it was fall turkey hunting season. It's a whole lot different than spring when toms are gobbling and strutting their stuff for the affections of the hens.

In the fall there are a couple of ways to hunt turkeys. The traditional way is to find a flock of birds. Try to scatter them. Give it a little time and try to call them back in. It's actually a lot of fun to listen to the birds calling to each other trying to regroup. These are usually young birds and hens. Another method in the fall is hunting them during the archery deer season. As long as you have a tag and are not hunting them over placed bait. It is perfectly legal to hunt them in agricultural areas, food plots and oak stands. They love acorns just as the whitetail deer does.

The method we prefer is ambushing them coming into the cornfields. We scout a lot and I feel it's the most important part of the hunt. We know exactly where we want to make our blinds. We leave a large enough opening in the blind for shooting opportunities. Again, because of scouting we have a pretty good idea where the toms will enter or clutter around the cornfield to feed.

Usually we only go in a couple of rows keeping in mind that our goal is to hopefully shoot the turkey before he



Mac with his turkey

enters the cornfield from an adjacent field or woodlot. Plus keeping in mind our shooting distances. Of course, there are other ways to ambush turkeys but this is what has worked for us.

During the fall turkey hunt there are no restrictions on sex of the turkey. As mentioned we just prefer to hunt big toms.

What you will find in the fall are normally three groups. Group 1: Hens and poults with a couple of jakes hanging out. I've seen groups as large as 75 birds. Group 2: Jakes normally anywhere from 5 to 15 hanging out together. Group 3: Bachelor toms, usually 2 years or older, hanging together and normally 4 to 8 birds in this group.

Well, with camp cleaned up in the UP, I arrived home September 29th. I would only have a couple of days to hunt because I was scheduled for back surgery on October 3rd. What a horrible time for this procedure! But as the saying goes, "it is what it is". Thank goodness my wife had been keeping an eye on two bachelor groups of big toms for me so I would be ready to hit the ground running. One of the groups had two really nice toms in a bachelor group of six known as the Fab 6.

That afternoon I drove over to the area Sheila had been watching the Fab 6. After a short walk I sat down where I could see the whole area surrounding the cornfield. As it got later in the afternoon the Fab 6 exited the cornfield not 25 yards from one of our blinds, milled around in the field chasing bugs then headed to the roosting area along a creek that runs through the woodlot.

One of the benefits of fall hunting is you don't have to get up at 4 in the morning and go try to entice toms into giving up their locations to begin the hunt.

The next morning I was still out before sunrise and settled into my blind and made sure everything was perfect. A flock of geese were the first arrivals honking their way towards a winter wheat field next to the cornfield. A couple of whitetails grazed their way into the woods so the morning was already a success. I heard the fly down of the Fab 6 so now the hunt was on. I grabbed my bow and placed it in a position so I wouldn't make much movement if the toms came my way. After fly downs turkeys usually take their time and stretch, preen, scratch looking for food then gather up.

When I saw the first tom exit the woods I positioned my bow on my knee and placed my release on the string to keep my movement to a minimum. One by one the Fab 6 came out and headed my way occasionally going into the wheat field looking for insects or a fresh blade of grass. At 25 yards I raised my bow and drew back. I waited for my favorite Fab 6 turkey Ted to come a little closer. At 18 yards Ted stopped. I squeezed the trigger on the release and all but one tom took off running or flying for the safety of the woods. The cornfield blind had paid dividends again!

The tone in my voice when I called Sheila let her know I was excited. Ted had an 11 ½ inch beard, 1 ½ inch spurs and weighed 22 pounds. Another beautiful day!

Surgery anyone?



Sheila with turkey

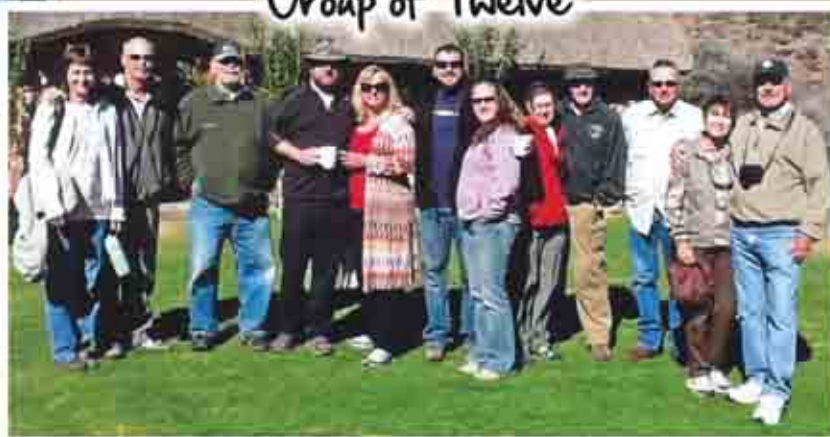
UBATHI - A Pictorial Essay

by Dr. Terry Braden



At the 2013 Chapter Fundraiser Dr. Terry Braden was successful in the live auction for a South Africa Safari donated by Ubathi Game and Hunt for four hunters and four non-hunters.

Group of Twelve



The group that was assembled total twelve. Left to Right - Deborah and Ed Kahil, Terry Braden, Joe and Dawn Heinen, Patrick and Shannon Kelly, Karen and Mark Moriello and Mark Peters, George Bohart, Barbara and Jack Kelly.

Let the Hunt begin!



