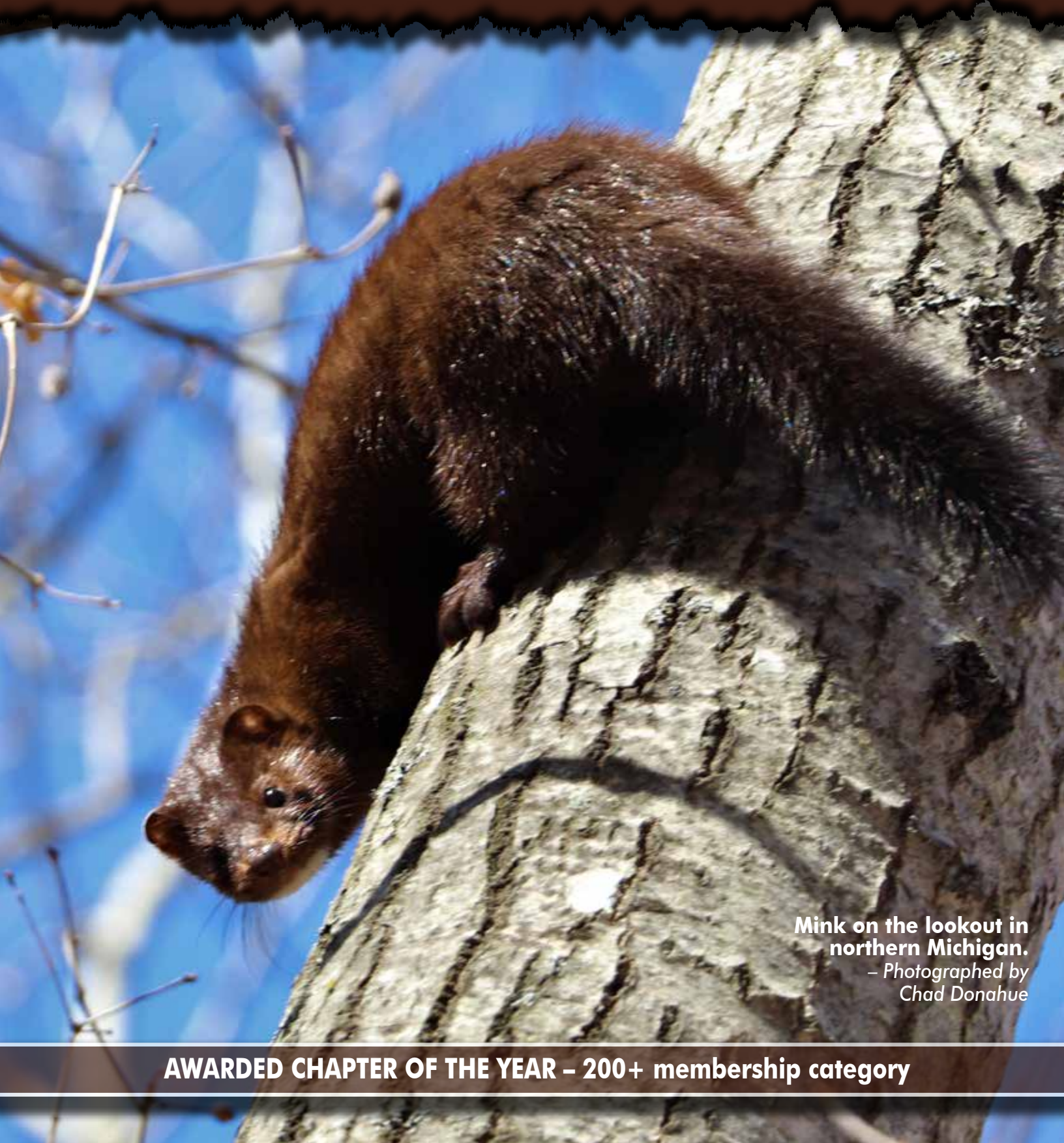


FRONT SIGHT



Mid-Michigan Chapter Safari Club International

October-December 2021, Issue 56



**Mink on the lookout in
northern Michigan.**

– Photographed by
Chad Donahue

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Standing Committees

Chairmen are listed first

- Chapter Record Book - Autumn Gonda
- Conservation/Govt. Affairs - Autumn Gonda
- Dispute Resolution - Abbe Mulders, Joe Mulders, Jon Zieman
- Matching Grants - Jon Zieman
- Front Sight Publication/Advertising - Josh Christensen
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- Big Buck Night - Mike Strophe, Scott Holmes
- Annual Awards Banquet/Fundraiser - Abbe and Joe Mulders,
and all board members
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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. In order to receive the lock combination you will need to contact Lance Norris at either (989) 621-2794 or ruter1lb@cmich.edu to take a safety training/orientation to familiarize yourself with the club. When visiting the Sportsman's Club please carry membership identification on you.



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

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President's Message

Fall is coming and most North American hunting seasons with it. Some already have gotten away on hunts. Have fun and be safe.

Our last Member Meeting of the year will have passed by the time this arrives. We have had good meetings this year, although COVID-19 decreased the number. Dan Catlin gave an interesting presentation on traveling for hunts, mixing hunting logs and tips in June. July saw Dennis Laidler, Education Curator of Potter Park Zoo, give an interesting view of the Zoo. Sam Reed presented a brief introduction to Paradise Trophy Ranch Operations. Joe Pedersen, the SCI Region

19 Representative, and member of our Chapter presented in September. He shared some hunts including a just completed trip to Greenland and gave some updates on SCI activities.

The Golf Outing in August was successful. Fifteen teams participated and a good time was had by all! The Mount Pleasant Country Club is an excellent facility for this sort of event. Fifteen shots under won the scramble for the second year in a row.

Thanks to all who help make these events possible and fun.

I will attend the SCI Board Meeting on August 26th to 28th. The Chapter Upload Interface Module will be demonstrated at the meeting and is expected to be deployed shortly thereafter. Our Chapter Membership Coordinator, Janis Ransom will be able to update a member's status with this process in the future. This should improve timeliness and accuracy. I will report on the meeting in the next issue of Front Sight.


The 50th SCI Annual Convention is scheduled in Las Vegas for January 19th to 22nd, 2022. **This would be the Annual Convention to not miss!** It will be very interesting and exciting. Travel will be more convenient the next three years with the Convention scheduled in Nashville.

Big Buck Night is scheduled for January at the Comfort Inn. Have a good hunting season and brings those racks in! Mike Strope is again leading this event, please get in touch with him if you would like to help.

Our Chapter Annual Convention is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, February 25th and 26th at Soaring Eagle. We will use the same Friday and Saturday formats as this year's Convention. Friday will be Members and Outfitters Appreciation night with a social hour, band, and a free hunt raffle for any member present. Saturday evening will feature the big Auction. You won't want to miss it. Talk to any board member if you would like to help put it on!

How are the monies raised used? SCI is the preeminent Hunter Advocacy organization in the world. Mid-Michigan Chapter SCI actively supports this mission. This entails supporting education, conservation, youth activities, and veterans' events. Advocacy involves working with local, state, federal, and international government agencies, and many organizations to positively influence outcomes. Another side is the litigation aspect with SCI having a strong team when court action is required. You've seen many articles in the Front Sight on these activities. Sportsmen Against Hunger program letter is in this issue.

Don't forget to gear up and fire up for your fall fishing when you are not hunting! Please share your stories and recipes with Josh Christensen for the Front Sight. Please let us know what you would like to see in this publication and do as a Chapter.


