

FRONT SIGHT



SCI
FIRST FOR HUNTERS

Mid-Michigan Chapter Safari Club International

October-December 2016, Issue 36



***Caleb and Jeff Chadd packing out a Dall Sheep in Alaska.
Photo by Keith Davis***



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 5070 and changes yearly on February 15th. Please carry membership identification on you when you visit the range.



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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.

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SCI Mid-Michigan Chapter Meeting Schedule

* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Type</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
October 3	Board	4:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
	Membership	6:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
December 5	Board	4:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
	Membership	6:30 p.m.	Comfort Inn
Jan. 14, 2017	Big Buck Night	5:00 p.m.	Comfort Inn
Feb. 1-4, 2017	Las Vegas Convention		Mandalay Bay
Feb. 24-25, 2017	Mid-Mich. Convention		Soaring Eagle

Reservations required. Please call and leave a message at 989-330-4463
or email Maxine Warner at maxiwar27@gmail.com



President's Message

I am writing this letter to you, hours after attending the August National SCI Board meeting, while topics are still fresh in my mind. National SCI operations seem to be running very smoothly and both the executive and senior leadership teams are focused on running our organization like a business with a very well defined "Strategic Plan".

While I am still very much concerned about the anti-hunting sentiment that exists in the world; I am excited for the future of hunting because National SCI took the lead in trying to get "sportsmen groups" to work together. This past summer, over 60 sporting groups met in Atlanta, GA over a four day time period and have agreed in concept to a unified voice on hunting issues / topics. Hopefully there will be much more to come on this topic in the near future.

I don't have the space here to go into the details, so please visit the Mid MI SCI Chapter website www.midmichigansci.org and read the article titled "Keeping The Villains At Bay" if you have imported hunting trophies into the US in the past few years and would like to keep your name and address away from the Human Society International – the international cousin of HSUS. You will have to be proactive and take certain actions within a 20 day period once the notice from the US Fish and Wildlife Service is made.

Hunting seasons are almost here, enjoy them with family and friends and introduce a young person to the outdoors if you can.

Sincerely,

Joe Mulders

Joe Mulders

President

Mid-Michigan Chapter of SCI

Editor's Message

We just got back from a wonderful trip to the SCI Board of Directors meeting held this August in San Diego. More members attended than usual so we enjoyed talking with many we hadn't seen in awhile. 20 of us had a very special tour of the Seals training center.

Convention dates were announced for the coming years:

2017 - Feb. 1 - 4
2018 - Jan. 31 - Feb. 3

2019 - Jan. 9 - 12
2020 - Jan. 8 - 11
2021 - Jan. 27 - 30
2022 - Jan. 19 - 22

Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas
MGM Grand in Las Vegas and
Convention Center in Las Vegas
Reno
Reno
Reno
Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas
50th Anniversary



This year's entertainment at the Las Vegas convention on Wednesday night is Alabama, Friday night is Penn and Teller (magic and comedy), and Saturday is Hank Williams, Jr.

SCI is working on a defamatory insurance policy for our members to pay up to \$100,000 for legal and public relations defense and an accidental hunting policy for up to \$100,000 to be included with our membership fee. They are also working on a policy for a modest cost for hunt club insurance. More information about this should be available soon.

There will be a new look for dues notices which will include automatic renewal availability. Also, if you are a member of more than one chapter, these notices will be combined into one.

It was also reported that the Crucial to Conservation Workshop, held in Atlanta was a great success with over 60 different organizations participating. SCI has taken the leadership role but many others shared in the costs and will keep this group meeting.

It is very important that hunting groups work together to support our cause and this first step was very important.

Please read page 19 regarding "Have you been targeted?" and contact Anna Seidman, Director of Litigation if you have any questions. More information should be coming on this issue. We need to show HSUS and HSI that SCI is a very strong organization not to be harassed.

Keep Hunting and Keep Writing,

Mary Jo. Harter

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

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

☐ BUSINESS

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

18 +

1 Year

\$ 35 National Dues

\$ 25 Local Dues

= \$ 60

3 Years

\$ 150 National Dues

\$ 75 Local Dues

= \$ 225

Life

\$1500 National Dues

\$300 Local Dues

= \$ 1,800

Over 60

\$1250 National Dues

\$200 Local Dues

= \$ 1,450

Check/Cash attached \$ _____

Bill my credit card: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

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Mid-Michigan SCI

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Book Review

by Josh Christensen

Title: LONE SURVIVOR

Copyright: 2007

Author: Marcus Luttrell with
Patrick Robinson

List Price: \$15.99

Publisher: Back Bay Books

Lone Survivor by Marcus Luttrell is a detailed story of one Navy SEALs will to survive against all odds. This factual account of four SEALs insurgence into enemy territory in Afghanistan is both exhilarating and emotionally moving.