The group was divided into three vehicles for the hunting transportation. All vehicles were in good shape and there were no break downs. Left to right - Joe Heinen, Jack Kelly, Dawn Heinen and Barbara Kelly.

Patrick Kelly



After an all day stalk, Patrick Kelly caught up with this huge Blue Wild Beast just before dark. It measured 79 0/8 inches S.C.I. (Silver Category - Record Book). It took six hunters, guides and trackers two hours in the dark to get this animal off the mountain using a vinyl coated canvas stretcher.

Happy Hunters!



Using a bow to throw sticks with metal tips (believe it or not) Ed Kahil harvested this beautiful Sable. It measured 95 3/8 inches S.C.I. (Silver Category - Record Book).



Joe Heinan shot this awesome Gemsbok at 235 yards. It measured 82 1/8 inches S.C.I. (Bronze Category - Record Book).

Large Lioness



Mark Peters shot this large lioness at 10 feet as it charged him from behind a tree. Mark and Johan were alerted to her presences by seeing the black tip of her tail flick to the left of the tree, then flick to the right of the tree and again a flick left, then to the right, then the charge. Mark hit her first with his 30.06 and Johan turned the charge with his .458.



Shannon
and her
Steenbok

Shannon Kelly got this pretty steenbok shooting a .22-250 with one shot. It measured 10 11/16 inches SCI (Bronze category - Record Book)

UBATHI - A Pictorial Essay Continued from page 22-23

by Dr. Terry Braden

Goddess of the Hunt!



Karen Moriello and her magnificent zebra. This was Karen's first big game animal so she was bloused after the kill. It took several days of learning to shoulder a gun, use the scope, find the animal, get a good rest and squeeze the trigger before the Goddess of the Hunt (Diana) smiled on Karen. She was a great student and Mark Peters and Ron (assistant PH) are wonderful teachers.



This black maned lion was taken by Terry Braden at 50 yards using Peter Bucklin's .339. Four shots were needed to stop this 600# nine year old male. It was reassuring having Johan on the left with his .458 and Ron on the right with his .375, but neither of them had to shoot. The skull measured 26 3/16 inches SCI (Gold category - Record Book).

Children's Rescue Home



The safari was ended by a blue bag trip to a children's rescue home in Kimberly, South Africa. The entire group donated two blue bags full of first-aid kits, soccer balls, crayolas, pencils, baby dolls, shoes, hats, clothes, writing paper, and over the counter medical supplies. All twelve safariers agreed, this was the most rewarding part of the trip.



George Bohart, one of the non-hunters, in the lounge facilities early in the morning, checking out the weather forecast for the day.

Mitchell's First Deer

By Jon Ziemann

We were in the tower blind stand off the two track and near the small food plot well before 3:00 pm the Saturday after Thanksgiving (November 24th). We have a good view of the trails to the east and south and can look into the food plot. Mitch shot the deer around 3:30 pm. We had seen the entire GDP of squirrels in the morning, but no deer. Mitch said he counted the afternoon squirrels at only a total of three.

I heard the deer coming from the north; Mitch thought it was squirrels. I signaled Mitch (touch him on the leg) and mouthed it is a deer! I looked out the east window and saw a big yearling doe move into view and look up at the blind and me from about eight yards. The other deer with it jogged off behind the blind to the north; however, it did not snort nor crash away. The deer then walked up to the feeder. I told Mitch, mostly by motioning, to shoot. Not much patience, but with the way the year had gone (concussion, broken collar bone, sprained ankle, strep throat and of course, football when the kids were healthy) I really was hoping one of the boys could get a deer. I had thought ahead and gotten Mitch a doe tag. Mitch raised the gun and I double checked the safety was off; of course it was, Mitch is fine with shooting but I was probably a little tense! I also was sure it was not the big mature doe with little fawns that we were not going to shoot. He shot very quickly in no small part due to it being less than 25 yards.

The deer jumped and ran about a 50 yards semi-circle during which I could see the blood running out the chest. Right after it jumped, I asked Mitch if he hit it but I could see the blood before he could get out yes! It briefly stopped a couple of times and I thought it would fall, but in the end ran until it fell still in sight. He wanted to call Mom right away after it fell and was very excited talking to her and his brothers. We got down and I took a couple of pictures around the blind and then we walked up to the deer. I tagged the deer and took a few pictures.

I showed Mitch how to gut the deer and he took some pictures for Roscoe, his younger brother, to give to his Science Teacher. Mitchell was a little uncomfortable during the gutting process. Upon gutting the deer I found the heart blown gapingly open. I have the kids using a Remington 600 Mohawk in 6 mm Remington with a Leupold Vari-XIII 3.5-10 matte scope with the duplex reticule. The scope power is turned all the way down for hunting. The performance was excellent from the Hornady Custom #8166 load using a 100 grain Boat Tail Spire Point Interlock bullet at a nominal 3100 fps. Later, I took Mitch to look at the blood sign as a learning experience. The sign was excellent with no gaps and often a foot wide and with spray on the nearby trees. It really not especially useful to teach trailing as the blood trail was too good! We went back and got the truck. As we drove up on the two track another yearling doe flagged off from around the feeder; possibly the same deer that had been with the one Mitch shot. He helped me load up the deer and we went happily home. Mitch helped out with the skinning and quartering before we had a celebratory pizza dinner watching football with the rest of the family. The deer is being ground for making some of my internationally family & friends famous jerky. Mitch fell asleep on the couch after eating pizza.