Jon Zieman
President
(989) 430-2985 • jjzieman@tds.net

Editor's Message

Fall, and with it hunting seasons are fast approaching! I hope you are all looking forward to spending time in the great outdoors our state has to offer. Maybe you are even planning a trip elsewhere. At any rate, I wish you luck and more importantly I hope you have an enjoyable time and are able to make memories to last a life time.




One of the views on our many hikes through Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This was called Inspiration Point.

Our chapter has made a concerted effort to do more activities for our membership and you will see within the pages of this issue several of those. We had excellent evenings with great speakers at our membership meetings and our golf outing was a great time to socialize with friends. We plan to continue to provide these activities and I hope you will join us at one or all of them in the future.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Fundraiser on February 25 and 26. It will be here before you know it.

I am always looking for articles to publish in our magazine. There are three different formats we have been using, pictorial essays, journals, and written articles. The pictorial essay format is for those who don't necessarily want to write an entire story but still want to relive their adventure through pictures with captions. The journal entry format is when people send me a copy of their journal along with pictures (if you don't usually keep a journal on your hunting trips I recommend you give it a try on your next adventure). And of course we have the normal article format. We all take pleasure in going on hunts, but there's nothing like sharing your stories in print for all to enjoy. Please consider sharing with us.

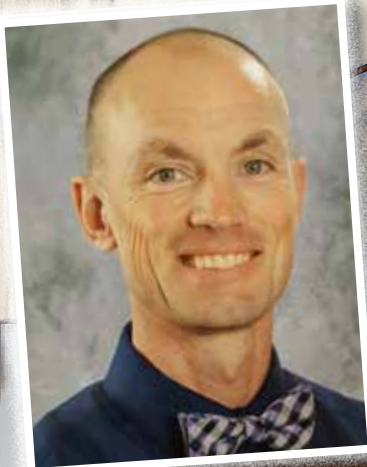

Josh Christensen
Co-Editor
(989) 329-4911 • jchappyfish@gmail.com

SCI Mid-Michigan Chapter Meeting Schedule

* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Date	Meeting Type	Time	Location
Oct 4, 2021	Board Meeting	5:00pm	Cheers
Nov 7, 2021	Crooked Foot Veterans Hunt	8:00am	Crooked Foot
Dec 6, 2021	Board Meeting	5:00pm	Cheers
Jan 19-22, 2022	Annual Convention	TBA	Las Vegas, NV
Jan 22, 2022	Big Buck Night	TBA	Comfort Inn
Feb 25 & 26, 2022	Annual Fundraisers	TBA	Soaring Eagle

All board meetings are open to our membership. Reservations required.
Please call and leave a message at 989-560-1061 or email Suzette Howard at suzettejhoward@yahoo.com



Book Review

by Josh Christensen

Title: LONG WALK
TO FREEDOM

Author: Nelson Mandela

Publisher: Little, Brown
and Company

Copyright: 1994

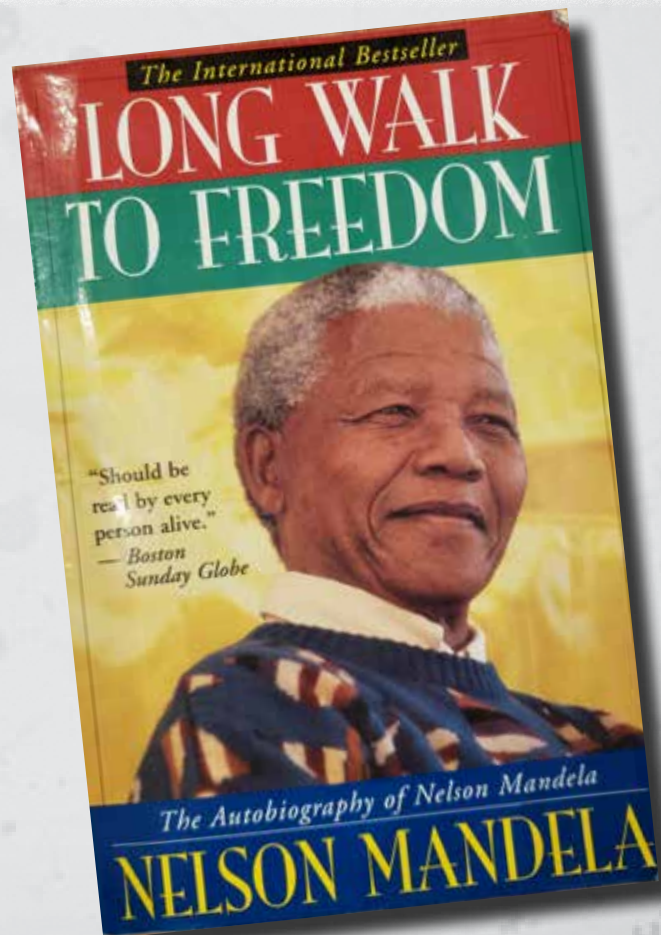
List Price: \$19.99

Undoubtedly many of you have heard of Nelson Mandela, the political prisoner, Nobel Peace Prize winner and first elected black president of the Republic of South Africa, but do you know anything else of this man?

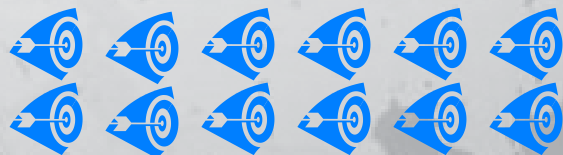
Through the pages of *Long Walk to Freedom* Mandela details his life from its humble beginnings to presidency and everything in-between. What I found most interesting about this book was Mandela's upbringing and the way life was in South Africa prior to the 1960's.

Throughout the book Mandela does an excellent job of keeping the readers interest and made it feel as if he were telling you the story of his life. From his childhood and the untimely death of his father, to his trial where he thought he would be sentenced to death, to his time in prison as a political prisoner *Long Walk to Freedom* will keep you turning the pages.

What I think amazes me most about this autobiography by Nelson Mandela is his continued message of reconciliation and that he wanted and needed everyone in the country of South Africa to work together to make their country great.



This book gets 10 out of 10 bullseyes



The following are the terms and conditions for the Buy, Sell or Trade section of our magazine.

- It is FREE to all members of our Mid-Michigan SCI Chapter.
- One photo per item will be used in this section. This photo will be displayed in a small size (about 2"x2").
- You may have up to four ads per issue. (You must renew each ad each issue.)
- Beyond the description of the item, each ad will need your name, e-mail and/or phone number
- Each ad should be limited to 25 words plus your name and e-mail and/or phone number unless otherwise discussed with the editor.
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- Membership meeting with outfitters and conservation representatives
- Quarterly Issue of **FRONT SIGHT MAGAZINE**
- Online Record Book
- Michigan conservation efforts (example: chronic wasting disease)
- Protect Michigan hunting rights

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- Bi-monthly issue of SCI's **SAFARI Magazine**
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"The hard days are what make you stronger." - Aly Raisman

Mid-Michigan Chapter donates monies

Part 4 of 4

By Josh Christensen

Over the course of any given year our Mid-Michigan SCI chapter contributes to many causes, with the proceeds from our membership dues and annual fundraiser. In total our chapter donates between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per year to programs under the following categories; education, conservation, pathfinders and humanitarian.