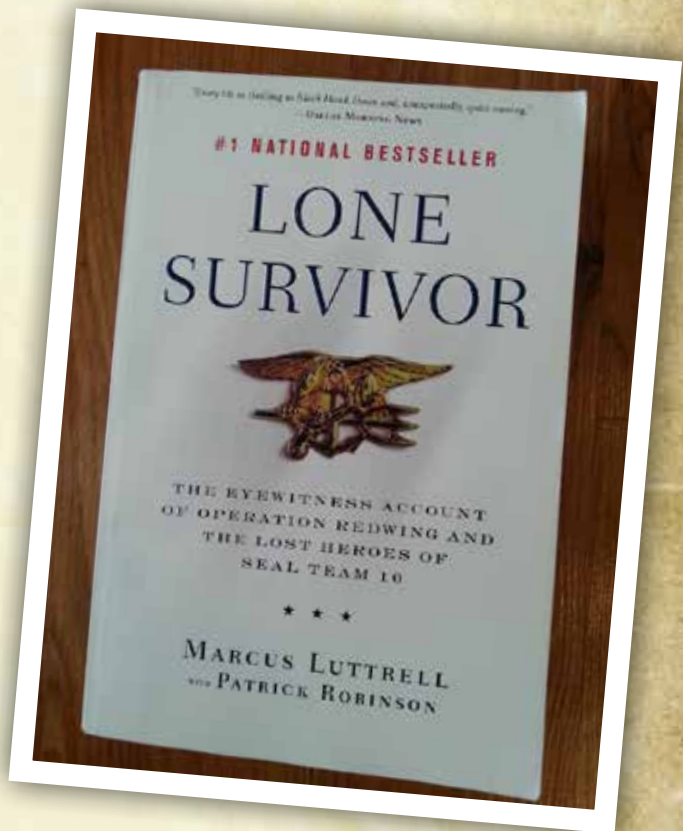
There are several chapters dedicated to the intense training one must go through to become a Navy SEAL. Marcus explains in great detail the difficulty of the training, including the infamous "Hell Week" where the trainees get little to no sleep for an entire week, and the importance of it being so difficult.

Luttrell explains some of his operations during Iraqi Freedom as well as missions he was part of in Afghanistan before participating in operation Redwing. During this operation Marcus and three other members of his team would risk their lives to find "Ben Sharmak" (the name used for a Taliban terrorist leader). Unfortunately three of these highly trained men would not return home alive.

The reader is introduced to the four man team and their mission, and then thrown into the action packed battle where four Navy SEALs fought against more than 100 Taliban soldiers on the Taliban's home ground. This heartbreaking battle will keep you turning the pages as these SEALs try to fend off their attackers, and then Marcus eludes and evades the enemy until he finds

a friendly group of tribesmen.

Note: This bestseller was later turned into a hugely successful movie where Mark Wahlberg played the role of Marcus Luttrell.



This book gets 10 out of 10 bullseyes



Highlights from the NRA

(from the SCI First For Hunters Blog, May 31, 2016)

From May 19 - 22, several members of Safari Club International traveled to the National Rifle Association's (NRA) annual meeting and exhibits, which was held in Louisville, Kentucky. The event was attended by over 80,000 people and featured over 11 acres of showroom floor. More importantly, SCI staff and volunteers were able to continue solidifying our relationships with NRA and other like-minded groups in attendance, such as the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) and Dallas Safari Club (DSC).

Outside of the normal meetings, vendor exhibits, and entertainment, with Toby Keith headlining Saturday night's entertainment, two events are worthy of discussion. The first was the Hunters' Leadership Forum (HLF) dinner on the evening of May 19. HLF is still in its early stages; however, SCI has been approached to join this effort on the ground floor. Contrary to some portrayals, the intent of HLF is to further help unify the hunting community in our efforts to combat anti-hunting groups and animal rights extremists. As Wayne LaPierre said at the event, the fight for hunting will be won or loss on social media. HLF provides a forum to broadcast SCI's and other groups' messages to an audience of millions and SCI can play a significant contributing role to this effort and the fight to preserve our hunting heritage.

The second event that deserves additional attention was the NRA-ILA Leadership Forum, which occurred on Friday, May 20. The program began with speeches by LaPierre and Chris Cox, but things got interesting when NRA officially endorsed Donald Trump for president. Cox preceded the announcement by discussing the attacks lawful gun owners and sportsmen and women would likely face should Hillary Clinton win the election. Cox also noted that Republicans need to come together and get over the fact that their preferred candidate might have lost the primary. The message was simple - it is time to put aside our differences and fight for our rights. And with that, Cox introduced Donald Trump who gave a speech as only he can. Several other speakers followed, but Trump was clearly the talk of the convention.

All in all it was a productive few days and several relationships were further cemented. In addition, numerous joint projects were discussed with NRA, DSC, CSF, and others. While SCI has not historically been in the business of providing endorsements in political races, all SCI members and hunters should have a very keen understanding of what it is at stake during this election cycle, and not only on the Presidential level. But, as we all know, if our community can come together, we are a force that cannot be defeated.

Moose Exhibit at

by Mary Harter

On Wednesday, June 8, several from our chapter visited the Moose Exhibit at Potter Park Zoo in Lansing with a special free entry invitation for a private viewing with hors d'oeuvres. Several from our chapter attended.

This special moose exhibit features Willow, a 3-year old cow, and Meeko, a 2-year old bull. Willow was brought to the zoo in 2013 and Meeko in 2014. They now live in the zoo's latest and largest display which opened in June. They have a large, deep pond and a barn for shade. They can be separated within this exhibit during rutting season. Willow is named for her favorite food, willow branches, and Meeko is the Native American name for [little mischief]. They also like bananas.

The moose are familiar and strange at the same time. They are members of the familiar



deer family but their large size, elongated heads, giant noses and a swinging bell of flesh from their necks called a dewlap, make them unusual and fascinating, so says an article from The Lansing State Journal.

Only eight other U.S. zoos have moose. The pair were both Alaskan moose calves born in the wild but separated from their mothers. The Alaskan Department of Fish and Game rescues about a dozen moose a year when their mothers are hit by cars. The calves are housed at the Alaska Zoo and bottle fed until they can be placed.

