

KENTUCKIANA

HUNTER



KENTUCKIANA CHAPTER - SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL

FIRST QUARTER 2018



Photo by Alice Monarch

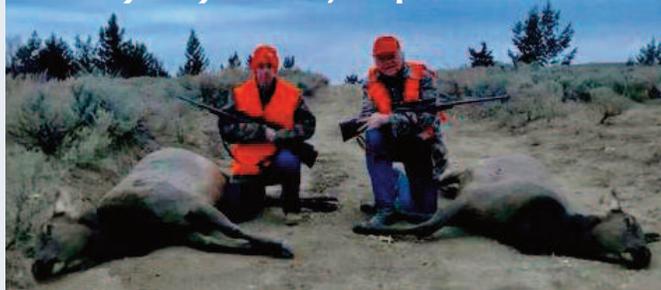
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Visit Our Web Site: www.kentuckianasci.org

President's Message

By Larry Richards, Chapter President



Hunting season has come and almost gone and I hope it was as memorable for you as it was for me! A father-daughter cow elk hunt on the High Lonesome Ranch (one of our hunt donors for the last three years) was the highlight of my hunting season. I hope each of you had the opportunity to enjoy time with a young hunter as that is the only way we can keep our wonderful heritage alive.

Preserving our hunting heritage is the reason our Chapter focuses so much of our efforts in the youth arena. Our sponsorships of the **NASP** program, our sponsoring educators at the **AWLS** program in Jackson, Wyoming, and our **Annual Youth, Apprentice & Family Program** bear this out tenfold. This year we have raised the bar for our youth hunter program and have expanded it to include other family members as well. There will be a short presentation on this new program at our February 10, 2018 annual fundraiser at the Audubon Country Club. **DO NOT MISS THIS EVENT!** The Board of Directors has really outdone themselves again with this year's program.

As you are aware our **KYSCI Fundraising Banquet** is the one event we hold annually to raise the dollars that are required to have an impact on the programs we believe most worthy of our attention. I hope all of the membership has the date – FEBRUARY 10, 2018 – saved on your social calendars. Our Live Auc-

tion Hunt program is outstanding, featuring hunts from 5 continents. These hunts have been vetted thoroughly by the Board and chapter members who have hunted with these particular outfitters on these very hunts. There will be several of the Hunt Donors at the Banquet to answer questions and introduce themselves. Please take the time to talk with them and thank them for their generous donations! Without their generous donations, we could not continue to provide the support where and when it is needed to promote our vision.

I regretfully have to inform you, the membership, that on Thanksgiving Day, we lost Sam Monarch to a heart attack. Sam was a long time Board member who was incredibly passionate about providing opportunities for young people to experience hunting and the shooting sports. He worked tirelessly on our Live Hunt Auction and his efforts have brought the best and brightest to our hunt program for years. His wife, Alice, a chapter member in her own right, has been appointed to the Board to fill Sam's position. Alice has been burning the midnight oil getting everything put together and has done an outstanding job. We look forward to her guidance, help and support for many years to come!

We have good news...Once again our chapter has **WON SCI's Chapter of the Year** for chapters of our size! We have also **WON the Newsletter of the Year** award AGAIN!! Chapter Member Peyton Whitworth, daughter of Chapter Member Jared Whitworth and granddaughter of Chapter Member Kenny Whitworth, has been named as the **2018 SCI and Cabela's Young Hunter of the Year!** That, Ladies and Gentlemen, is a triple whammy! Alice will be accepting the "Newsletter of the Year Award" for the Chapter at the Annual Convention and I will be there to accept the "Chapter of the Year" award.

Our membership has a lot to be proud of with our many accomplishments and I look forward to thanking everyone personally on February 10th. I encourage each of you to please come out, tell some NEW stories, meet some OLD friends and make some NEW ones, and most of all, help us raise the money it takes to do this important work in the coming year.



OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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About The Cover

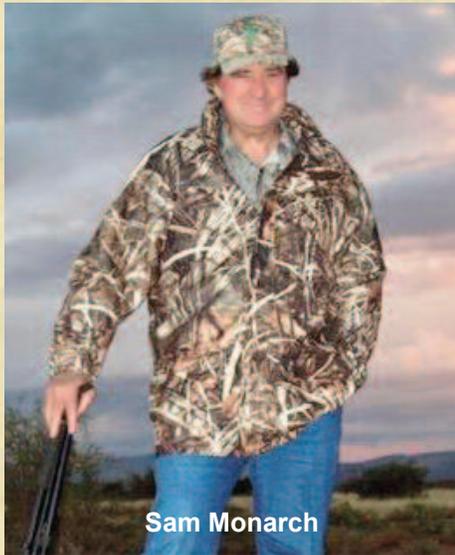
The cover photo was taken by Alice Monarch on hunting property in Scotland owned by long-time Chapter Supporters, Michael and Danielle Grosse of **International Adventures Unlimited**. The Scottish Red Deer is a subspecies of the European Red Deer that thrives in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and in Ireland and England. This deer is slightly smaller than other Western European Red Deer. The coat, which is dark reddish brown with a greyer face and neck, is lighter in color in summer with a distinct border to the lighter patch on the rump. In winter these animals grow long hair on the neck.