In our last three issues we have already spotlighted ten programs we, as a chapter, donated to. These were The American Wilderness Leadership School (AWLS), scholarships to graduate students pursuing advanced degrees in wildlife related fields, sportsmen against hunger, walleyes for warriors, shooting sports programs, the predator prey project, the disabled youth hunt, Card Wildlife Conservation and Wildlife Education Center, Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) camp for kids, and the SCI Foundation Blue Bags program. Here are three additional programs our Mid-Michigan chapter supports through donations.

Education:

Isabella County Sportsman Club (ICSC) – We donate annually to the club annually. The Isabella County Sportsman Club offers Hunter Safety Classes, a rifle range, archery range and 3D course, and clay shooting. With our chapter donation any member of our Mid-Michigan SCI chapter has access to the ICSC after taking the safety training/orientation to familiarize you with the club.

Potter Park Zoo – We donate money to the zoo for different projects and exhibits they work on. The Potter Park Zoo is a 102-acre zoo located in Lansing, Michigan, within Lansing's Potter Park. Its mission is to Inspire people to conserve animals in the natural world. Potter Park Zoo is the oldest public zoo in Michigan and is currently home to over 160 species of animals.

Pathfinders:

Veterans Pheasant Hunts (Crooked Foot and Tails-A-Waggin') – Each year our chapter supplies funding to these two outfitters for their veteran hunts. In all we supply enough money for over 35 veterans to participate in this hunt each year. These hunts allow veterans the opportunity to partake in a hunt and fellowship to honor them and thank them for their service.



POTTER PARK



Tails-A-Waggin'
Acres



June Membership

by Josh Christensen



Scott Holmes



Mary Browning



Nick Giuliani



Jessica Harrison



Cal Haney with his family



Joe Mulders



Suzette Howard

On June 14th our chapter held a membership meeting at Bucks Run Golf course in Mt. Pleasant. The event was attended by 49 men, women and children. The meeting began with the chapter recognizing the two major sponsors of our annual fundraiser (Jay's Sporting Goods and The Wildlife Gallery), and three board members who will no longer be serving on the board (Mary Browning, Nick Giuliani and Scott Holmes).

This was followed up with our president discussing our banner year from our fundraiser, and the chapter's ability to contribute more to National SCI than we ever have before.

The night consisted of one lucky youth winning a .22, a raffle for a shotgun, a 50/50 worth over \$250 and two excellent speakers. At this meeting every youth in attendance between the ages of 5-17 were placed into a drawing. Our youth winner was Cal Haney (age 5) and he was given the choice of two .22 caliber rifles. The first was a Cricket bolt action and the second was a Hammerli TAC R1. Our shotgun winner was Jessica Harrison and our 50/50 winner was Joe Mulders.

Meeting

After an excellent meal of chicken, potatoes and vegetables (with cupcakes and brownies for dessert), we heard from our first speaker. Mike Ritchie took to the podium and thanked the chapter for contributing to his efforts to help a disabled veteran experience a moose hunt of a lifetime in Maine (see issue 54 for the entire story). He explained this hunt was made possible through the generous donations made by our chapter and other organizations willing to contribute to honor such a worthy cause. He also emotionally explained the story of the next disabled veteran he will be accompanying on this moose hunt in Maine this fall (see more information about this veteran in issue 55) and thanked us for again supporting his efforts to thank this man for his service and sacrifices.

Our keynote speaker was Dan Catlin from the Wildlife Gallery and the TV show The Experience. Dan went through a gambit of topics regarding the hunting industry ranging from booking hunts, to experiencing the hunt, and trophy field care to taxidermy as well as establishing hunting goals. Along the way he included clips from The Experience and kept everyone engaged with his knowledge and photos.





My Favorite Animal to Hunt

by Bob Balzer

Editor's note: In issue 53 our "WHAT DO YOU THINK" question was, "What is your favorite animal to hunt and why?" We received many awesome responses and they were all displayed in issue 54...all of them except one that is. One response was more than just an answer to the question, it was a story all of its' own. The following is that response.

My wife, Tammy, is out of town, visiting her aging parents and helping them work through some modern technology issues. The fireplace is stoked, and I go to the kennel in the frigid cold to retrieve one of my three hunting beagles. Bella, jokingly known as "my wife's favorite child", is the only one house-trained and now often receives the privilege of staying indoors for hours at a time at least a couple days a week. After decades of owning pets, she is the only one that has risen to such an honor. She will lay at my feet in total contentment while Jeremiah Johnson plays in background, occasionally drawing my attention back to one of the only movies I have seen more than once. I hope to make sense of the question "What is your favorite animal to hunt and why?" This quiet time is a rare and special occasion these days.

I hesitate to answer such a question for fear of creating a lifelong label and commitment to what animal has given me the most joy to hunt. Hunting has been my undying passion and, at times, my uncontrolled obsession for decades. To choose a single favorite animal seems somewhat unjust to the many I have sought and harvested over the years.

As a teenager, I learned to hunt whitetail deer. I have spent more hours of my life in pursuit of them than I



care to admit and have been blessed on countless occasions to harvest such a magnificent animal. By all rights, I could easily claim the whitetail as my favorite animal to hunt.

I've spent many years pursuing the amazing black bear, both with hounds and over bait. The anticipation and nervous anxiety of seeing such a beast is indescribable. I share some of my hair-raising moments of these hunts more than any other.

Decades of hunting out west has etched a love in my heart for the Rocky Mountains. In the same

sense, it has created a huge hole that can only be filled by a return trip each year. Deep in my soul, I know the mountains are my home. Nothing compares to the stalk of a bugling elk. Nothing! The stealthy pursuit of a mountainside mule deer is nothing less than addicting. Outwitting the keen eyes of a herd of pronghorn antelope goes down as an incredible accomplishment. Looking up at a large, male mountain lion treed only eight feet above my head is a memory I relive dozens of times each year. At times, I have claimed each of these as my favorite to hunt.

Camped on the shore of the arctic ocean and harvesting an amazing grizzly bear could easily top my favorite list. Years ago, I said I didn't want to die without killing one of these legendary bruins. How does that compare to the flight back inland only to take a majestic moose, an animal that was number one on my bucket list for years. These animals are beyond comparison and have, at times, topped my favorite list.

New Zealand is my favorite place in the world and the roar of a red stag is an experience one cannot forget. The trip with my wife several years ago will always be my favorite adventure! But is the red deer my favorite? Perhaps.

South Africa offers a variety of game beyond measure. The thrill of the hunt, the anticipation of seeing some of the most unique animals on earth, and the pending danger, not only draws the big game hunter to experience such wonder but keeps us longing to return. A relatively recent hunting safari with three excellent hunters and first-class friends was among my best trips





is living in. He has been simply living life in its most basic and pure sense possible.

I stare into the mesmerizing flames of my fireplace for a brief moment and notice the twitching and whimpering of my good friend, Bella, who is sleeping soundly in her bed, enjoying the cozy warmth of the fire above her. She is obviously dreaming of chasing her next rabbit. For her, the most basic and pure sense of life!

A tear fills my eye. I've spent decades hunting with my dogs in hopes of experiencing life in its most pure form, where there is no need to know

ever. There are so many animals that could top one's favorite list and the kudu had always been at the top of mine. But is it my favorite? I can't say that it is.