The moose were moved 3,800 miles in two specially built crates aboard a FedEx cargo plane from Anchorage, Alaska to Indianapolis and then driven to Lansing. Meeko's crate is still on display near the exhibit. They were both about 100 pounds when shipped but now weigh about 800 pounds. Meeko will probably grow to about 1,000 pounds.

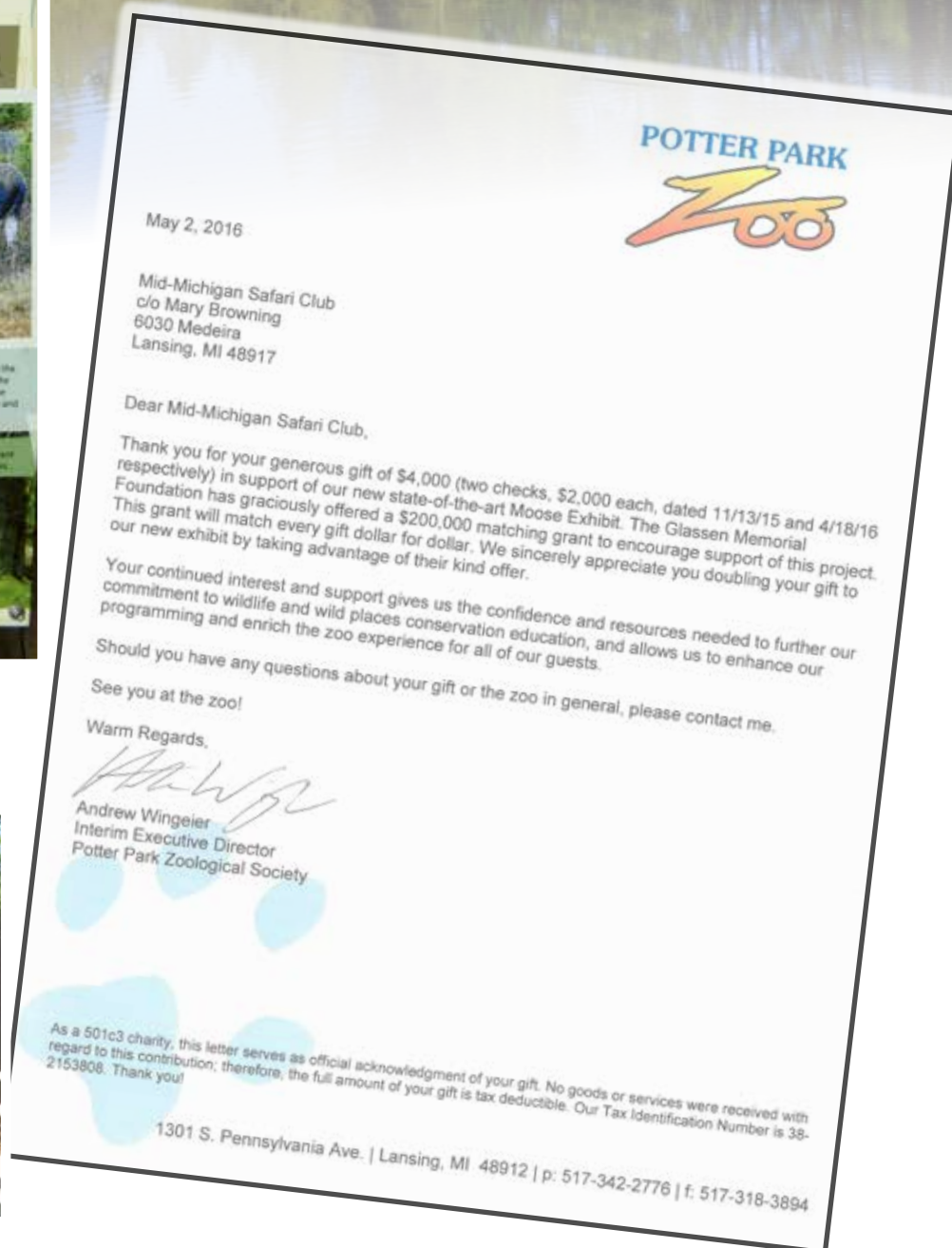
This display has cost approximately \$750,000 and a \$200,000 grant from the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation and \$20,000 from two Safari clubs helped make it happen.



Potter Park Zoo



And a very special thank you to Mary Browning who brought all of this to our attention as she is a docent at the zoo.



Membership COOKOUT

On Sunday, June 26, a membership cookout was held at Don and Mary Harter's home on Coldwater Lake. We had a patriotic theme, a trophy picture board and door prizes. Kevin Chamberlain provided music. Abbe Mulders, Candy Freeze, and Mary Browning decorated. We had a delicious catered meal and spent time enjoying each others company.





MY SECOND ATTEMPT DALL SHEEP HUNT

by Keith Davis

On September, 2014 I left for Tok, Alaska on a Dall Sheep hunt. My hunting guide was Jeff Chadd of Majestic Mountain Outfitters. The hunt was for 10 days, but with rain and snow delays it cost us some hunting time, but it was still a great hunt. Cyndi, our chef, did a great job of cooking, with good equipment and a very comfortable camp. We saw lots of sheep. So close several times, but we were unable to close the deal.

I knew this wasn't the last time I was going to chase these white sheep, so I talked with Jeff about our next hunt. He was already full for 2015 so I booked it for August, 2016. About two months went by when I received a call from Jeff saying he had a cancelation for the 2015 hunt and would I be interested in moving my hunt to this year. Without hesitation, I said count me in. So I started my running and exercise program.