Michael and Danielle have generously supported our Chapter for many years with their exclusive donation of the **Balmoral Estate Roe Deer Hunt** and three years ago, they added a **Scottish Hill Country Red Stag Hunt** donation that gives our members a chance to hunt these awesome Scottish Red Stags. Sam, pictured with Owner/Guide Michael Grosse, harvested this beautiful, rare "White" Red Stag while hunting with the Grosse's in September. This white Red Stag is not an albino but is rather a subspecies of the Red Deer.



Chapter Board Member Passes

By Sherry Maddox



Sam Monarch

On Thanksgiving Day, Sam Monarch, a Board member of the Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI, passed away. Family, fellow chapter members, local community friends, outfitters and friends around the world share the loss. I can say without a doubt, Sam Monarch believed with all his heart in the mission and vision of SCI. His dedication to youth education and assuring his hunting heritage was passed on to the next generations was tireless.

It is impossible to put into words the emotions and thoughts I want to try to put on paper but I want to share a few personal thoughts about the impact Sam had on my life. As with many, Sam and his wife, Alice, were part of my SCI family. Sam offered me the opportunity to turkey hunt on his farm in Breckinridge County, Kentucky and it was there I shot my first mature Eastern Turkey. Many an afternoon was spent on the farm shooting firearms at the range or just riding around in the RTV's. For several years, Sam was my "date" at SCI Convention but I always told him he had to bring his wife, Alice. Sam and I had a running joke about his not showing up for the "adoption hearing." You see, I tried for several years to tell Sam he should adopt me and all he had to do was take me hunting along with his grandsons. Speaking of his grandsons, among my proudest moments were standing on stage at SCI Convention presenting the "SCI and Cabela's Young Hunter of the Year" awards to Grandson Tom Monarch in 2013 and to Grandson Clay Monarch in 2015. To see those proud looks on Sam's face are moments I will cherish forever.

Sam's son, Ed Monarch, said it so well as he read the eulogy he wrote for his father. I think it only fitting to share part of that message. "Most of you know my father as a

hunter and outdoorsman. He and Mother made lifetime friends from around the world through shooting and hunting. Many of you are here today. Hunting and shooting sports were the greatest joy of his life. As a boy, he hunted the woods around Kirk, Kentucky for birds, rabbits and deer. In college, he competed on the rifle team. After college, he competed on a national level with the Kentucky State Skeet Shooting Team. He hunted prairie dog in South Dakota, pronghorn antelope and elk in Wyoming, mule deer in Colorado, havalena in Texas and caribou in Newfoundland. He fished for trout in northern Canada, salmon in Alaska, and peacock bass in the Amazon River of South America. He hunted pheasants in South Dakota and doves in Argentina. He hunted large game in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Australia, and Scotland. I honestly don't think my father went on a vacation in his lifetime that did not involve hunting or fishing. If he ever walked on a beach, he was just walking across it to get to the woods.



Sherry, Mike, Sam & Mike
Turkey Hunting

"As with everything he did, Sam Monarch hunted with an eye toward giving back to the community. Through Safari Club, he helped organize bird hunts for active duty soldiers, helped develop archery programs in the Breckinridge County Schools, helped provide venison meals to homeless people through Hunters for the Hungry, and carried SCI Blue Bags filled with gifts to the children in Africa. He was a lifelong

advocate of wildlife conservation and wildlife habitat preservation. He would want me to tell you all that the money spent on hunting licenses, permits and fees is the only money used to sustain wildlife and wildlife habitat; if it were not for the lawful, licensed hunting of wild animals, there would be no money for conservation. Without hunting, the leopards would be replaced by goats, and the lions would be replaced by cows. It is not at all inconsistent to say that Dad loved the wildlife he hunted. He loved to watch wild game on the plains of Africa, stag in the woods of Scotland and tahr on the mountains of New Zealand. As we sit here today, the deer on his farm are eating turnips and winter wheat that he planted; the turkey are eating his sorghum grain; the rabbits are living in woodpiles he stacked, and he is looking over them all with great joy."

Sam Monarch loved life. His success in his professional life as a professor, banker, lawyer and judge is equal to that of his personal life. The local 4-H Shooting Sports, NASP programs at Cloverport Elementary and Breckinridge County Middle School were fortunate to have Sam in their corner. He will be missed at the annual Youth and Apprentice Hunter Program where he was in charge of the muzzleloader station.

He leaves behind his wife, Alice, who shared a lifetime at Sam's side, a son, Ed and his wife Katie, and grandsons, Tom and Clay. Time will provide an opportunity for all of us to come to terms with our loss but there will always be a void for without Sam. He was an incredibly intelligent man who loved family, life and the outdoors with a passion like no one else I know and I loved him dearly. So, I used to say, "And then I would talk to Sam." I now say, "I will say a little prayer and talk to Sam."