I am most grateful for a trip to British Columbia I made at the age of 55. The reward of an incredible mountain goat following months of physical preparation still leaves me in wonder. After a week of fatigue and mental exertion, I must admit that I am most proud of the goat which now stands tall at a local display. Is the goat my favorite animal to hunt? It would be hard to say it's not!



So, what is it? What is my favorite animal to hunt? Could it be the alligator, the wild hog, the fox or coyote during a nighttime hunt with thermal gear? If I could, I would hunt each of these every day.

As I look up from my computer, I see the final scenes of Jeremiah Johnson. The old grizz hunter asks if Jeremiah knows what month it is. The old-timer has been lost in time and has had no need to know what hour of the day, what day of the week, or what month of the year he





what time or day it is. My dogs were “tools” to help me “escape” life’s demands. My daughters have taught me to love my animals, however. Dogs are not just tools for me any longer. Bella, Thor, Lindy, Mammy, Blue, Dixie, Pixie, and the many other dogs I’ve had, have introduced the thrill of hunting to countless kids who had never taken an animal. My dogs have drawn me together with friends who may have otherwise slipped away, along with the hundreds of memories we have created over the years. My beagles have, if for nothing more than a fleeting moment, allowed me to live life in its purest sense. For that, I am forever grateful!

So, “what is my favorite animal to hunt?” For the first time ever, I have to admit that the cottontail rabbit is purely and simply my favorite animal to hunt.



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"At any given moment you have the power to say; this is not how the story is going to end." - Unknown






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"Courage is not having the strength to go on; it is going on when you don't have the strength." - Theodore Roosevelt

August Membership

by Josh Christensen

On August 2nd our chapter hosted its' second membership meeting of the summer. This time the meeting was held at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant. The night consisted of a good meal, two guest speakers, door prizes, a .22 caliber rifle give away to a 5-17 year old in attendance and a gun raffle for a 6.5 Creedmoor. In all we had 43 people in attendance.

The night kicked off with a social hour as our members and their guests mingled and were able to check out the door prizes and rifles on the prize table. This was followed by our chapter president, Jon Zieman welcoming everyone in attendance and then introducing our board member in charge of membership meetings Doug Chapin. Doug explained the order of events for the evening before introducing our first guest speaker, Sam Reed of Paradise Trophy Ranch in Gladwin.

Sam gave an informational run down of the 1200 acre property including a video presentation. After the video Sam discussed the different species of animals they have to hunt which include whitetail deer, elk and his favorite, red deer. People in attendance learned of Paradise Ranch's partnership with two outreach programs that are geared toward young people and people with disabilities. These are the Beverly Woods fishing and hunting with kids foundation and the Christ's outreach for the blind foundation. Sam also used a slideshow to show and explained the different hunts they offer, ranging from whitetail velvet hunts, management hunts and presidential hunts to their elk hunts and red deer hunts. Sam was sure to explain their red deer genetics are from New Zealand and are of the highest quality.

Meeting

Next up was Dennis Laidler from Potter Park Zoo in Lansing. Dennis started off by explaining Potter Park Zoo's mission statement which is to "Inspire people to conserve animals and the natural world." Later in his presentation when he was discussing the moose exhibit our chapter helped fund he explained there was signage at the exhibit explaining how hunting is a form of conservation.

Throughout his entertaining presentation, where he used video and a slideshow, Dennis explained how the zoo responded to Covid by shutting down, but after being able to reopen their numbers equaled the years prior to Covid as so many people wanted to get out. The crowd in

attendance was also informed on how and why the moose exhibit is now an

elk exhibit and of course Dennis gave us information about their most famous animal at the zoo, Jaali (pronounced jolly) the black rhinoceros who was born on Christmas Eve in 2019. Dennis went on to explain that Jaali's mom, Doppsee, is very responsive to her handlers and allows them to milk her, which caught the attention of the Smithsonian. Together Potter Park Zoo and the Smithsonian have been analyzing Doppsee's milk, as Jaali grows, to find the best formula to help rhino calves orphaned by poachers in Africa. A true humanitarian effort.

To end the evening tickets were drawn for the door prizes. This was followed by the .22 give away, which was won by Leo Haney. The last drawing for the night was the gun raffle for the 6.5 Creedmoor and that was won by Ivan Christensen.



Gladwin Junior High Outdoor Education Class says...

Dear Mid-Michigan SCI,

The Outdoor Education class at Gladwin Junior High would like to thank you for your generous donation to help purchase some recent supplies for our class. The class is based around the book "Hatchet", where a young boy is lost in the woods and learns several skills to survive on his own. The main goal of the class is to expose students to the great outdoors and hopefully get them hooked on activities like camping, hiking, and archery.

The students in class learn archery using the NASP program. Some of the students have never touched a bow and it is a great opportunity for them to try something they have never done before. The students have been shooting at black targets and enjoying it, but with your donation we were able to purchase some 3-D targets for the kids to shoot. The students REALLY enjoyed shooting at the different 3-D targets and hopefully it got them hooked on possibly hunting in their future.

We were also able to purchase many freeze dried meals for the students to try. In the book "Hatchet", the main character gets to eat freeze dried food. Many of our students haven't been exposed to this type of food. We discussed the benefits of packing this type of food for long hikes or camping trips in the backcountry, and then we cooked up some meals to share as a class. The students enjoyed preparing and trying the new food.

Your donation covered the cost of 53-D targets and many freeze dried meals. These supplies, added to the many other items you have helped us purchase have created many positive experiences for our students. Outdoor education is one of the favorite classes provided at our school. Your generous donations are helping spark a love for the great outdoors in many students who take Outdoor Education at Gladwin Junior High.

Sincerely,

Sara Christensen
Gladwin Junior High
Outdoor Education Teacher

Thank You
for your
generous donation

In the summer of 2018 our chapter sent two teachers from Gladwin to the American Wilderness Leadership School (see pages 6-9 in issue 44 of the Front Sight magazine). After attending the school these two teachers, with the assistance of our chapter, were able to develop a curriculum and start an outdoor education class at their Junior High School. In the class the students take part in many activities including the ones listed below...

- Stream ecology where students net and research the different macro invertebrates they catch in the Cedar River.
- Learn to shoot bows using the National Archery In Schools Program (NASP).
- Explore outdoor survival by learning how to start fires using flint and steel, and how to use a water filtration system.
- Learn how to identify several animals found in

Michigan by their tracks and scat using the “Safari in a box” provided by our chapter.

- Learn how to assemble and disassemble tents for camping.

Multiple times per year we receive thank you notes from students who are lucky enough to experience the class. As you read through these notes I hope you take some pride in the fact that our chapter has been instrumental in allowing these young people to have experiences with the outdoors they might not otherwise been able to have.

Hello, my name is Matthew I am 12
years old and I just took an outdoor
education class. I heard you donated
money for this class. I wanted to
say thank you for giving us the
opportunity to do all of these wonderful
activities. We really appreciate all
of it. Some of the things that I
special enjoyed the canoeing. I
also hope I will enjoy the freeze
dried food. We ate all our food
happily while the food is cooking.