Thanks Mark, for a great hunting spot, Lee Township of Midland County.



The Proud Hunter



The Tired Hunter



Michigan Elk and California

By Glenn Belyea

In late July we returned from visiting family and friends in Maine and picked up our mail being held at the local post office. Sorting through to find the bills and other important mail to deal with, we found a brown manila envelope from the Gaylord DNR office addressed to my wife, Maryanne. Thinking it was just another survey, we put it in the "get to later" pile. Several days later I opened it and couldn't believe my eyes. I called to Maryanne and said to come quick and look at this. It was a notice that she had been drawn for a Michigan elk tag!! Not only was it a Michigan elk tag, it was a Michigan bull elk tag!!!! That to hunters is like winning the lotto!!! We have been applying for many years, hoping to luck out, but with nearly 35,000 people applying each year we really didn't expect to ever be drawn.

Although I have hunted elk out west a number of times and was finally successful just last fall when I took a nice bull in Montana, Maryanne has never hunted elk. She was going to now!!!

Her bull permit was one of just 30, along with 70 cow elk permits the DNR gave out for the early (August-September) hunt. They also gave out a similar number of permits for the late (December) hunt. Little did we know how different these two hunting periods are. While the late hunt is in the core area of the Michigan elk range where most of the elk reside, the early hunt is restricted to the peripheral portion of their range where there are far fewer elk and they are widely scattered, making the hunt far more difficult. The early hunt was divided into three four-day periods. The 1st was at the end of August, the 2nd in mid September and the 3rd at the end of September. You could hunt any or all of these periods until you got an elk.

Included in the DNR packet was a list of Michigan elk guides. We immediately started talking with past hunters, DNR personnel, and anyone else who might have a knowledgeable recommendation as to a guide. We definitely wanted to use a guide. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity was far too important to try doing on our own. We settled on Steve Beers, a highly recommended Atlanta resident who has been guiding for elk for several years.

On August 27 we attended the DNR's mandatory elk hunter training session at a sportsmen's club near Gaylord. This session gives DNR biologists and conservation officers a chance to go over all the ins and outs, do's and don'ts of Michigan elk hunting with the lucky 100 elk hunters. It is an interesting and worthwhile session and also when each elk hunter receives his/her elk hunting license. If you don't attend you don't get an elk license—simple as that!!

With elk license in hand, we headed for Atlanta and the little cabin Steve has available for rent to his elk hunters. It is right across the drive from his house so it is both comfortable and convenient.

Well before daylight the next morning—opening day—we were on our way to check several sites where Steve had been seeing bull elk fairly regularly up until a few days prior when the weather turned unseasonably warm. It must have had a big impact on elk movement and behavior because we never saw an elk that day. In fact, in spite of our best efforts we never saw an elk in the entire four days of that first hunting period. We drove many, many miles checking gas well sites, clear cuts, DNR food plots, and everything in between. Elk are attracted to the gas well heads to lick the salt that forms on these pipes. Steve knew all the roads and where all these sites were located, but we just couldn't find an elk. It became apparent that



Maryanne Belyea's Michigan Elk

this early season elk hunt, except for a few elk staked out on private land, was a game of chance and random encounter. We encountered several other experienced guides with their hunters doing just the same. Everyone said just hang in there and keep at it; eventually good things will happen.

So where does the deer combo come in? Well back in February we attended the SCI Convention in Las Vegas and while there I booked a 3 day Columbia Black-tailed Deer hunt with Alfred Luis of Central Coast Outfitters in Santa Maria, California for September 11-14. Terry Braden and Tim Torpey had both hunted with him and gave him glowing recommendations. Never in my wildest dreams would I have envisioned this interfering with a Michigan elk hunt. With a deposit down and non refundable airline tickets already purchased, we were headed to California. We would just have to miss a couple days of the September 14-17 2nd elk hunting period and hope it didn't matter.

We arrived in Santa Maria early in the afternoon of the 10th, the day before the hunt actually was scheduled to begin. Alfred met us there and we headed to his ranch. Since it was still early in the afternoon, Alfred suggested we change into

Deer, an Unlikely Combo

our hunting clothes, go buy my California deer license and go scouting for deer. Alfred has the exclusive hunting rights on a 25,000 acre ranch along the California coast—a truly beautiful place. By then it was late afternoon and with overcast skies the deer were already coming out. We saw numerous does, fawns and young bucks. Alfred decided to head over to an area on the ranch where he had been seeing a very nice buck. Although he had not seen it in a week or more, you never know! We hardly got in the area when we spotted the buck. He had 3 does with him so he was in no hurry to leave. After a short stalk through the coastal dunes and an 80 yard shot, I had my Columbia Black-tail. So much for the upcoming 3 day hunt!!!

With my Black-tail “in the salt,” as they say in Africa, we had a little celebration, but it wasn't long before my mind and especially Maryanne's began thinking about changing our return airline tickets and going home early so not to miss any of the elk hunting days. Between the rules and charges of United Airlines and the limited availability of seats out of the Santa Maria airport, we could not leave until Thursday, the day before the 2nd elk hunting period opener.



Glenn Belyea with his California Deer

With the time zone differences we arrived back in Grand Rapids at nearly midnight. We got home a little after 1:00 AM and even though we had much of our elk hunting gear and food all ready to go, it was still nearly 2:00 AM before we were able to begin the drive to Atlanta. We arrived just in time to unpack, get on our hunting clothes, and head out with Steve.