Teaching Muzzleloading



Blue Bags in Africa



Bobcats in Kentucky

By Laura Palmer

Wildlife Biologist, KDFWR

Scarce in Kentucky in the 1970s, bobcats (*Lynx rufus*) have made an impressive comeback and now occur in every county. Historically, bobcats occurred throughout the contiguous United States, southern Canada, and to central Mexico. Many bobcat populations declined or became extirpated by the twentieth century, especially in the Midwest, due to intensive land clearing for agriculture and persecution by humans. Bobcats have naturally rebounded and recolonized their former range except for Delaware, and have expanded further north in some areas. Bobcats are found in most any habitat type from tropical to boreal forests, conifer forests, bottomland hardwoods, and deserts.

Considering their abundance now in many areas, it is surprising that bobcats are seldom seen. Their mottled coats allow them to blend in with grasses and leaves of the forest floor, going unnoticed as they slip through the shadows and tree lines. They have an uncanny ability to lie low and silently hidden in a brush pile, blackberry patch, or hollowed out tree when people are near. Spooking a bobcat from long grass beside a gravel road guarantees an adrenaline rush to a passing hiker. Widespread use of trail cameras has made many landowners aware of bobcats on their properties. While camera position and long legs relative to body size sometimes make bobcats appear large in photos, female bobcats average only around 14 pounds and males average 22 pounds. An occasional male reaches nearly 30 pounds.

The coat color of bobcats varies from tan to reddish brown or gray interspersed with black spots or rosettes. The belly fur is white with black spots; bellies with bright white fur and distinct black spots are of higher value on the fur market. The inner legs are marked with bold black bars, and conspicuous white spots occur on the backs of the ears. Their striking appearance leads many a fur trapper or predator hunter to get at least one bobcat hide tanned for display. The ultra soft fur is used for coats and hats in the fashion industry. Market prices have declined from four years ago, when bobcat pelts sold by trappers averaged one hundred dollars each. The North American Fur Auction reported an average price of twenty dollars each for eastern

bobcats last season. Western bobcats brought a much higher average of over four hundred dollars each because of their higher quality belly fur. The fur market forecasts a comeback and increasing prices this season, so bobcats will likely bring more this year on the fur market. Bobcats also bring good value on the taxidermy market, and trappers may sell a prime bobcat for a few hundred dollars.

Bobcats breed in late winter and give birth two months later to one to four kittens; commonly two. Kitten and juvenile mortality can be high due to starvation and is dependent on prey abundance. Kittens are also prey to hawks, owls, foxes, coyotes, and domestic dogs. Most bobcats don't survive past four years old. The oldest bobcat recorded in Kentucky was 16 years old; the oldest in the U.S. was 23 years old in New Mexico. Dispersal timing is variable; some juveniles stay with the mother until she begins breeding, and others stick around until the next litter is born. Dispersal distances are commonly around twenty miles, although on occasion bobcats move farther. A study animal with a tracking collar from Taylor County, KY was picked up on a trail camera south of Frankfort in southern Franklin County, over 70 miles straight-line distance. A female bobcat tagged in New Jersey was found 108 miles away in Pennsylvania. These long-range dispersal events enable the bobcat to find unoccupied territories or areas of greater prey abundance. The ability to disperse many miles also allowed the species to naturally return to its former range unassisted by reintroduction programs. Bobcats are good swimmers and have been observed crossing rivers, lakes, and even navigating the Intracoastal waterway in the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, South Carolina. Bobcat home ranges are highly variable from one to several square miles, depending on gender, season, habitat quality, prey abundance, and fragmentation. Males' larger home ranges may overlap with one or more females' ranges, as males breed with multiple females. Bobcats mark the boundaries of their territories with feces, urine, gland secretions, and by tree scratching to warn other bobcats away.



Bobcats prey upon mice, rats, voles, rabbits, squirrels, muskrats, opossum, beaver, birds, insects, amphibians, reptiles, deer, and eggs. They also scavenge deer carcasses that have been hit by cars or left by hunters. Diversity of prey items in the diet often depends on prey abundance. Bobcats stalk and ambush their prey. It may take several minutes to move just a couple of feet when stalking. In a burst of speed, a bobcat will pounce on prey and grasp it with sharp canines and claws. Sometimes prey is cached for a later meal and is covered with leaves, grass, or pine needles.

The impact of bobcat predation on other animals has not been measured in Kentucky. These types of studies are very site specific, challenging to conduct, and expensive. Predation rates may depend on habitat quality and availability, the amount of nesting and resting cover, small mammal abundance, composition of predator communities, and densities of competing predators. These correlations may change seasonally and annually depending on mast crop, weather patterns, harvest, and a variety of complex interactions. Studies have shown that creating habitat and implementing habitat management practices to create optimum foraging opportunities and cover is likely more effective than trying to employ predator control practices with uncertain outcomes.