-Sincerely
Matthew

Dear Mid-Michigan SCL

Thank you for donating the many
kinds of original equipment
belonging at Western University.
Just looked at the picture and I
guess Wash and fun but that is not
Sergey. Much fun but that is not
class. There is one you have that
class. In the class is very fun
about. Stoked the fun and the
punch and shot fun and the
fun. I was the fun and the
I am the fun and the

Sincerely,
Boyle



Dear Mr. Thompson SCI,

[illegible]

your friend, Pappan



Dear Mid-Michigan Sea

Thank you for everything you have been doing for
Doubtless I'll miss Super Fun times the best
My friends Berlin from plain just in the town
I see I just got done having outdoor education
We shot birds and read the book Hatchet
And when we read the book we did what
Brian did like shooting and it was
Not so fun I learned how to shoot
birds I never thought I would not enjoy
shooting birds as much as I did. I would
like to keep shooting birds because I
enjoyed it. Thank you for giving us money
for this and all things.

Sincerely
Bebe Davis

Dear Mid-Michigan SCL

[illegible]

Sincerely,

Maddy Pögel

Dear Mid-Michigan SCL

3-13-21

3-17-20
Hi! I am so happy I had the opportunity to start the bow and arrows, Street Fines, and freeze dried food and read the book "Hatchet" on Mrs. Christensen's Out door Ed class. Thank you for donating the bows, arrows 3-D targets, money for the bows, class food and fuel for fire starting. Without your kindness I don't think I would have ever thought I could like shooting bows.

Sincerely,
Alana Perry



FRONT SIGHT

Dear mid-michigan set,

[illegible]

Sincerely
Michael R. High
5-25-2011

Dear Mid-Michigan SCI

Thank you for literally making the class possible. This had been one of my favorite classes of the entire year. My favorite part of the class was going to the river. At the river we caught many small animals like minnows and bug larva. Then we came back to the school and identified the things we caught.

Sincerely, Branden

[illegible][illegible]

Singer clip
Analog
(Lithium & NiMH High)

Dear Mid-Michigan SGT
Thank you for our Outdoor Ed
program. I really enjoyed it.
In our sailing of for a box
because of it. I also liked
rowing. Hockey. It is a nice
short and sweet deal. We
also went to the river to
our school and I almost caught
a fish with the net. Today
5-20-81 we will try the fence
hike. Good night and good
forward to it. Thank you again
for the experience.

Sincerely,
Brayden from
Gladwin J. High



Exam: 11/12/2019

[illegible]

3. Subtraction
Riding from Boston to New York





Dear Mid-Michigan SCI,
Thank you for donating money for our school to shoot bows and arrows, 3D targets, money for freeze dry food, flint and steel for fire starting. Personally I liked shooting bows the best because it was really fun and sometimes I could let my anger out, trying to start a fire was really tricky for me, he based all the activities off of a book called Hatchet. It was a very interesting book.

Sincerely, May
a GHS student

5-28-21
Dear Mid-Michigan
I am glad you gave us the money so we could experience all these different things. I liked everything we did in this class. My favorite thing to do was shoot bows. I got really close to get on the record board on the targets and play tic-tac-toe on them. When we went down to the river, it was cool because I caught this spider thing with the net. The river felt nice that day because it was hot. I wasn't really scared at the fire starter because it was a windy day that day. Today we are eating food things Brian did in the boat. I would like if we kept shooting bows and going down to the river. Thank you for the equipment.

Sincerely Ben Vevelen
Gladwin Junior High



3-18-21
Dear Mid-Michigan SCI,
My name is Adalyn. I'm a 7th grader, and here at Gladwin Junior High we got the opportunity, thanks to you, to shoot the OPPORTUNITY, start fires, filter water, buy one arrow, start fires, and even shoot 3D targets. I had shot multiple times, but now I've shot before, twice. Mrs. Christensen brought in little prizes to shoot for. I got a fancy bow. I also got to shoot the bobcat target. Although it remained "alive" (my shot is not that good). I had a blast. We also got the chance to start a small fire, using the starters for practice. That was really fun for me. Since at home, my dad and brother were trying to start one in our tent but couldn't. It was the beginning of the semester, we got to filter air to water. That was a Mrs. But never the less, fun. Thank you so much for all you provided.
Sincerely, Adalyn

Thank you Mid-Michigan SCI
Dear, Mid-Michigan SCI. My name is Matthew Osestoski. I am a 14 year old boy at Gladwin Junior High School. The money you have donated has changed me. I am grateful to you for all of my own. I am also grateful to you for the money you have donated to purchase 30 bows. It was a lot of fun. We have the bows to go with the arrows.

Matthew Osestoski

hello my name is Emilee Day, I would love to thank you guys for all the archery and fire starting equipment. You made it so I am confident in shooting bows and now I really wanna start shooting bows when my dad goes hunting. I am so happy I got to do all that stuff because you only have one life so you should try doing as much stuff as you can so thank you for this huge opportunity.

Sincerely, Emilee

P.S. we learned some of this from a book and now we get to try some of the food he had in the book called "Hatchet"

Dear Mid-Michigan SCI

Thank you for all the outdoor equipment. I had a lot of fun shooting the bows. Because I really like to do things like this. Without your sponsorship we would not be able to do this. I also want to thank you for the people that live in the city or never go into the woods. But you could make people go outside more. Thank you Mid-Michigan SCI.

Sincerely
Broderick Gutz

To: Mid-Michigan S.C.I.

Thank you for allowing me to participate in the fun archery and fire starting and the freeze dried food (which by the way was really good and amazingly light and easy to carry like 50 of them). Thank you for the Gladwin Junior High School for all of the students to enjoy Outdoor Education. It was a lot of fun during the two marking periods I had this class.

Sincerely, Scott Hound
from Gladwin Junior High School



Conservation Affairs

Compiled from the DNR website and submitted by Autumn Gonda

CONSERVATION CORNER

It's almost fall and every Michigander knows what comes with fall...

HUNTING!! But before you head out into the woods, be sure to have the up-to-date information on regulation changes put forth by the MI DNR.

These changes reflect the evolution of deer hunting in Michigan. The last 20 years have resulted in dramatic and sustained declines in hunter numbers. When combined with an abundant and resilient deer herd that continues to grow, and the added challenge of managing deer diseases, we felt a change that represented this changing dynamic was necessary. The changes in regulations take into consideration these three factors and should translate to rules that are easier to understand, improve flexibility in how your licenses can be used, and provide more value with your licenses than you have experienced before.

To understand how we arrived at this point, you should understand where we have come from and the challenges on the horizon for deer management in Michigan and other states. First and foremost, Michigan is experiencing tremendous declines in hunter numbers. In 1998, Michigan had a record deer harvest with approximately 598,000 deer taken by hunters. That year, there were approximately 837,000 deer hunters participating in Michigan's deer seasons.

Just 20 years later in 2018, 361,000 deer were harvested by approximately 554,000 hunters. In that 20 years, Michigan lost nearly 300,000 deer hunters. If each deer hunter in 2018 was successful at harvesting one deer, they still would not have come close to matching the record set just 20 years previously.

Additionally, Michigan will lose over 100,000 deer hunters over the next decade as more hunters continue to leave the sport, largely due to the fact that older hunters are aging out of the sport, and young people are less likely to participate in hunting due to societal changes. This decline in hunters is not

unique to Michigan, as states all over the country are facing the same challenges. The reasons for hunter decline are likely varied and complex, but there is one certainty—those hunters are not coming back.

When combined with the fact that only about 50 percent of hunters are successful at taking one deer, 15 percent take two or more deer, and only four percent take three or more deer, it's easy to see that overall harvest is likely to decline, and our ability to control the growth of Michigan's deer population will become a more distant reality.