All this effort almost paid off. Almost!!! We pulled in to check a clear cut we always checked each morning and came up behind another guide's pickup. The doors were open and the guide and his hunter were right ahead standing over a huge 6 X 7 bull elk the hunter had just shot. The bull had been standing there when they pulled in. Just 5 minutes sooner and it could have been us!!

Back to the routine—driving all over checking well heads, clear cuts, and food plots. Several evenings we sat over areas with fresh elk sign. Several mornings we left extra early to arrive at distant DNR food plots at daylight. No luck. On the last morning of this 2nd hunt period Steve decided to try a totally different area, an area called “The Windings” southeast of Vienna Corners. We got there early and had to wait for enough light to see, which was well past legal shooting time. Then we began our driving and looking. After a while Steve turned onto a side road, but quickly stopped and backed out. It was still too early to go down this darkened road. We needed to stay more out in the open. We drove on and turned onto the next side road. A dark shape stood at the far end. Could it be? With binoculars we quickly determined it was a bull elk and a pretty good looking one at that. Remember what I said earlier about the hunt seeming to be a random encounter? We eased the truck forward, but decided we had better make our move. The road was a narrow dead end and with a couple of quick steps the elk could be out of sight. Maryanne eased out, loaded her .270, and took the 180 yard shot. With the bull nearly facing us, she shot him right in the chest. You could hear the bullet hit, but the bull barely flinched. Slowly he turned broadside and she hit him again in the shoulder. Down he dropped!! Those 140 grain Swift-A-Frames did their job!! There was one loud whoop from one happy hunter!!!

After waiting to be sure he was down for good, we drove up and got our first close up look. What a beauty!!! He was a heavy, perfect 5 X 5. We were all overjoyed and relieved. The hunt was over. Now the work began. Only someone who has downed a bull elk or moose knows the labor involved with handling them. Steve called a couple strapping friends to come help and after much effort we had it cleaned and loaded into his pickup. We were off to the Atlanta DNR office to get it officially registered and then to the local Atlanta newspaper for pictures. After that we headed to Millersburg and the Muy Grande Ranch. Our good friends, the Inmans, who own the adjoining property, had suggested we hire Tom Selke, one of the Muy Grande guides, to skin and cape the elk. Perry Hleski, the owner of Muy Grande, had graciously offered to let us hang the elk in their cooler. Perry is not only a super nice guy, but a solid supporter of SCI. All this worked out perfectly and after 9 days in the cooler Tom transferred the still 505 pound elk carcass to Dan Ferris, a highly recommended butcher in nearby Ocqueoc. Our freezer is now full of elk steak, burger, roasts, and sausage.

In checking with the DNR after the end of this early elk season, we found that while a total of 26 bull permits were filled, only 42 of the 70 cows were harvested. It is hard to believe, but the success rate on cows is always lower than on bulls. This is all the more reason to be one of the lucky hunters to draw a bull permit!! Keep applying. You never know!!!!

Hunting and Fishing in Alaska

By Josh Christensen

It was the spring of 2012 and I was driving home from work when my phone rang. It was my good friend, and avid hunter, Ron Gower. Before I answered I hoped Ron had good news. He had applied for a Kodiak Island brown bear hunt, which he would hunt with his brother-in-law, an Alaskan resident, if he were drawn.

During the course of our conversation I learned that Ron hadn't been drawn for the Kodiak hunt, but his brother-in-law offered to let Ron and I use his cabin out in the bush to do some hunting and fishing. The only cost to us would be airfare, commercial and floatplane, and food. For me it was a "no brainer", but I told Ron I needed to discuss it with wife before I could commit. So that evening at the dinner table we discussed the opportunity and my wife encouraged me to go, saying "you never know if you'll get another chance like this."

The next day I called Ron and told him I was in, and we start looking at the calendar for dates that would work with both of our work schedules. Our trip would take place in late August, so over the summer travel arrangements were made and two more guys were added. Ron also invited our friends Andy and Art, who are avid fishermen. They were planning on fishing while Ron and I would be trying our luck for moose and black bear with a bit of fishing mixed in.

Before leaving for our trip Ron did a lot of research online through google maps and other sources to get us ready. He also contacted the only fishing lodge on the lake to try to gather more information, and we were glad he did.

We left early on August 21st from MBS international airport with a connection in Minneapolis to arrive in Anchorage by noon. After getting our rent-a-car we traveled north to Wasilla, where we would stay the first night and visited the local Wal-Mart to get our provisions.

The next morning we awoke to a beautiful sunny day. We loaded up the truck and drove to where we would be taking our floatplane from. The weather conditions would make for an excellent day to fly into the back country. We unloaded our gear from the truck and transferred it onto the dock and waited for the plane to arrive. We knew we would need to take two trips because the plane could only take three guys and some gear, which we had a lot of.

I have never flown on a float plane before, so that was an experience. I felt like a canned sardine in the little plane. We had it loaded to the max with all of our food,

hunting gear and little five horse boat motor. The plane ride only lasted about 45 minutes, but we were able to see some spectacular views due to the perfect conditions.

When we arrived at the lake, Donkey Creek Lake, we were happy Ron did his research and contacted the owner of the fishing lodge. Through his conversations with the owner we were granted permission to use a boat, a canoe, two hunting stands and one of the cabins, if Ron's brother-in-laws cabin wasn't accessible.