The bobcat is undoubtedly a fascinating and valuable furbearer. Those interested in pursuing a bobcat through hunting or trapping can check the KDFWR website for seasons, bag limits, and telechecking requirements. The Department is currently collecting a lower canine from harvested bobcats as part of a study. If you are interested in donating a tooth sample, please contact to request a sample envelope and instructions. Age results are provided to those who donate teeth.





Joyce's Bacon Wrapped Smokies

By Joyce Cook

"Make lots because they will go fast!"

1 lb Bacon (regular sliced)
8 T Butter (one stick)

1 lb Little Smokies (small sausages)
2 c Brown Sugar



Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cut bacon into thirds. Wrap each smokie with bacon. Place wrapped smokies in a single layer in a baking dish. Melt & mix butter with one cup of the brown sugar and pour the mixture over the wrapped smokies. Sprinkle remaining cup of brown sugar evenly over the smokies. Bake 15-20 minutes, then turn heat up to 400 degrees for about 5 minutes until the bacon becomes crispy.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January 31 – February 3, 2018 - **SCI Annual Hunter's Convention**

- Las Vegas, NV
- Contact: www.scifirstforhunters.org

February 1, 2018 - **Peyton Whitworth Honored by SCI**

- Las Vegas, NV – "Night of the Hunter" Awards Night
- Contact: www.scifirstforhunters.org

February 10, 2018 - **KYSCI Fundraiser Banquet**

- Audubon Country Club, Louisville, KY
- Info Contact: Larry Richards - LRichards@cobaltventures.com
- For Reservations Contact: Sherry Maddox 501-253-9679

February 17, 2018 - **KYSCI Military Appreciation Pheasant Hunt**

- Lost River Game Farm - Orleans, Indiana
- To Volunteer, Contact: Mike Maddox – mmaddox13@me.com
Or Call 502-235-0924

June 16, 2018 – Ladies Day – **Annie Oakley Day**

- Fern Creek Sportsman's Club, Louisville, KY
- Contact: Bob Edwards – bedwardslouky@insightbb.com

July 14 & 15, 2018 – **Annual Youth, Apprentice & Family Program**

- Fern Creek Sportsman's Club, Louisville, KY
- Contact: Alan Kirschenbaum - kirschenbaumalan@yahoo.com

To Join or Find Other Outdoor Friends Events Contact:

- Friends of NRA Events
Contact: John LaRowe at jlrowe@nrahq.org
- League of Kentucky Sportsmen Events
Contact: Bob Edwards at bedwardslouky@insightbb.com
- QDMA Events
Contact: Pete Blandford at pete_blandford@yahoo.com
- RMEF Events
Contact: Bill Carman at 859-489-1593 or bcarman@rmef.org
- Quail Forever
Contact: Jack Dahl at j.dahljr@att.net

Renew Your

KYSCI, SCI & NRA Memberships Today!
www.scifirstforhunters.org • www.nra.org
www.kentuckianasci.org

Habitat Improvement Checklist

By KDFWR

January

- ___ Contact wildlife biologist to discuss upcoming planting season
- ___ Take soil samples to determine soil nutrient needs
- ___ Prepare firebreaks for upcoming prescribed burns
- ___ Order seeds for spring planting

February

- ___ Mow Korean lespedeza or clover fields to encourage new growth
- ___ Burn or mow fescue sod in preparation for converting to other cover types
- ___ Disk fields in preparation for renovation to clover & grass
- ___ Erect, clean, or repair nest boxes; check predator guards
- ___ Install nesting platforms for geese

March - Mid-April

- ___ Prescribe burn in preparation to eradicate fescue
- ___ Sow clover or lespedeza
- ___ Sow cool season grasses
- ___ Apply lime and fertilizer per soil test to wildlife food plots
- ___ Strip disk to promote bare ground & new forb growth

To speak with a Wildlife Biologist, call 1-800-858-1549

LADIES DAY EVENT

Learn to Shoot Day

Rifles • Shotguns • Pistols • Archery
For Ladies of All Ages

ANNIE OAKLEY DAY

Fern Creek Sportsman's Club
Louisville, Kentucky

June 16, 2018

Patient, Expert Instructors - No Fees - No Costs
All Equipment & Ammo Provided

Contact: Bob Edwards - bedwardslouky@insightbb.com

ANNUAL YOUTH, APPRENTICE & FAMILY PROGRAM



JULY 14 & 15, 2018

FERN CREEK SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Tuition is Free • Limited to 50 Participants

Go to www.kentuckianasci.org/apprenticeprogram
for details, updates and to enroll

Pursuing The American Bison

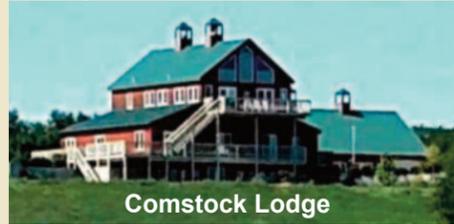
By Mary Phelps

For several years, my husband, Randy, and I and our friend, Pat Hendrixson, have been participating in hunts all around our great nation. Our first hunt together was a Miriam turkey hunt on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation in April of 2007. While turkey hunting, we noticed a herd of American Bison. Pat and I had both been interested in a bison hunt; so, she checked with our Indian guide about their bison hunts. Pat was informed that they did sell bison hunts, but that we would not be able to select which animal we wanted to shoot; so, we decided to research other options to hunt bison.