Hunter decline is not the only challenge facing modern day deer management. Transmissible diseases such as chronic wasting disease (CWD) and bovine tuberculosis (TB) represent immediate threats to Michigan's deer herd and cattle industry, respectively. CWD is widespread throughout Montcalm County and Northeast Kent County, and has been identified in Clinton, Dickinson, Eaton, Gratiot, Ingham, Ionia, and Jackson Counties.

Though the disease is here to stay, keeping it from spreading into new locations from existing disease locations is likely the new definition of CWD management success. With defined population impacts demonstrated in research projects from the Western U.S. where the disease has been identified for decades, everyone interested in sustainable deer management should be on the same side in preventing the spread of this disease.

TB does not get nearly get as much publicity as CWD nationally because Michigan has the unfortunate distinction of being the only state where TB is established in its deer herd. However, the economic ramifications for TB are and can be substantial. TB, which is a

bacterial disease, persists in deer and can spread to cattle, and vice versa, sustaining its presence in both populations. Efforts to keep TB out of cattle herds have been extensive, but additional herds seem to contract the disease each year.

If herd infections were to intensify, Michigan could have its TB status downgraded in all or part of the state - an impact that would likely cost hundreds of millions of dollars. Though early efforts to reduce prevalence were successful in the mid-1990's, prevalence in DMU 452 (the core area) has never dipped below 1% and has been over 2% each of the last 5 years. Eradication of TB remains a statewide goal.

Hopefully, this provides some context in understanding some of the regulation changes for 2021.

One of the biggest changes that was made is that hunters with a deer or combination license may now take an antlerless deer on any of those tags in the firearm and muzzleloader seasons in the Lower Peninsula.

This regulation already has been in effect in 11 counties (DMU 487 and the five county CWD core), so some hunters are already familiar with this regulation. It is unlikely that this regulation change will result in a massive increase of antlerless deer being taken and it should help stabilize overall harvest as hunters continue to leave the sport over the coming years. It also provides a lot more value to each license for every hunter and gives greater flexibility in how hunters may choose to use their license. It also provides the opportunity for hunters to be more mobile throughout the state with their hunting efforts. Furthermore, deer and combination licenses may be used in the early and late antlerless season, expanding the opportunity

for hunters to use these licenses.

Another big change was to the muzzleloader and late antlerless seasons. This change will not impact any Upper Peninsula hunters, but northern Lower Peninsula hunters will now have late antlerless season open a full week earlier than before, again providing additional opportunity for pursuing deer.

In the southern Lower Peninsula (Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Midland, and Bay counties and south), the muzzleloader season has been reduced by seven days, however, the seven days have been added to the late antlerless season, so there is no loss of opportunity but rather a change in where and what you can pursue. It is also worth noting that during this season in these southern counties, hunters can pursue any legal deer with a muzzleloader on public land. This is the result of an amendment passed by our Natural Resources Commission.

Hunters in the southern Lower Peninsula can now use any legal firearm during the muzzleloader season. This regulation has been in place in 19 counties (The CWD management zone) the last couple of years. In that time, we saw increased participation and increased antlerless harvest during the muzzleloader season, reversing a trend nearly 20 years in the making. Though these trends are beneficial and show that more individuals are participating in these seasons (and being successful) we do not expect negative population level impacts on the deer resource. Over two years with this regulation in place in 19 counties, antlerless harvest during the muzzleloader season increased by about 3,000 deer, far less than one deer per square mile.

There are many other regulation changes that have been passed, all of which are unlikely to yield impacts in terms of deer population management, but that afford additional opportunities to many individuals. For one, people who are deaf can now participate in the Liberty and Independence Hunts. Also, hunters under the age of 17 or hunters hunting with an apprentice license are exempt from antler point restrictions on any tag, during any season, and in any location in Michigan.

This allows our youngest and most inexperienced hunters the opportunity to take any antlered deer that aligns with their personal values.

Hunters throughout most of the Upper Peninsula now can resume taking antlerless deer during the archery season on the deer or deer combination license, a privilege that has not been available for nearly five years. Only select DMUs in the western U.P. remain closed for antlerless opportunities with archery equipment.

Overall, the Upper Peninsula deer herd seemed to fare well during last year's winter. This coupled with a good spring and excellent summer growing season has most areas reporting more deer sightings than last year. Field staff are anticipating a slightly better hunting season this year than last.

While soft mast (berries, apples, etc.) appears spotty across the region likely due to late frost conditions this past spring, the hard mast (nuts, acorns, etc.), particularly acorns, appears to be excellent in those areas with oak trees. Hunters should be on the lookout for oak trees producing acorns and invest time determining if deer have trails near these areas.

If you are an archery hunter please keep in mind that you are now allowed to harvest an antlerless deer with your deer or deer combination license during the bow season except in the following deer management units: 027, 031, 036, 042, 066, 127 and 131.

Last winter had little to no impact on deer numbers in the northern Lower Peninsula. Deer numbers appear high across much of the region. Antler development and body size look exceptionally good this year, likely due to mild winter conditions and good natural forage being available during the spring and summer.

Soft mast appears spotty, but the acorn production seems quite good throughout the region in areas with oak trees. Hunters can anticipate an even better hunting season this year than last year, weather permitting.



Hunters should be aware of new regulation changes. All Lower Peninsula deer management units are now open to the early and late antlerless firearm seasons. Additionally, hunters in all deer management units may harvest an antlerless deer with your single deer license or deer combination license during the early and late antlerless seasons as well as the firearm and muzzle loading seasons.

The winter in southern Michigan was very mild and likely had no impact on the deer herd. Deer numbers appear to be quite high and large bachelor groups have already been seen across much of the region.

Field staff are anticipating a higher harvest this year in comparison with last year.

Hard mast appears spotty in the south but soft mast production of apple and pear seems very good. Staff recommend seeking out wild apple and pear trees and feel that hunters will be more successful in these places. Antler development and body size look very good and overall numbers of fawns is very high.

In the southern Lower Peninsula, hunters may harvest an antlerless deer with their deer or deer combination deer license during the early and late antlerless seasons as well as during the firearm and muzzle loading seasons. Also, the muzzle loading season is now open to all legal firearms in Zone 3 in Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Midland, Bay, and all remaining southern counties in southern Michigan.

Finally, muzzleloaders can be used on public lands in Zone 3 in Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Midland, Bay, and all remaining southern counties during the late antlerless firearm season to take any deer with a valid tag. Late antlerless season is still a private land ONLY hunt everywhere but Zone 3 and public lands may only be used by those hunting with a muzzleloader.



Great Hunt in Mexico

by Mary Harter

On Don's birthday, January 18, 2021, we drove to Detroit to overnight so we could leave at 6 a.m. the next morning for Hermosillo, Mexico via Phoenix, Arizona. Dan and Char Catlin joined us in Phoenix. We were picked up at the airport by a son of Oscar Rene Molino, owner of Rancho Molino, San Jose Trophy Hunts Ranch, arriving at about 2 p.m.

We quickly settled in our rooms, ate lunch, and were out to hunt by 3 p.m. I was hunting for Desert Mule Deer with Char, and Don was hunting for a Desert Big Horn Ram with Dan and several others staying at the ranch went along for the excitement. Don was riding in a larger truck with a big rack on top holding several people. We called it the "Party Bus". Don's guide was Raul.

Valentine was my driver and my local guide was Carlos. Valentine spoke perfect English having lived in Texas for several years but Carlos spoke very little. Carlos and Valentine had radios to talk to each other from the driver of the truck to those riding in the back rack of the truck. Sometimes Carlos would have Valentine stop so he could come back and translate what we had said. I could pick out a few words but by the end of the trip we were laughing at saying "dos señoritas" for "two does" and other things in the little Spanish we knew.