On August 7, 2015 I left Saginaw, MI, for Tok, Alaska. I stayed overnight in Fairbanks, rented a car the next morning driving to Tok,

AK. That afternoon we flew a super cub in to base camp where we stayed that night.

The next morning we packed into spike camp about 5 miles. It was a nice little cabin on a lake where we already glassed some sheep from camp. I was very excited about the next morning to start the hunt.

The first day came fast. We were up, had a bite to eat, and left camp at 4:15am. A few hours in, we saw some sheep. One looked like a full curl but he was a long ways off. We started the climb toward him, but he gave us the slip. When we arrived up there, he was no were to be found. We headed down the mountain for camp, arriving back at 7:00pm. The first day was a big one, 15 hrs. We did see 5 Bull Moose, along with 4 sheep, and 1 ram.

Day 2 we woke up to rain and fog, so we waited till 6am and left hoping for weather to clear. Five miles into the hunt, the weather continued to deteriorate, so we headed back to camp. It was a short day, and a little time to rest up.

Day 3 we woke up at 3:30am, only to find lots of snow and very cold weather out side. We had some breakfast and Jeff said, "What do you think if we make the climb and the snow doesn't burn off, we will not be able to glass?" I said "Let's go, because we can't kill them from camp." He said "that's right." We headed out at 4:30am and walked about 5 miles to a spot were we could glass for sheep. Everything was still white



with snow but the sun was breaking through. About 1 hour later, Jeff said "I have two sheep in the spotting scope." He said, "let's head up this river bottom to get closer." After two hours or so, we stopped to look things over. We could not believe what we were seeing. There were 27 rams in the valley, 5 of which were full curl. We looked them all over, and there were three exceptional rams bedded up just below the top of the mountain, 2 full curl, 1 brommed off. The only way to get to them and not get winded was to go to the top of the mountain and drop over back side. Five hours later we were there. We worked our way around the shale to get a shot. I was afraid they would see us and run, but we made it over there



without being noticed. I got into position to get a shot at 240 yards. I put the cross hair just below his chin and Jeff said, "Stop. You're shaking like hell." So I regrouped, took aim again,

squeezed the trigger and down his head went. Then he jumped up, so I shot him again. He then jumped over the cliff and rolled and fell and rolled again and finally stopped below us about 500 yards. It took us 45 minutes to get to my 8 year old ram. He had 40 1/8 inch horns. The two years waiting for this ram was worth every minute!

When we started this hunt, Brian was our packer, but on the first day he twisted his leg, so now it was just Jeff and I. We skinned and boned it all out, packed it in our back



packs and headed down out of the valley which took about 5 hours, to hit the horse trail. About 2 hours after we hit the horse trail we arrived back to camp at 11:30pm. We were very exhausted with about 18 hours on our feet, but worth every minute.

I woke up to a beautiful day, but my feet were very sore. Caleb, Jeff's son, showed up about 12:00pm with 2 pack horses to pack all our gear, sheep meat and horns out. Jeff and I walked out behind the horses. We arrived back at base camp and had sheep loin on the grill for supper. It was great. The next morning Jeff and Caleb cleaned up the hide and scored horns. It had 14 1/8 bases, and it had 40 1/2 length and scored 167 4/8. What a great hunt. They were good people who work very hard for you. I would recommend this hunt to anyone.





Centershot National Archery

Gary Harms of the Houghton Lake Sportsman's Club and Houghton Lake United Methodist Church traveled south to Louisville, KY for the Centershot National Archery championships.

Along with His family and 5 local kids they competed along with 1100 plus other archers. Gary ended up in a 5 way tie for first place in the men's adult division. All the children scored their personal best; Hailey Spindler third in the sixth grade age group. "They are are so excited about next years competition they want to increase their practices to three days per week. " Harms continued, " They see what it is going to take to compete at this high level and are committed to doing what it takes." If you are interested in joining in on the fun call Gary @ 366-6383. Practices are being held at the Artesia Youth Park in Houghton Lake.



HUNTERS SAFETY



Working hard in Northern MI to bring new hunters into the tradition. Thirty four students signed up in Mio for Hunter safety. Now The Big Ticket Festival setting up an archery range and expecting 300-500 shooters, Kicking bear camp July 29-30 expecting 180-220 and hunter safety Roscommon August 13 expecting 24 students. Then on to a bear hunt in Canada with friends from Centershot. Youth hunts in September. Hoping to do a state archery tournament before the end of the year. Catch us if you can!!



***Thanks for your support in equipment.
Michael Ritchie Centershot MI.***

SOUTH AFRICA

I bought the trip at the February, 2013, SCI Auction & Fundraiser - the trip was originally slated for 2014, and with an alternate year as an option. The four (4) animal hunt was for myself plus an observer, which was my wife, Mary. In talking with the PH, Johan Pieterse, we ultimately agreed that May of 2015 was our hunt date, but, due to some health issues in the family, we needed to suddenly change plans and advise Johan that we couldn't make that date. So the hunt basically expired, however, Johan was very accommodating and we set our new date for May 1 thru 10, 2016.