After Ron and I unloaded the plane, it flew back to get Art and Andy. Ron and I stopped for a moment to take in the view. We were able to see many mountains close by and far off in the distance including Denali. What we saw while standing there was worth the price of admission. The surrounding scenery looked like it was right off a postcard. The sun was shining bright, very few clouds in the blue sky, and snow on the caps of most of the mountains.

We snapped a couple of pictures and took it all in before we headed out to find Ron's brother-in-laws cabin. We had di-



rections to the cabin and it didn't take long to move through some thick vegetation and swarming insects to find it about 150 yards from the lake. The problem we found was the cabin had been boarded up by someone and we couldn't get in. So we ended up staying in a very nice cabin at the lodge.

The insects were everywhere while we were out in the bush. Ron warned us about the mosquitoes, joking that they were the size of birds and would carry us off if we weren't prepared. So before leaving I was sure to buy a thermacell. I had never used one before, but heard good things about them from many people. On this trip my thermacell was worth its weight in gold! Once that little thing warmed up the bugs would vanish, so needless to say it was by my side at all times.

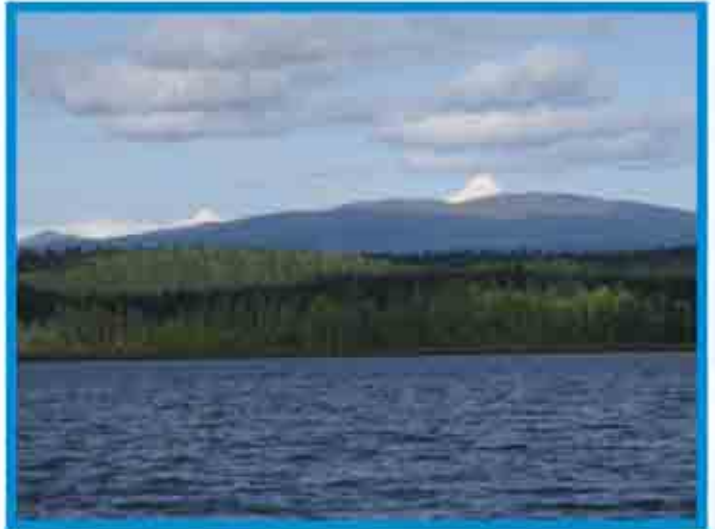
We settled into the cabin and started to plan our hunt for the next day. We had directions to the hunting stands that were on the "creek", which we would call a river in Michigan, and our plan was to hike to them and see if they needed any repair, since no one had used them in over a year. The plan that Art and Andy had was to try their luck on the lake and see if they could catch dinner.

That night, and every opportunity we had during our trip, we played cards. That's a huge advantage to having four guys in camp. We mostly played euchre, but we also played some hearts and two handed cribbage. Now I've been playing euchre for over 25 years now and in those years I have never seen someone get set on a loner. On this trip it not only happened once, but twice to two different guys! I need to clarify that I was not the one getting euchred either time, but I also must let them remain anonymous to protect their identities (and egos). Plus they received enough guff for their blunders the remainder of the trip.

In the morning we woke up to a light rain, but it didn't seem too bad so Ron and I set out to find the stands. We were unable to find them hiking around. One reason was the water level was up so much we couldn't cross the creek anywhere. So we headed back to the cabin for lunch. After eating we used a canoe to locate the stands. We found them both with little trouble, but each needed a little work to make them operational.

By this time it was getting a little late, and we didn't have any of the tools or supplies needed to fix the stands with us, so we decided we would come back in the morning with the proper materials. So we headed back to the lake to do some fishing. We were able to catch some pike, but Andy and Art already had enough for dinner so we let the ones we caught go. These pike were fat compared to the ones back home and they tasted better too. We joked that it must be the water in

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Alaska

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Alaska is better so the fish taste better, but it could have had to do with the fact that we were in the middle of nowhere and that was one of the few things we had to eat.

The next day we fixed up the stands and sat most of the day, but didn't see any animals. We saw plenty of sign from both moose and bear, but no animals. The salmon were running, even though they weren't running hard, so you would think we would be seeing some bear coming in to get them, but the water level was up making it difficult for bears to catch them.

We sat in these stands for a few days, but didn't see a thing, so we planned to take a bit of a hike to see if we could get to higher ground with more open land. The area by the river was very thick with vegetation, making it difficult, if not impossible, to see very far. The day we first planned our hike ended up raining like crazy, so we sat in the cabin playing cards most of the day, going out to fish when the rain let up.

The following day was a bit nicer, so Ron and I packed some gear and headed out up the side of a mountain on the other side of the lake. We canoed over, pulled our canoe up onto the bank and set out. We weren't sure what we'd find but figured it would be an adventure. We had our GPS's to be sure we could find our way back, and to track how far we traveled. What we found was lots of water. Even though it had stopped raining the night before the runoff from the mountains around us was still running down to the lake, making some areas impassable with the fast flowing water. In all we hiked over seven miles up and down the mountain, but were unable to find any open ground or animals, just tons of sign again. This was probably the most frustrating part of the trip. We knew the animals were there, but we were unable to locate them.

When we finally reached our boat and started heading back to camp it was approaching evening. The wind had picked up quite a bit and when we left the creek outlet to get into the lake Ron and I knew we were in for a long and bumpy ride back to the cabin. The first thing we noticed was the wind blowing directly into our faces, the next thing we observed was the whitecaps all over the lake! This might not have been bad if we had a regular sized boat with a motor, but we were in a canoe with only two oar power. We found early on that we needed to stick close to the shore so if we did capsize we wouldn't be in terribly deep water.