We saw many, many mulies but most were "works in progress" needing another year or two to grow and some great ones had already been fighting and had broken tines. The rut was on but we expected to see great mulies eventually.

Don saw many rams, at least 30, and shot one at 191 yards, a beauty as you can see from the pictures. The ram scored 178 2/8. He had lots of help with the

recovery going over loose rocks, thorn bushes, and a very steep incline. They gutted him where he fell and then carried him down. It was late when they got back to the ranch, long after dark, to an excited reception as Don had gotten an exceptional ram.

The ranch we were hunting on was 35,000 acres with several feeders and breeding pens. The breeding pens are fenced, of course, and there are some fencing along property lines but otherwise the ranch is pretty much open range. The mule deer can jump most of the property line fences. One side of the ranch goes up a mountain where the sheep live so all of that is open.

The next day we were up at 5:30 a.m. anxious to get ready to hunt again. Also with us in camp was Adam Hall, son of Jim Hall, whom Dan and Char had hunted with worldwide. Adam shot a nice mule deer the night before and was now hunting for a ram. Several others in camp have been successful and are leaving today. We met Dr. Brian Tallerico from Wyoming who sells Mountain Medic kits.

We were out to hunt about 7 a.m. and I saw at least 100 sheep, stopping, glassing, and getting excited. Finally, at around 9:30 a.m. in a group of 20 to 25 sheep, Char said there was a shooter. Ok. BANG!! He was still standing but not running off with the rest, and with blood coming out of his nose, but I shot again. Then he went down. We high fived and started up the mountain. This was a hard

climb for an old lady, climbing over lots of crumbling and rolling rocks but I had a walking stick. He was such a beautiful ram, about 9 to 10 years old, even missing a front tooth. He was a great trophy to take and scored 177 6/8, just a half inch shorter than Dons.

We got back to camp around 10:30 a.m. Don's mule deer was in the skinning area as we passed by. He was successful with a nice deer, 33" wide with lots of mass and a 3



x 3. He scored 177 4/8.

Back out to hunt in the afternoon looking for a mule deer. No luck finding a shooter. It rained and we got soaked even while wearing a rain jacket. My underwear was even wet. The men had come in much earlier but we stayed looking and looking for a good deer. After a nice warm shower, I hung my clothes all around our room to dry.

It rained all night and sprinkled lightly during the next day. We saw two quail coveys, several javelins, and a huge turtle but very few deer. It wasn't a full moon to turn them nocturnal so they just must not have liked the rain. We glassed hard and covered a lot of ground. We got stuck once and slid in several slimy spots. The rain had really made the roads muddy.

The next day it was not raining!! Out we went looking for mule deer and we found several, but the shooters all had broken points from fighting. We searched and searched and finally about 11 a.m. spotted one out in the brush at least 150 yards away. We stopped and I set up but when he was clear of the brush, there was a doe in front of him and another behind him. He walked off into heavy brush. We drove away to a curve in the road and got near where we thought he was. We saw more deer, another small buck, and glimpses of what we hoped was the good 4 x 4. After several stops and set ups and many bumpy ruts, we saw him behind a tree. I got him in my scope and pulled the trigger before the truck was even turned off. He dropped in a shallow ditch and we held our breath hoping he was dead. He raised his head and was definitely finished but I ran and put another shot in him so he didn't suffer. What a trophy!! So much glassing for the perfect one and we finally got him. Char was so happy also, and I'm so glad she was with me with all of her knowledge of mule deer and could quickly judge a great trophy. He scored 186 1/8.

We went out that afternoon looking for Coues deer but the ranch is just developing a herd and they don't have many yet. We saw a small buck and a doe. They are reddish and have a white tail. We also saw a new part of the ranch that Char hadn't even seen. Char had a particular interest in seeing the mountains as she was coming back in a few months to hunt the Desert Big Horns and climbing up the mountains.

We spotted a good buck but he stood



back we saw a few more does.

On January 23 Don was riding with us and Valentine was driving the larger "Party Bus" that had more seating in the rack. We went past the dump hoping to see coyotes that we had been hearing but no luck. On we went looking for Coues deer for both of us. We spotted a few does with their beautiful reddish coats and finally got to the mountain where we saw the shooter the day before. Char spotted him again but at about 400 yards again and then he walked away and we couldn't spot him again. Don, Char, and Carlos walked to a point on a hillside closing the distance but couldn't spot him.

Driving on we spotted a few more does and a couple of bucks, one a six pointer, but Carlos said "No". We saw a few shooter mule deer so the next hunters should have had good luck.

Out again the next day with Don but again no luck finding a nice Coues deer. The shooters would be the original ones that stocked the ranch and not many are left. There will be many great ones in a couple of years.

We left the ranch on January 25, just one day short of having to have a Covid test to return to the United States. Beginning on January 26, we would have had to have a negative test to return home. Oscar had a doctor all lined up to test us if for any reason our flight would have been postponed. Oscar, his sons, and all of the staff took great care of us. Besides owning an awesome ranch with great animals, he had great accommodations, food, and drinks. We felt safe, away from the city, and I would recommend hunting here in the future.

Also, Dan and Char Catlin set up this hunt for us with great planning. Through the Wildlife Gallery, they have contact with all of the best outfitters in the world and know the quality of the animals they have available. I would recommend any hunt they plan where they accompany you and we look forward to joining them again in the future.



TROPHY AWARDS PROGRAM

By Autumn Gonda, CHAIR

To refresh your memory, trophy awards for our Mid-Michigan Chapter of SCI are decided as follows:

Score sheets are collected for a two year period. Before our Hunter's Convention in February, the sheets are categorized by country and species. The top entry for each species receives a gold award, the number two animal receives a silver award and the number three animal receives a bronze award. Animals are also separated by method of take so there could be two gold awards in one category if one animal is taken by rifle and one by bow.

The following awards are voted upon by the Awards Committee.

The continents of North America and Africa receive numbers one, two, and three awards each; the other continents receive one award. The winners are decided by which animal scores closest, numerically, to the top in the International Record Book. To find this score the rank of the entered animal is divided by the total number of ranks in the International Record Book. Also taken in to consideration are terrain taken, choice of weapon and difficulty.

Other Major Awards are for the method used (Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Handgun and Bow). These are determined by the committee based on animal species harvested, difficulty and terrain.

The last categories are Men's Hunter of the Year and Women's Hunter of the Year. This decision is also made by committee based on hunting achievements for the specific period of time, participation in conservation, and ambassador of Safari Club. This award can only be won once in a lifetime.

The period for score sheets this year is: DECEMBER of 2019 TO November 30, 2021

Send your score sheets to me, Autumn Gonda, 1700 West Isabella Rd., Midland, MI 48640
You may contact me at 810-625-6985, or email at arose6985@yahoo.com

All entries must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2021.

Please remember to send pictures and to notify me if some score sheets are youth entries.
Children and grandchildren of members under age 17 are eligible for youth awards.