After a re-route from Detroit to Amsterdam, Netherlands, and 23 hours in the air, we arrived in Johannesburg, S.A., but my guns didn't. We left the airport without my guns and I wasn't optimistic they would even get there. Johan was instrumental in tracking them down - in Nairobi, Kenya. Long story short, I never got to hunt with them, but through no fault of Johan's. In fact, that the guns made it out of Amsterdam was a gift in and of itself, per Johan. They eventually arrived in Johannesburg, but never left the Police Station in Jo'Burg. I hauled them to Africa & back, without ever cracking the case. What an experience!

The hunt I had bought was for a Kudu, Blue Wildebeest, Warthog and Impala, and I added a Bushbuck and a Waterbuck. I must admit that taking a mature Waterbuck was high on my list. As they say - "what is the hardest species to kill?", and the answer is, of course, the species that you're hunting. We targeted the Waterbuck for 5 of the 9 days that we hunted and I didn't see one standing still until the last day. After having seen a "decent" one give us the slip just 20 minutes prior, Johan decided to check out a water hole about 250 yards upwind of where

we stopped. I learned that Waterbuck like to visit water holes early and late, and it was 12 noon. The day was warm and the wind swirling (most of the trip was this way, so many times they just walked circles around us in heavy bush) so we approached very slowly & I was paying close attention to keep right behind the PH and do as



he did. At 150 yards Johan spotted Waterbuck milling around the water hole, but we couldn't find the bull, then suddenly they caught a little wind of us jumped around for a bit. After they settled down we still couldn't find the bull - damn! We were still too far to shoot and needed to close our distance quickly, which we did. We both strained in glassing for the bull and Johan spotted about 4 inches of his mouth - chewing while bedded behind two trees, with more brush between us at 120 yards than you would like. I quickly picked out two openings that I might squeeze a shot thru - then the bull suddenly stood up and walked right thru the first opening, so I swung the 300 Winn Mag (borrowed from Johan) to the second opening and squeezed. The Bull went right down as the 180 grain ballistic tip round, did its job. Either I swung too far or hit brush, but the neck shot was fatal.

Johan's tracker, Boesman, who the day before had only glimpsed this Bull briefly, while running at 300-350 yards, estimated him at 27 to 27 1/2 inches. When ultimately measured, he was at 27 inches! The man has eye's like nothing I have ever been around. I had my Waterbuck on the last day, and what a magnificent animal.

We chased the unpredictable Blue Wildebeest, and finally got him on our 3rd stalk; made a solid 220 yard shot in a



WITH JP SAFARI'S AND JOHAN PIETERSE

pretty stiff crosswind on an Impala; had an odd encounter with an awesome Bushbuck that ended up with me taking a very close shot (he thought he was invisible) and while stalking Impala, we ended up sneaking up on two Ostrich at 50 yards (which Johan felt MOST proud of due to their incredible vision), and we killed our warthog. In the end I was successful on all six species.

All in all, we had an outstanding hunt, enjoyed our time with Johan and his 3 person staff at Camp, visited Pilanesberg National Park for half a day, where we saw (at 30 yards) Leopard, many Rhino and other species, in addition to the beautiful scenery. We basically hunted from just past daylight until about noon-1:00 pm, had brunch and then had the option to take a little siesta if desired, before heading back out from about 3:00 to until dark, about 6:00 pm. On this trip we didn't night-hunt for the cats (civet, caracal, others, and the honey badger), maybe next time. Every night, we so enjoyed a good camp fire, along with a "ginger ale" (and my wife found a new wine, and now, how to get it here?), and shared many good hunting stories with Johan.

The weather (May is early winter Southern Hemisphere) was awesome - mid/high 70's in the day and low 50's at night. We hunted 3 different concessions that Johan is working and they were all relatively close (longest was a 25 minute ride from camp). The farms had good water on the them and cover is, well, the "bush" - very thick, but there is also much ground with long views for glassing. We also had the opportunity to meet two of the owners of the "farms" that Johan has to hunt and that was a pleasure - very nice people and appeared to be pretty shrewd businessmen. All of the meat either went to one of his farmers Church's, a school and was eaten by the

locals that live on the farm and work it, and every edible part of the animals was harvested and consumed, which in my book, is the ultimate respect for the harvested animal.



My wife, Mary, wins the "trooper " award - she was awesome on the trip (as she doesn't hunt) - riding around with us, glassing and waiting patiently while we did much stalking. She did happen to read two books as well, in addition to sharing some cooking recipes with the camp chef, Taboho, and her co-worker, Anna.

This was my (our) first trip to Africa, and I am told by many that "you'll be back". I would agree, but, it might take me a while to get over that travel episode - wow! If anyone is contemplating their first trip to Africa, I strongly urge you to talk with Johan at JP's Safari's - with his background in both the S. African Military and nearly 2 decades as a Game Warden, he is as professional as they get, and a joy to hunt with. To Johan - Thank you sir! When I return, it will be with you.