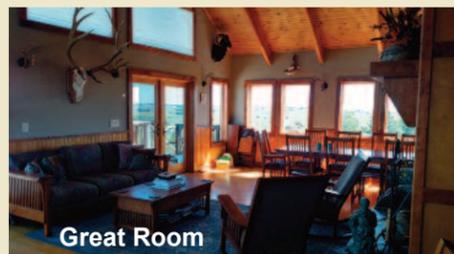
There are only a couple of states that have buffalo (bison) seasons, and those are by an application drawing. In Wyoming, tags are limited to 300 with only 10% being allocated to non-residents. Montana tags are limited to 75 tags with over 10,000 applications. Pat and I had hunted hunting properties that had offered "canned bison hunts" where the bison were enclosed in a small pasture. That was not the style of hunt that interested us. We were looking for free range style bison hunts.

At the 2017 NWTF national convention, a huge, beautiful, bison head mount caught my attention at one of the booths in the exhibit hall. Comstock Lodge in Sargent, Nebraska offered bison hunts. Their ranch is "High Fenced" but the ranch is 10,000 acres, and the bison roam the whole 10,000 acres. That was closer to the type of hunt we were searching for so we booked our hunts with Comstock Ranch for September.

When we arrived at Comstock Ranch, the owners, Mitch and Roxanne Huggins, greeted us warmly and showed us to our rooms. This



Comstock Lodge



Great Room



Kitchen

After getting settled in our rooms, Mitch

drove us down to the shooting range on their ranch to check our rifles one more time. I truly wanted to take my bison with my Knight muzzle-loader but Mitch told me that it would not be a good idea. Herd bulls are like boss gobblers: once another bull is down, the other bulls attack him. If I wanted my bison to be mounted, the other bulls could ruin my mount in the time it would take me to reload if the first shot did not kill my bull; so, I brought my Remington 700 7mm and Pat brought her Savage Arms .308 WIN. Mitch showed us a diagram of a bison and where proper shot placement would be: the perfect spot was in the bison's ear canal.

After supper, we glassed with spotting scopes and binoculars to see if we could locate the bison herd. Sometimes the herd could be spotted from the lodge, and that night we caught a glimpse of them through the trees in a grassy field about 800 yards from the lodge.

Next morning after a hearty breakfast, we left the lodge for my bison hunt. Of course, the bison had roamed from their location of the previous night. Roxanne drove me in a Razor side x side searching for the herd. For such large animals, they could sure hide well, but we finally located the herd. Roxanne rounded a swell near the bottom of a hill to work our way in front of their route then she let me out with my rifle and tripod. She then called Mitch, Randy and Pat who were in the winch truck to come and assist.

The actual hunt took longer than I thought it would. Pat and I both purchased 4-year-old bulls. There were two 4-year-old bulls in this particular herd. Roxanne pointed out the two bulls. Bulls younger than 4 year's old do not have polished tips on their horns. Their horns are a rough texture out to the end of their horns. There were also three breeder bulls in this herd. They were about 1/3 larger than the 4-year-old bulls. In this particular herd, there were approximately 70 animals: bulls, cows, and calves. The difficulty of the hunt was that there were so many animals moving around that trying to get a clear shot at the correct bull without accidentally shooting an animal behind him was challenging. Finally after about 30 minutes, my bull was in the clear. He was not in between any bison and no bison were behind him. I placed my crosshairs on his ear canal, squeezed the trigger, and he folded like an accordion.

Roxanne jumped in the Razor, and I jumped in the winch truck. Roxanne's job now was to chase the herd away from my downed bison so they would not attack him. That worked for about five minutes, and then two of the breeder bulls caught wind of the blood and came stampeding back. Roxanne chased them away again. That time they stayed away.

Now it was time for field photos and high fives! Soon, they winched my bull onto the truck. Mitch and Roxanne had bought a butcher shop in the town of Sergeant so animals taken off their ranch could be stored in a meat locker and butchered; so, my fine bison was taken to their shop where more photos were taken, then he was field dressed, skinned and halved and hung in the cooler.

After lunch Roxanne took Pat to the other side of their ranch where she knew another herd of bison was roaming. I rode in the back seat of the Razor with Pat and Roxanne. Randy and Mitch rode in the winch truck.

It took longer to find this other herd. The terrain was hillier on this section of the ranch. Comstock Ranch is in the Nebraska Sandhills which are sand dunes overgrown with grasses and trees in the runoff areas. We found the herd and parked the vehicles on the edge of the tree line down-

wind from the herd. Pat set up her tripod and Savage .308, and then the waiting game began again. This herd had about 50 animals. Although this herd had a breeder bull, Pat's 4-year-old bull was tending to a cow. Her bull and the cow moved side by side all through the herd. Finally, they moved to the outside edge of the herd and her bull stepped out just a little past his head length clearing the cow. Pat zeroed in on his ear, squeezed the trigger and dropped him. The shot made the whole herd stampede away with Roxanne in the Razor chasing them. This herd did not come back to attack. Once again it was time for photos and the loading of the beast and off to the butcher shop we went.