4th ANNUAL MID-MICHIGAN SAFARI CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

at the Mt. Pleasant Country Club

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1st Place - McCarthy, Stressman, Casher and Genia



**3rd Place - Covarrubia, VonRiechbauer, and
Delonge - not pictured Robertson**

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2nd Place - Reed, Koch, Wieferich and Boge



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We support **SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER**



Mid-Michigan SCI Members,

Please join us this hunting season in supporting our SCI Sportsman Against Hunger program. Shagana's Meat Processing in Clare has teamed up with us again this year by processing the first 25 deer donated to the program at half price, \$47.50. The SCI Sportsman Against Hunger program does have limited funds that would allow us to cover the cost of 15 deer. Anyone donating a deer is welcome to help out by covering some of the costs themselves. For example, you could cover the \$47.50 yourself or split the cost with us putting your cost at \$23.75. This generosity would help us stretch out our funds and reach our goal of 25 deer.

Remember both meat and money are a tax deduction. If you can't help cover any cost and want to donate a deer, we will cover the cost up to 15 deer.

Also, anyone cleaning out freezers for this year's hunting season can donate meat that has been processed in the last year. All meat you give to us, fresh or frozen, will be donated to soup kitchens and pantries in our own community.

Currently we donate to the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen, Love, Inc., God's Helping Hands and Isabella County Womens Shelters. As the program grows we would like to add more entities.

You do not have to be a SCI member to donate to this program. Please tell your friends and family.

Shagana's is located at 11285 Schoolcrest Ave., Clare, MI 48617. If you are coming from Mt. Pleasant, you will take 127 north to Clare exit 156. Continue north on McEwan until you see Witbeck's grocery store. Turn right on Schoolcrest Ave. and head east until it dead ends into expressway. Shagana's will be on your left.

If you have any trouble getting the deer there yourself, they can be dropped off to me, Mike Strope, and I will make sure they get there. When you drop off your deer at Shagana's, specify that it is for the SCI Sportsman Against Hunger program and we will take care of everything from there. I am very passionate about this program and look forward to doing bigger and better things with the program.

This year we have teamed up with NAC Taxidermy and Burch Tank & Truck who believe in this program as much as I do. Together we hope to make this program bigger and better. They also can be contacted for information about the program, Nick Giuliani from NAC Taxidermy at (989) 644-6289 or Matt Veale from Burch Tank & Truck at (989) 400-9536.

For those of you located nearer to the Big Rapids area, you can take your deer in to Colin Kelly at Kelly's Deer Processing located at 19077 13 Mile Road who offers a 24-hour deer drop-off during the deer season. You can contact Colin at 231-796-5414 or colin@cks-place.com. He will process your deer for free under the Sportsman Against Hunger program and donate it himself to one of 25 different locations to which he donates. He is also the one that makes jerky from venison and sends it to our troops. You can check out his ad on page 14 of this magazine.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Strope at 989-506-1113 or by email mstropecustombuilder@gmail.com

Thank you for your support and happy hunting,

Mike Strope

SCI Mid-Michigan Chapter
Mike Strope, Chairperson for Sportsmen Against Hunger
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Reponses to: *What species of fish do you find yourself pursuing over and over and why?*

☛ I like fishing for bluegill because there are a lot of them and they are kind of easy to catch. — **Ivan Christensen**

☛ I prefer to eat perch, however, I am not a very lucky fisher person, so when I'm in the boat there are very few 'keepers' that are landed! — **Abbe Mulders**

☛ The fish that I seem to always pursue is a Pike. Ever since my trip to Canada with my dad I have been hooked. There isn't anything much more exciting than having a 40" plus pike torpedoing towards your lure and exploding through the air and bending the rod over so far you pray it doesn't break. In a week's time I personally caught more than a dozen 40" plus pike with several over 20lbs, like the Pike, you can say I was hooked! I haven't broken the 40" mark here in Michigan yet but have been close with a 39" big girl with shoulders. I will break it eventually. — **Brandon Jurries**

☛ I remember with my family and friends while young rather favorably. Ice fishing with my grandfather is extra memorable. There never was a shanty nor an ice auger in those cold North Dakota winters. At 75 he still used an old truck axle with a harden point welded on as a spud to go through a couple of feet of ice. Oh, the bucket was for the fish and not sitting. I remember my buddy taking me (a retired Army vet) out in one of the Walleyes for Warriors events. Of course, I remember when my oldest son, at about 5 or 6, caught a 2-pound smallmouth off the neighbor's dock using his Scooby Doo kid's fishing rod. We went running across the yard yelling for my wife to get her good camera for a picture. My entire family has fond memories of my Father-In-Law taking and teaching the kids fishing. He bought a new boat and gave us the old one that my wife had learned to fish in. We have treasured scrap booked pictures of the kids with their first real fish on artificial bait from the boat! We live on Sanford Lake and am looking forward to its return and hopefully fishing with some grand kids on it in the future. There are a lot of fishing memories in our life. — **Jon Ziemann**

☛ Brook Trout because... throughout my entire life, they are, hands down, the best tasting fish on the planet! — **Kevin Chamberlain**

☛ I love to fish for any type of pan fish. I don't discriminate on what type gets on my hook. — **Autumn Gonda**

☛ I like to fish for crappie. They are the best to eat because of the slabs of meat you can get from them. — **Tony Gonda**

☛ I used to enjoy pursuing bass in my younger years. The thrill of getting a big fish on the end of the line was my goal at that time as I wasn't a big fan of eating my catches. Now I enjoy pan fishing much more. One reason for this is my family enjoys the taste of these fish. They are a bit more common and when fishing with my younger son there isn't much down time which makes it enjoyable for him. — **Josh Christensen**

NEW
QUESTION:

I would venture to guess everyone reading this magazine has a desire to hunt, so who or what got you into this activity? Was it a relative who started you out as a child, was it friends from school who first took you into the woods, or was it something no one in your family did but you just found yourself longing to try? At any rate,

Who or what got you into hunting?

Write in and let us know. Submit your answer to jchappyfish@gmail.com and look for it in our next issue of the Front Sight magazine.



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"Now then, get your weapons - your quiver and bow - and go out to the open country to hunt some wild game for me." - Genesis 27:3

Looking Ahead

In Our Next Issue



CATFISH NOODLING
by Lori Card

**MORE ARTICLES AND
RECIPES YET TO BE
SUBMITTED**



**WALLEYE
FISHING**
by Mary Harter



**A RIO
GOOD HUNT**
by Josh Christensen

Sharing Some Good Cookin'!

SCI CHEFS



CARAMEL APPLE CAKE

From: Cyndi Chadd via Pillsbury - Complete Baking

CAKE CREAM FIRST

- 1 1/2 cups packed brown sugar
- 3/4 cup Crisco (or you can substitute with Greek yogurt + 1/4 cup cream cheese)
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

MIX DRY INGREDIENTS

- 1 3/4 cups flour (half whole wheat, half white)
- 1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 1/2 cups chopped apples or 2 apples chopped (I leave the peels on)
- 1/2 to 1 cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup raisins (optional)

FROSTING

- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 cup cream cheese or butter (softened)
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 4 - 5 tsp milk

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees
2. Spray 13 x 9 inch baking pan
3. Cream first 2 ingredients
4. Beat in the eggs and the vanilla
5. Combine dry ingredients and mix into creamed mix
6. Beat for 3 minutes
7. Add remaining ingredients
8. Pour into pan and level (batter is very thick)
9. Bake for 30 - 40 minutes until golden on the top (toothpick test)
10. Cool before frosting

D&L Custom House Broker

A close-up photograph of a lion's face, showing its orange-brown fur, intense orange eyes, and a dark nose. The lion is looking slightly to the right.

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