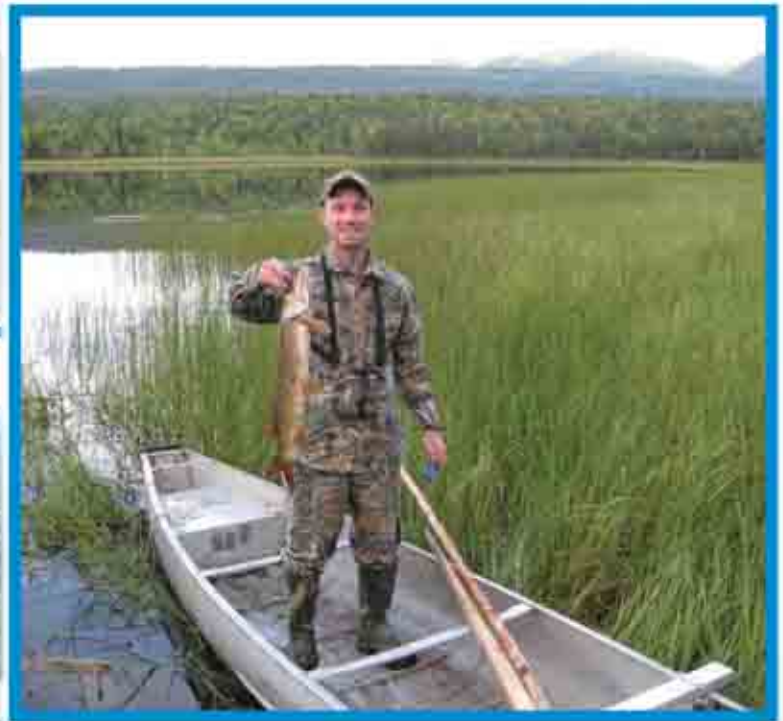
With a lot of effort, and more than triple the normal



time it usually took us, we made it to the dock. We were spent from this day's adventure of trekking up and down a mountain, then paddling for all we were worth. Luckily we only had a few whitecaps big enough to make us take on water so we considered our boating excursion a success.

We spent the rest of our days in the bush trying to find our quarry, but to no avail, and ended up leaving with nothing but what we came with. After the float plane ride out we had a few days to tour Alaska. We drove around and saw some of the beautiful landscape Alaska has to offer. We also had the opportunity to walk on a glacier and go to a musk ox farm, where we learned about and observed these weird looking animals before we had to go back home. The flight home was uneventful as we flew from Anchorage to Seattle to Chicago back to MBS.

Most people would probably consider this hunt to be an absolute bust, but not me. I saw the trip as a great success for many reasons; I got the opportunity to go to Alaska for the first time, I caught my first Alaskan pike, I was on a do it yourself hunt (which means it was very affordable), I was able to walk on a glacier, I was able to see some of the most picturesque landscape I've ever seen and I got to hang out with friends, play cards and relax while doing it all.



Brown Bear on Kodiak Island

by Don Harter

Last October 23, 2012, we flew to Kodiak Island, Alaska, to hunt brown bear after waiting seven years for an opening to hunt Karlik Lake on Kodiak Island. They only issue two non-resident tags per year for this lake and there are more brown bear per square mile here than any other spot in the world, with many bear over ten foot. Mary hunted here seven years ago, shooting a very nice ten footer.

We stayed overnight in Kodiak, picked up my tags and permits, then flew to Larsen Bay, rechecked the rifle and flew on to Karlik Lake to a nice cabin at the west end of the lake. The remainder of the day was spent unpacking, organizing clothes and gear for the next day, October 25, which is the first day of bear hunting for non-residents.

At the cabin, the first night, we saw many eagles, one red fox, and four bears. The cabin is surrounded by a solar-powered electric fence to keep out the bear. One bear walked a couple of feet from the fence as we were watching. We were grateful for the fence especially when going to the outhouse after dark.

My guide is Dale Routt and our cook is T.J. Dale has guided for 25 years on this lake and I am thankful for his

that I really don't want to shoot one the first day. We see bear from the time we leave the cabin. A couple of times we beach the boat to walk the shore to check out a bear, but both times we decide they are too small.

We have seen about fifteen bear by 11:30 a.m. and it's



Mary and Don Harter



Arriving at Karlik Lake

experience as he knows where the big ones hang out.

Day one arrives. We have a nice breakfast, pack our lunch, and are off in the boat for my hunt. In conversation with Dale, I discuss what size bear I'm looking for and

bear do not eat. It's amazing that a huge bear will catch a fish, eat it, but not touch the liver.

After lunch we laid back in the grasses talking and glassing for bear. At about 1:00 p.m. Dale walked around

time to stop for lunch. We stop around a point out of the wind and where a big valley between two mountains comes down to the lake. We have been seeing bear and eagles all over and some fox coming down to the shore to feed on the salmon livers that the

Don with his huge bear



the point to look. He hurried back and told me to bring my rifle. There was a huge bear hunting for salmon in the lake about 3/4 mile away. Every time he dove for the salmon we moved forward. I gave Dale my range finder. We were thinking we could get as close as 100 yards. The closer we got, the bigger the bear looked. Dale told me later that he was afraid I would not shoot this bear as I had told him I did not want to shoot one on the first day. He said it was one of the biggest bears he had ever seen. I am carrying Mary's .375 H & H Christensen Arms rifle using 300 grain Barnes XXX bullets. This is also the biggest brown bear I have ever seen so Dale only had to say, "Don, I think we should take this one!"