Dave Weisenburger





Hunting in New Brunswick

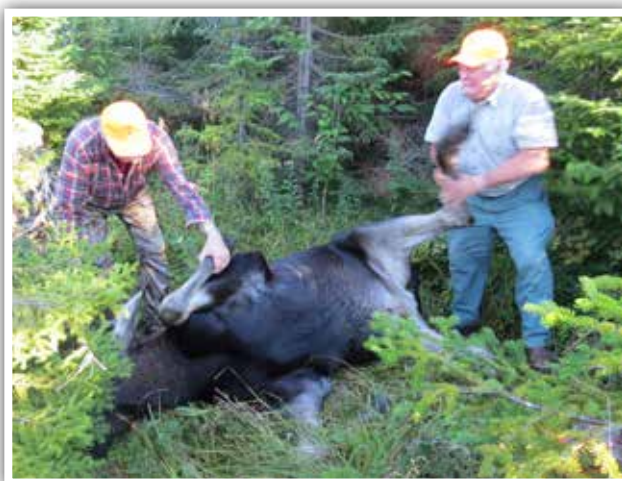
by Mary Browning

In October 2006, Ron and I went to Adair's Wilderness Lodge in New Brunswick, Canada on our first bear hunting trip. I was lucky enough to harvest a beautiful black bear with a blaze chest. Fast forward to the fall of 2014. I was glancing through the "Safari Times" newspaper we had just received. This was the first time in awhile since I had read one. As I was flipping through the paper an ad popped out. It was an ad for Adair's Wilderness Lodge. One of the species listed was moose. Immediately I called. Ida Adair answered the phone and to my surprise she remembered Ron and I. She said Larry Adair was not there but would call back as soon as he returned home. Returning my call, he told me that this was the first year for out of province moose licenses and he was able to secure two for 2014. I was the first caller for 2015 and he said he would call if he was given any licenses for next year (2015). In November Larry called and said he was only given one and it was mine if I wanted it. My answer was: "you bet".

We left home on the 18th of September at 8am. It was smooth sailing even through customs. It took us less than 30 minutes to clear customs and register the rifle. The weather was beautiful and we traveled through Ontario and on to Quebec. We stopped for the night at Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec. After a delightful dinner we settled in for the night.

The next morning we were on the road by 8am. We traveled through the rest of Quebec and into New Brunswick. Again the weather was perfect, and we saw many convertibles with their tops down. We arrived at Adair's at noon. What a change since the last time we were there. They had added a beautiful banquet hall. Also, new motel rooms had been added. Ida met us and we waited for Larry. What a wonderful reunion we had. That evening we had a wonderful dinner and chat and then headed to our motel room for the night. The next day we moved into the cottage we had the first time we were there. The day was spent catching up and sighting in the rifle.

Tuesday, day one. Larry and I were up early and in the stand before daybreak. As the morning progressed it got warmer and warmer so Larry said, "Let's go to the beach". Off we went to Martin Head Beach on the Bay of Fundy. Martin Head Beach, New Brunswick is on the coastline about half way between Alma and St. Martins. This is a beautiful area of coastline that has a unique feature, a peninsula that juts out into the ocean about 1000 yards, and at the end of this peninsula there is a huge landing that the locals refer to it as the Island. About 50 years ago Martin Head was an active lumbering community. The head land





had a light house and you can still see the remains of the basement. One may also see where lumber barges tied up waiting to be loaded at the mill or waiting for the high tide, perhaps sitting on cribs at low tide. In the Quiddy River estuary you will see the remains of the lumber milling industry, a sawdust pile and cement sections remain to mark the site of the old mill. In the salt marsh the upright posts that supported log booms and remains of a dam can be seen. After spending time there we spent the rest of the day glassing and looking for signs of moose activity in different areas. We caught up with Ron and Larry's friends Rolly and Johnny who were glassing areas also and we tagged one road as a possible area to hunt the next day. Around 4pm we returned to the stand where Larry took a short cat nap while I was on the lookout for moose sightings. At sunset we headed back to the lodge for dinner and another wonderful home cooked meal. Day two started the same way, up at dawn and off on the hunt. We did some glassing first thing instead of going to the stand. Larry spotted a nice cow, but I decided to wait another day before shooting a cow. I really had my mind set on a bull. The day got warm again and the moose were not moving so we went in for lunch. That afternoon I went out with Rolly to the stand. At 5:15pm a moose stepped out. It was a large bull, but had small antlers but because of the warm weather I decided to take it. The weather predictions were for more warm days which was not good for hunting, The animals just were not coming out of the deep woods and swamps. It was about a 130 yard shot and at the shot he bucked and went down about 5 yards from where he was hit. We called Johnny and Ron. They came over and helped dress him out. That evening after all the other hunters had come in, Steve Lamb brought his Argo to the lodge. Everyone gathered and off we went to retrieve my moose. After a successful retrieve, the moose was brought back to the lodge. Larry hung it up and we all went in for a well deserved dinner. The next day we were off to the DNR check in station for measurements and then off to the butcher shop for processing.

Friday Larry took Ron and me for a tour of the Fundy Trail Parkway. We were able to drive through areas that are still closed to the public. What a wondrous tourist attraction it will be when the trail is complete.

SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL - MICHIGAN CHAPTERS

Meeting at Jay's Sporting Goods, Clare, on June 23, 2016



This meeting was called so all of the eleven Michigan SCI Chapters could come together to partner with the DNR and help take a leadership role in Michigan hunting. 29 people were in attendance with eight from our chapter. Kevin Chamberlain, Jon Zieman, Doug Chapin, Randy Raymond, Joe Mulders, Tim Schafer, and Don and Mary Harter were present.

Jim Hammill reported that through the Michigan Wildlife Council, made up of nine people government appointed, the \$1 per license has generated \$1.2 million which makes for "good marketing". This \$1 per license for marketing was a Jon Bumstead, 100th District State Representative, initiative. Jim also reported on a model for SCI positioning on Michigan issues which has a conference call every two months. There is a U.P. Habitat Workgroup mapping all deer yards in the U.P. They have seen a recent 81% decline in deer and a 44% decline in deer hunters.

Merle Shepard reported on "Hunting Works for Michigan" and discussed some of the issues of bear baiting with chocolate. He also wanted us to support Jon Bumstead when he makes a bid for the State Senate in 2018 as Jon is a great supporter of hunting.