Wow! What a great day: two shots and two bison! Mitch said that bison are rarely a one shot deal.

While we had been driving around searching for Pat's herd, we passed an elk wallow with fresh sign. Mitch said the he thought he had at least a dozen bulls on the ranch. By the end of the day Pat had purchased a guided bull elk hunt.

Next morning, we all dressed to hunt and loaded into two side x sides. Pat was off on her bull elk hunt, and Randy and I were coyote hunting over the two bison gut piles from the day before. Randy parked the side x side before we reached the blind, and we were set up before daylight.

We had been in the blind less than an hour, maybe 45-50 minutes, when Randy saw the Razor about a half a mile away coming toward us. Randy said, "What the heck are they doing? Are they driving the razor around looking for elk?" Mitch and Pat drove up to the blind and informed us that Pat had already taken her elk at the wallow. With the eternal mosquito buzzing, neither of us had heard Pat's shot. She had taken a monster 7 x 8 bull. He was impressive!

Back at the butcher shop, we had two beastly bison and a massive elk hanging in the coolers. Our fourth and fifth days at Comstock were spent helping out in the butcher shop; otherwise, we would have probably spent a sixth day. Mitch had a professional butcher, Lyle, come in to cut up the specialty cuts, steaks, roast, etc. Emily, Randy and I deboned what Lyle did not cut up to be ground for burger. Mitch ground the burger and Emily operated the burger packer while Pat and Roxanne operated the vacuum sealers.

Randy and I had brought our 21 cubic foot chest freezer and all our larger coolers and all of Pat's larger coolers (8 total) to bring back two bison. The two bison plus one monster elk filled the freezer and all but one cooler.

Pat is a 75-year-old widow. I don't know what she is going to do with all that meat, but she said she plans to be very generous.

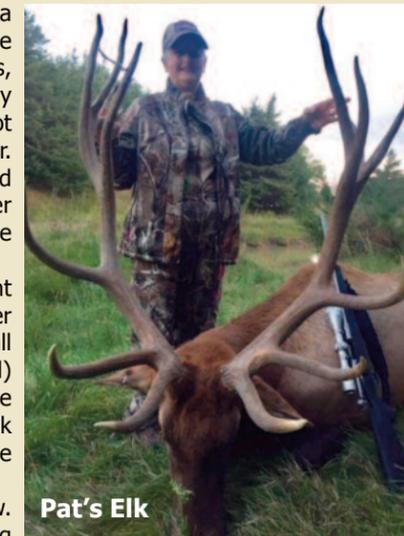
On an ending note, all three heads were massive and we were out of room in the enclosed trailer. Dan Dowse of Sargent, Nebraska, will mount all three trophies. Comstock Lodge is located in Sargent, NE and Mitch's contact information is phone: 308-527-4199; website: www.comstocklodge.com; and email: mitch@comstocklodge.com



Pat's Bison



Mary's Bison



Pat's Elk

Kentuckiana Chapter Of SCI Honored As "SCI CHAPTER OF THE YEAR!"



By Mike Maddox

Each year, based upon information gathered about the many SCI Chapters from around the world, Safari Club International selects one Chapter as **the best in the world** in each size category! For the second year in a row, our Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI was selected as the "SCI Chapter of the Year" in our size category of 51 to 100 members. The criteria established for this honor includes a having a history of full compliance with SCI By-laws, Policies and Procedures plus working to advance the cause of wildlife conservation and protecting the future of hunting which we have done extensively through our youth programs, Chapter events and Humanitarian Services outreach.

The official honor will be bestowed upon our Chapter at the SCI Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada on the evening of Wednesday, January 31, 2018. Plan to attend the Awards Presentation if you can; moreover, plan to do even more this year to protect our right and opportunity to hunt for future generations.

Kentuckiana Chapter Of SCI Honored As "SCI NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR!"



By Mike Maddox

Our Chapter newsletter, the *Kentuckiana Hunter*, recently received notice that it has been selected by SCI as the best Chapter newsletter in the world in our Chapter category of 12 pages or less with 51 to 100 members for 2017. The *Kentuckiana Hunter* will be honored with the title of "SCI Newsletter of the Year" on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 during Awards Night at the SCI Convention in Las Vegas. Please plan to attend if you can.

A sincere thanks goes out to everyone who contributed an article(s), photo(s), and ad(s) to our newsletter with a special thanks going to Ivan Schell for his "Legal Briefs" column, to the KDFWR for their many contributions to the "Conservation Corner", to Joyce Cook for her tasty recipes, to our creative printer, Pam Noble of J and C Printing, editors Alice and Sam Monarch and to each of you! Without the unselfish support of all our volunteers and our membership participation, there would be little to write about; thus, congratulations to each and every Chapter member!