When we were 163 yards from the bear a float plane flew over and it spooked him. He headed to shore and was going to disappear into the tag alders up the mountain. Dale said, "Shoot him if he gives you a chance, Don!" We were not going to get any closer. At the water's edge the bear stopped one more time to look at the plane. He was broad side, quartering away. I put the first shot one third up and behind the rib cage. We could hear the bullet hit and he went down and turned more broadside. Dale said, "Shoot him again, Don!" but he later said he could

already see blood coming out of the bear's nose. The next bullet caught him on both shoulders and I put one more in for insurance. I'd heard too many stories of these big guys getting away. Dale said, "Nice shooting, Don!" I finally had my brown bear, 10' 4"!!!

Mary and T.J. watched the whole thing from just around the corner. When the bear went down, they started coming towards us. Then there were lots of hugs and picture taking. It took all of us to roll him up for placement for pictures. As you can see, he is a very large bear.

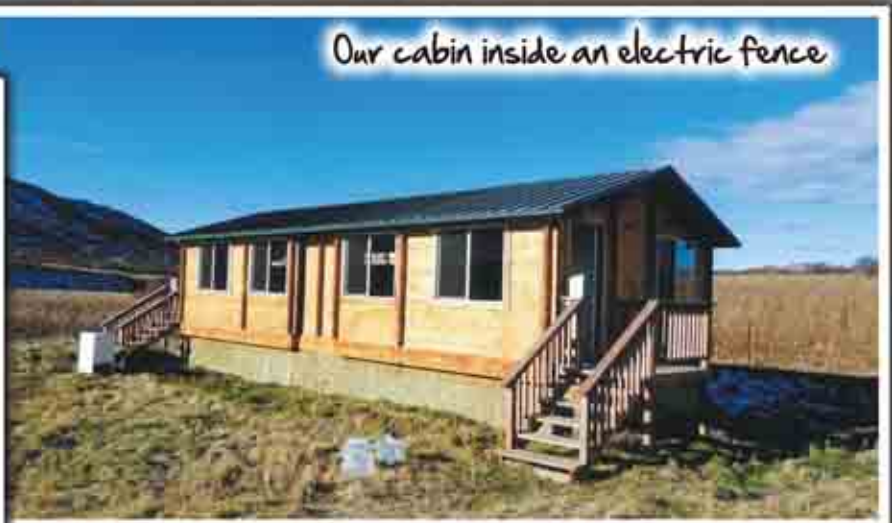
We also hunted the second day as we had licenses for deer and fox. Mary really wanted a black fox to go with

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Resident Red Fox



Our cabin inside an electric fence



Brown Bear

continued from page 33

the red and cross we already have. We saw 25 bear, three does, and three red fox. One of the red fox lived near our cabin and we got some great shots of him as you can see on the cover.

Dale explained that the snow had been very deep last winter and when they checked the lake in the spring found many dead deer, fox, and even eagles. We decided

our chances for a buck or black fox were slim and decided to call for the plane.

We were hunting through Larsen Bay Lodge, Kodiak Island, owned by Mike and Lisa Carlson. In the past years, Mike has been a great supporter of our Mid-Michigan Chapter of SCI. If you are ever interested in shooting a huge brown bear, just call them.

*T.J. and Mary
in the boat*



T.J., Dale Rouff, and Don Harter



Salmon livers along the beach

Saginaw Chippewa Tribe Historic First License

In April of 2013, the Saginaw Chippewa Conservation Committee presented Chief Dennis Kequom with a ceremonial license, the first issued on the Reservation. Pictured are members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, standing, and seated are Chairman of the SCCC, Jim Walker, with Chief Dennis Kequom signing the licensing document.

On April 17, Jim Walker purchased the first issued license, license #1. These licenses are good for tribal members to hunt within the tribal boundaries of 5 1/2 townships in Isabella County with permission of private property owners. Ten turkey licenses have been sold so far for \$20.00 each which includes two tags and is good until June 15. Jim also purchased the first fishing license which costs \$15.00 and includes all species. Other licenses will be available as needed.

For more information, feel free to contact Jim Walker, one of our board members. His information is on page 2 of this issue.





Conservation Affairs

By Larry Witte

DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO HUNT FISH AND TRAP IN

MICHIGAN BY SUPPORTING SCIENTIFIC WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

As this column was being prepared for a May 15 deadline, Governor Snyder signed legislation to assure that game and fish management decisions are made in Michigan based on sound science and not by emotion and referendum ballot-box biology. The legislation was drafted to stop the attacks by anti-hunting organizations on Michigan's ability to manage its natural resources and on your right to hunt and fish.

This legislation shares the authority between the Legislature and the Natural Resources Commission to designate game animals, protects your right to hunt, fish and trap, and provides resources for proper scientific management of game and fish. In addition free hunting, trapping, and fishing is included for active military service members.

Following signing by the Governor the Natural Resources Commission approved a limited hunt for wolves in the U.P.