Mike Leonard discussed the Michigan Legislative

Sportsman's Caucus and the NRC Meetings of the Conservation Coalition.

It was also discussed that the SCI Hunter's Blog is updated every Thursday.

In the pamphlet, "Hunting Works for Michigan", how important are hunters for Michigan's economy? Hunting specifically supports thousands of jobs, both rural and urban, across the state of Michigan, and our goal is to provide a unified voice for all of these stakeholders. Hunting Works For Michigan will monitor public policy decisions and weigh in on hunting related issues that impact Michigan jobs.

\$2.3 billion spent annually

529,000 people hunt in Michigan each year.

Of those hunters, 28,000 are from out of state.

Michigan hunters spend \$271 million on trip-related expenditures

Hunters in Michigan spend over \$1.3 billion on hunting equipment.

Each hunter spends an average of \$4,400 a year in Michigan.

Hunter spending translates to \$1.2 billion in salaries and wages.

Hunting in Michigan supports 34,400 Michigan jobs.

Hunters pay \$289 million in state and local taxes

\$3.9 billion ripple effect.



Have You Been Targeted? SCI Litigation Wants to Know

(from the SCI First for Hunters Blog, May 31, 2016)

Animal rights and anti-hunting groups have made public records requests of state and federal agencies to get personal information about hunters. On some occasions, the groups used the information to harass hunters - sending ugly and even threatening e-mails and letters, and sometimes worse. For example, in Florida last year, after the state announced its first black bear hunt in many years, anti-hunters requested and obtained from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission a list of all individuals who had received permits to hunt bears. After receiving the names, the anti-hunters sent e-mails to all permit holders, comparing them to Nazis and attempting to shame them into not participating in the hunt.

Last year, anti-hunting organizations like the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the Humane Society International (HSI) published, in their anti-hunting publications, information about hunters obtained from internet resources, including Facebook and the SCI Record Book. Other organizations and individuals have utilized the internet both to obtain information about hunters and to harass or threaten hunters.

Recently, HSI filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) challenging the FWS's refusal to release the names of all individuals who have imported hunting trophies into the United States. In the complaint they filed in federal court in D.C., HSI offered no direct explanation as to why they needed the names or what they would do with that personal information upon receiving it. SCI has serious concerns about this inquiry and the outcome of this lawsuit.

SCI's Litigation staff needs your

help. Are you an SCI member whose name or personal information was released or published by a federal or state agency in response to a records request or other inquiry about hunters or hunting? Were you contacted by an individual or organi-

zation that requested and/or received your information? Did they annoy, harass or threaten you in any way? If so, we want to hear from you. Please contact Anna Seidman, Director of Litigation, at aseidman@safariclub.org and tell us about it.

SCI's Litigation Department Seeks Members who Imported Trophies in 2013 and 2014

(from SCI First for Hunters Blog, by Randy Gibbs, July 18, 2016)

Safari Club International's Litigation team wished to hear from SCI members who, in 2013 and/or 2014, imported into the United States trophies from species that are not listed as endangered. SCI is looking to participate in a lawsuit and to do so, we need to find a limited number of members who meet those criteria and who will be willing to help us prepare sworn statements that we can use to demonstrate SCI's interest in the outcome of the case.

Each time SCI participates in a lawsuit, we look to SCI members for their help. SCI members are the key to SCI's Litigation advocacy because of their willingness to step forward and help us show the court that hunters, and in particular SCI members, are affected by the lawsuits filed by anti hunting groups and are willing to stand up to defend rights and opportunities to hunt and to import legally hunted species.

This request applies only to SCI members, so if you are not an SCI member, please don't respond (or better yet, join SCI!) The request also does not apply to individuals who have imported a species that was classified as "endangered" under the U.S. Endangered species Act at the time of importation. This request also does not apply if you imported your trophy prior to 2013 or after 2014. At this time, we are only looking for individuals who imported a trophy during 2013 or 2014.

So - if you

1. Are a current SCI member;
2. Imported a trophy into the U.S. in 2013 or 2014;
3. Imported a trophy of a species that was not classified as "endangered" ("threatened" is just fine);
4. Are willing to work with SCI attorneys to prepare a statement that can be filed in court;

Please contact Anna Seidman, Director of Litigation, Safari Club International at aseidman@safariclub.org.

Thank you for all you do for SCI.

SUMMER FISHING IN SASKATCHEWAN

at Hepburn Lake Lodge by Roger Card

Last Spring, Rod Merchant and I were able to attend the Mid-Michigan Chapter's final meeting for the summer, in Mt Pleasant. It was a very enjoyable evening as it is always fun to catch up with old friends, and it makes me smile to see all the new, young members. They have all the energy, excitement and youthful enthusiasm we once had, in building our Mid-Michigan Chapter. I always leave a meeting content that our chapter is in good hands, with a bright future.

One of the presentations that evening was by Arlee Thideman. He and his wife, Darlene, own and operate Hepburn Lake Lodge, which is a fly-in bear hunting and fishing camp, five hours north of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Rod and I had been talking about organizing a Canadian fishing trip for some time, and Arlee's short slide show convinced us this could be the place.

The Thideman's have a long history with our chapter and while Rod and

I were discussing the possibilities, it seemed half the people in attendance that evening approached us, giving a testimonial on what gracious hosts Arlee & Darlene were and how amazing the fishing would be.