RENEW OR EXTEND YOUR MEMBERSHIPS IN KYSCI, SCI & NRA TODAY!
www.kentuckianasci.org
www.safariclub.org • www.nra.org

Relax, You're In Namibia

By Alan Kirschenbaum

The Van der Merwe Family Farm is a vast 45-square-mile property in Namibia on the continent of Africa. For the previous two generations, the Van der Merwe Farm was about cattle: eradicating wildlife was a necessary means to preserve rich grasslands to fatten beef herds for market. Today, Jaco Van der Merwe, the 3rd generation proprietor, sees things another way.

While Jaco still runs a formidable cattle operation, under his leadership the farm is home to **Namibia Safari Corporation**, a premier destination for indigenous Kudu, Blue Wildebeest, Black Wildebeest, Gemsbok, Kalahari Springbok, Red Hartebeest and more. The vast savannas are surrounded by rugged, mountainous areas that are habitat for Hartmann Zebra and some of the best leopard hunting available today.

Once a German colony, Namibia is on Africa's southwest Atlantic coast. It has a more stable government where Whites and Blacks live more harmoniously than neighboring South Africa or Angola.

Arrival at Windhoek Airport was relaxed, friendly and welcoming with people helping rather than hustling you as in Johannesburg. For example, I needed to call Jaco to get the city location of the farm for my gun permits, and my cell phone would not work. The police officer offered his. He refused a tip, winked and said, "Not necessary, Sir. Relax and welcome to Namibia."

Jaco met us at the airport for a 4-hour drive to the farm. **Namibia Safari Corporation** is anything but "corporate." It's a family affair. Jaco and wife, Marinda, are at the helm. Their college and teenage kids are also at your service if they are not in school. It's a safari with a very personal touch. The accommodations are tasteful and very comfortable. The meals are fresh, healthy and family style – home cooking with an Africans-Dutch flair and they know how to cook game. The first-press olive oil from their grove is superb!

As the farm is low or no fences, this safari felt more like a real hunt as compared to a previous adventure in South Africa. The terrain is more akin to New Mexico and at times as steep and rocky as Southwest Texas. Each hunt involved strategic hiking and stalking. If you can't walk like this, Jaco can accommodate hunting from the rack on the Land Cruiser. I'm just a glutton for punishment.

Jaco was great to work with from the time I purchased the hunt at our annual chapter fundraiser through the two years that passed before I could go on the hunt. This past May, my lady-friend Mary and I were finally there.

Mary does not hunt. So, her shooting was with a camera. She added: "Setting off across the grasslands every morning and watching the sun rise was a true joy to me. It truly felt like God's country. It was thrilling to spot a herd of animals! I also felt challenged and satisfied to follow Alan and Jaco on foot across rough mountain terrain. The entire trip was wonderful. For non-hunting companions – do not hesitate!"

During the 5-day hunt, I took a Blue Wildebeest (pending SCI Gold), Kalahari Springbok (pending SCI Gold), a very respectable Kalahari Gemsbok and a Hartmann Zebra, which will be a rug. Shots were long: 185 to 235 yards. My Dakota 76 in .300 Winchester Magnum with a ballistic turret scope proved to be a one-shot wonder except after a long, hard, uphill stalk chasing a group of elusive Red Hartebeest. Some 40 pair of eyes busted me as I simultaneously squeezed off a shot. I missed. That's why they're called "elusive" and that's why it's called hunting, not killing.

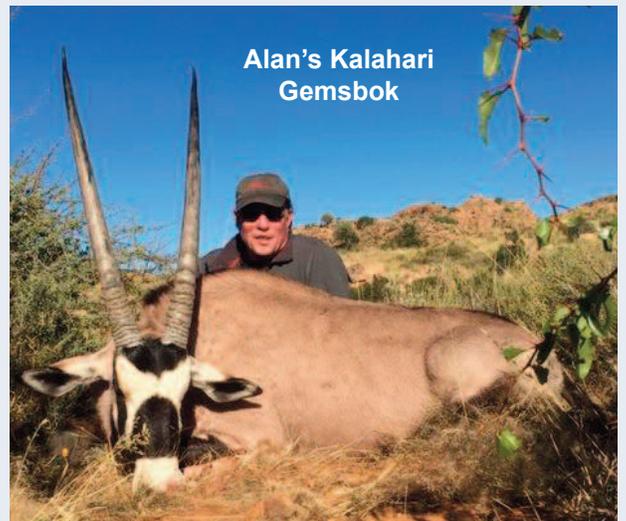
Alan's Blue Wildebeest



Alan's Kalahari Springbok



Alan's Kalahari Gemsbok



“LEGAL BRIEFS”