Passage wasn't easy. Out-of-state anti-hunting groups spent hundreds of thousands of dollars attacking Michigan wolf hunting. Opponents of designating the gray wolf as a game animal turned in more than 250,000 signatures to the Secretary of State hoping to get a hunting ban on a statewide ballot in 2014. As you would expect animal rights groups are furious. We applaud the actions by the Legislature and the Governor but we cannot rest. Our enemies will certainly not cease the attacks. Ask your State Representative and Senator how they voted. Thank them, if they supported scientific species management and your right to hunt, fish, and trap.

2012'S DIRTY DOZEN (Source—Turkey Country---the official magazine of the NWTF.)

The sole purpose of these organizations is to end hunting, fishing, and trapping across North American. They often manipulate and exploit wildlife issues to raise funds to work to prevent you from hunting, fishing, and trapping.

They engaged in the following activities in 2012:

1. The Humane Society of the United States (HUSU)

pushed legislation to end hunting bears and bobcats with hounds in California and attempted to stop wolf hunting in the Great Lakes region.

2. The Center for Biological Diversity sued the federal government to end the use of traditional hunting ammunition and stop western Great Lakes Wolf hunting.
3. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) urged their supporters to break hunter harassment laws and interfere with hunts.
4. Defenders of Wildlife worked to end wolf management in Wyoming and filed a number of anti-hunting lawsuits and attempts to recover legal costs from taxpayers.
5. The Sierra Club, by policy, officially opposes all trapping and tried to end decades- old Wyoming elk hunts on public land.
6. The Fund for Animals threatened to sue to halt Western Great Lakes wolf hunting and filed suit to stop wolf management in Wyoming.
7. Howling for Wolves sued to stop wolf management in Minnesota.
8. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals opposes keeping dogs in outside kennels and supports lawsuits aimed at shutting down wolf hunting with dogs in Wisconsin.
9. The Western Environmental Law Center was a ring leader in a group of 8 anti-hunting organizations that want to ban Wolverine trapping in Montana and ultimately end all trapping.
10. In Defense of Animals sued to stop bear hunting in Virginia and called for a boycott of Alaska because of its wolf management program, opposes wolf management in the Northern Rocky Mountains and is pushing for a federal ban on animal testing medical research.
11. Friends of Animals believes "hunting in all forms is unethical, socially unjustified and ecologically disruptive." They opposed bear hunting in New Jersey and deer hunting in Connecticut and they oppose science based conservation programs.
12. The Wildearth Guardians worked to ban trapping on public land in New Mexico and sued the USDA Wildlife Services program to stop their wolf management program.

SCI SUPPORTS FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO PROTECT HUNTING

The Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act introduced by Michigan Congressman Dan Benishek and Arkansas Senator Lisa Murkowski (H.R. 1825 and S. 170) will require the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to manage their lands for hunting, angling, and target-shooting based recreation.

DNR LICENSES INCREASE POSSIBLE

The state legislature is considering changes to hunting and fishing licenses as this column is being prepared for the May 15 deadline. This will be the first increase in 17 years if passed.

The proposal calls for a base hunting license for small game and waterfowl costing \$5.00 for Juniors, \$10.00 for adults, \$4.00 for Seniors and \$150.00 for non-residents. In addition tags would be required for deer for \$20.00, fall and spring turkey for \$15.00, fur harvester for \$15.00, Bear for \$25.00 and elk for \$100.00.

The proposal calls for three fishing licenses. One for 24 hours, a resident all species license, and a non-resident all species license for \$15.00, \$25.00, and \$75.00 respectively.

Youth under age 17 along with active military and disabled veterans receiving 100 percent benefits could hunt

and fish for free.

CONTINUING DNR-SCI WILDLIFE PROJECTS

Predator-Prey Project

This project is in the 2nd phase in the Crystal Falls-Amasa medium snowfall area. During the 2012-2013 winter 44 pregnant does were trapped. Wolf track surveys, coyote trapping and hair capture (DNA) for bobcat to provide capture/recapture data were initiated. This long term study continues to receive very favorable local support.

Winter Moose Survey

The 2013 moose survey totaled 451 moose compared to 433 in 2011. The increase of 18 moose represents about a 2 percent increase per year. The Moose Advisory Committee would like to see a 3 percent increase per year before considering a hunt.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

"A strong body makes the mind strong. As to the species of exercises, I advise the gun. While this gives moderate exercise to the body, it gives boldness, enterprise and independence to the mind...Let your gun therefore be the constant companion of your walks."

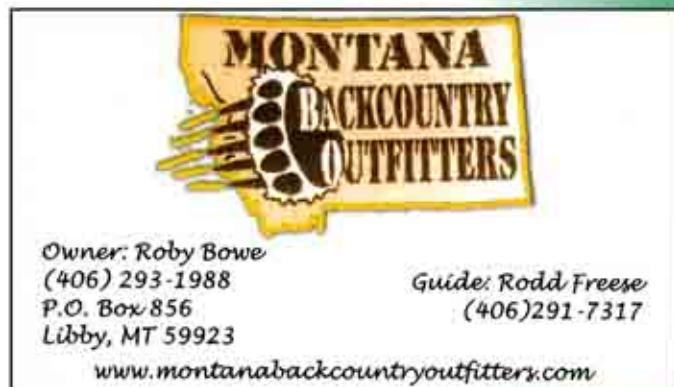
Thomas Jefferson Third President of the United States (1743-1826).



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The wise man in the storm prays God not for safety from danger,
but for deliverance from fear. - Emerson 1833

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Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter
and those who matter don't mind. - Dr. Seuss



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They must be felt with the heart. - Helen Keller

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