Through reading the Front Sight, we were aware of the many donations this generous couple has made to our chapter and that played a huge part in signing up that evening, for a five-day fishing adventure. The bear hunts,





donated to our chapter each year by Hepburn Lake

Lodge, are a popular auction item and it is our relationship with outfitters like the Thidemanns that makes our fund-raisers so successful.

The Fishing: My wife, Marqo, and I, along with Rod and his friend, Brenda Lindquist, departed June 20th, via two Delta flights plus a five hour drive to Missinipe. After a short night's sleep, we caught the bush plane for a twenty-five minute flight to camp.

Hepburn Lake offers lots of opportunities for lake trout, northern pike and, of course, walleye. We were not disappointed in the fishing, as the action was fast and furious, right from the beginning.

Before the boats left the dock that first morning, each of us put \$20 in the pot for the biggest walleye (Marqo), biggest northern (Brenda), and biggest lake trout (Rod). That was my only disappointment of the whole trip!! The camp, weather, food, equipment and the outfitters were all perfect. We give them five stars for the whole package and hope to return again, in the near future. Maybe I will get some of my money back in the "largest fish pool" the next time!

Hepburn Lake Lodge: Although we did not hunt bear with Arlee, many of our chapter members have, and everyone I have spoken with has nothing but the highest regards for their operation. Last year they were 100% successful on black bear, producing many trophies with

color, including blond and cinnamon. Arlee has a large number of baited stands and hunters are assigned a blind that has been showing good activity with trail-cam confirmation that there are some shootable bears in the vicinity. His success ratio, year after year, shows Arlee not only has the bear numbers, it also confirms he knows how to put his hunters in the correct position for good, clean shots, securing their trophy.

If you or your friends are contemplating a Canadian black bear hunt or fishing trip, many members of our Mid-Michigan Chapter, including me, will be happy to confirm that the Hepburn Lake Lodge runs a first-rate operation.



SCI Official Facebook Page Wins Top Communication Award

by Andy Gibbs, April 27, 2016

Safari Club International's official Facebook page was awarded the 2016 Communicator Award of Excellence for content and marketing social page by a brand. The Communicator Award "is the leading international awards program recognizing big ideas in marketing and communications," and is sanctioned and judged by the Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts (AIVA), an invitation-only group consisting of top-tier professionals from acclaimed media, communications, advertising, creative and marketing firms. The

Communicator Awards receive more than 6,000 entries from companies and agencies of all sizes making it one of the largest awards of its kind in the world.

The Award of Excellence is the highest Communicator award and is given to those entrants whose "ability to communicate positions them as the best in the field."

"We've worked hard finding the right people and the right content mix for hunters," said Steve Comus, SCI

Director of Publications. "We are very honored to see that effort recognized and deemed among the best in the world."

That this honor comes from outside the hunting and shooting industry is a testament to

You can follow Safari Club International's official Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/safariclubinternational.

Safari Club International Celebrates Social Media Milestones

by Randy Gibbs, July 6, 2016

Safari Club International is proud to announce two important milestones on the organization's primary social media sites. The Safari Club International Facebook page now has a fan base of more than 50,000 friends and the popular Hunt Forever blog has surpassed 2 million views. Audiences for both sites were built from the ground up, relying on industry best practices and quality content to appeal to a varied and engaged fan base.

"It would have been very easy to simply buy numbers," said Steve Comus, Director of Publications for Safari Club International, "but we preferred to earn our followers. This results in a high quality communications vehicle that speaks to a high quality audience. These are people who sought us out and chose to be a part of the SCI social media community," Comus stated. "By providing content of importance to them, we appeal to those most sympathetic to the SCI mission and most dedicated to preserving our hunting heritage now and for future generations."

Safari Club International has seen similar growth in all digital platforms including Twitter, and the Hunt Now! e-Newsletter. In allowing the time and interest in the SCI social media sites to grow organically, Safari Club International is focused on providing only the best for the best.

You can like SCI's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/safariclubinternational.

Submit Record Book Entries Online!

by Randy Gibbs, April 29, 2016

The SCI Record Book Department is pleased to announce that members can now submit their Record Book Entries through the SCI Online Record Book. This new technology allows members to upload an image of each score sheet along with copies of field photos, select from the different entry fee options and pay for entries with a credit card on our safe and secure Online Record Book Shopping Cart. Members no longer have to send entries through the mail or write their credit card information on the bottom of entry forms. This new technology helps our members submit entries easier, faster, and safer than ever before. Visit: www.scirecordbook.org and check out the "Submit New Entry" button to begin the process.

Happy Hunting!
Chris Emery
Record Book and World Hunting Awards Manager



Just a Cookin'...

Fried Venison Steak

by Mary Harter

1 cup flour
1 T. seasoned salt
1 T. garlic powder

1 t. paprika
1 t. dried parsley
flakes

Place in gallon plastic bag and mix.

Thaw venison steaks and tenderize with a bladed tenderizer.

Shake in flour mixture and fry in olive oil until desired doneness.

Leftover flour mixture can be stored in refrigerator and reused.

Flour mixture is also excellent with fish.

Enjoy!



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Let us look back in anger, or forward in fear, but around us in awareness. - James Thunder (1894-1961)

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Too much of a good thing can be truly wonderful. - May West (1893-1980)



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Nothing ever becomes real until it is experienced. Even a proverb is no proverb to you until your life has illustrated it. - John Keats (1795-1821)

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A close-up photograph of a lion's face, looking slightly to the right. The lion has a thick, golden-brown mane and a focused expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

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