By Ivan Schell, Esquire



ELEPHANTS: This quarter the main theaters of legal action are on the national level. The first is related to the importation of elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. As you know SCI has been litigating this issue for some months. On November 11, 2017, US Fish and Wildlife issued a Notice allowing the importation of elephant trophies taken on or after January 21, 2016 and on or before December 31, 2018. In the Notice, the Service stated that it “has made a finding that the killing of African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe . . . will enhance the survival of the African elephant.” Unfortunately, the animal rights folks applied pressure to President Trump and he suspended the rule “until such time as I review all conservation facts”. In discussions with personnel at the Service, they advised me that the Notice was “under review”. One spokesman indicated that they were waiting for the administration to lift the suspension so that the Notice could be reinstated. However with all things political, the end result is not predictable. In an effort to sway the administration in favor of reinstatement, Terry Anderson of the Hoover Institution and the Property and Environmental Research Center in Bozeman, MT and Hannah Downey of PERC, in an opinion piece published in the Wall Street Journal, argued for lifting the suspension. Much of the article was spent explaining the difference between poaching and management of the resource through legal hunting. They also note that when hunting is prohibited, wildlife bears the cost. Before Kenya banned hunting in 1977, it was home to 167,000 elephants. By 2013 after hunting was banned, the number had fallen to 27,000, due to rampant poaching of elephants for bush meat and ivory. Some believe that government officials paid under the table are complicit in this poaching. A 2012 US government study found that eliminating hunting revenues reduced the tolerance for the species among communities where local people benefit from trophy hunting and reduced funds available for anti-poaching efforts. Without legal hunting to give wildlife value, poaching and human-animal conflicts have increased and dozens of people have been left jobless. Hunting secures the survival of at-risk species which is strong reason to allow the controlled hunting of big game and the importation of the trophies. While not all of us hunt elephants, those who wish to see them survive should petition the administration for the reinstatement of the Notice.

ELK: *Sporting Classics Daily* reported that the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit has upheld the Grand Teton National Park’s elk hunting policy. Previously in this column, I have reported on the efforts of anti-hunters and two wildlife photographers in 2014 to stop the hunt because the gut-piles left by elk hunters harmed the grizzly population. The *SCD* article speculated that the plaintiffs will not attempt to take this to the US Supreme Court. 600 elk permits were issued in 2017.

GUN BANS: The US Supreme Court left in place Maryland’s ban on Semi-automatic weapons. The Supremes declined to review a Fourth Circuit decision. The Fourth Circuit had reasoned that the Maryland law bans only certain military style weapons and detachable magazines leaving citizens free to protect themselves with a “plethora of other firearms and ammunition.” Maryland citizens can still have “some semiautomatic long guns” holding 10 or fewer rounds and semiautomatic handguns.

INDIANA: As I have recently written in articles and emails, Indiana DNR has doubled back on itself relating to the use of rifles on public land. Just before the Indiana modern firearms season started, they published a notice that *no rifle* could be used on public land. Then shortly thereafter IDNR reversed itself and reinstated the rule which allows public land use of rifles firing pistol length cartridges (e.g. .44 Mag, .358 Hoosier). On private land, Hoosiers can use most any sporting rifles .243 caliber and above. Finally IDNR establish a new rule for black bears. As a result of two black bears moving into Indiana (from Kentucky) over the past couple of years, the black bear is no long an “exotic” animal, but the restrictions on possessing live bears and hides of bears legally obtained from another state remain in place.

KENTUCKY: The most significant change in Kentucky regulations is the increase in license fees. Resident hunting licenses will go up from \$20 to \$27; resident combination hunting and fishing licenses from \$30 to \$42; resident senior combination hunting/fishing license from \$5 to \$18; and resident disabled combination hunting/fishing license from \$5 to \$18.

Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI Supports Kentucky Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt

By LTC(R) Allen H. Boone



Warrior Deer Hunters

The **Kentucky Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt** that was created by Byron Marlowe in 2012 just completed another highly successful hunting season supporting Veterans from across Kentucky. Over 100 volunteers devoted numerous hours preparing and conducting this turnkey deer hunt of a lifetime.

Joe Lacefield, a KDFWR Wildlife Biologist, provided exceptional guidance and criteria for the hunt to harvest mature does in an overpopulated area of Woodford County. Twenty Veterans were paired up with mentor guides who led them through a unique hunting experience on November 17, 18, & 19, 2017. Despite terrible weather conditions with rain and winds gusting over 40 miles per hour, hunters harvested 31 deer and donated 18 deer to Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry (KHFH). The Kentuckiana Chapter of Safari Club International (KYSCI) made a grant of \$4,000.00 to the KHFH to cover the processing cost of excess meat from the hunt. The processed meat was donated to feed needy military families on Ft. Knox thanks to the leadership, dedication and selfless service of KYSCI Member Mike Ohlmann.

The **Kentucky Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt** did an exceptional job encouraging and inspiring Veterans. One of the best parts of the hunt was the camaraderie and fellowship between Veterans and those supporting the event. The free meals and lodging, gift bags, and various awards recognizing hunters, combined with the full processing of their deer harvested made this hunt very memorable. This community wide event led by individuals and organizations highlighted people's commitment to Veterans and their appreciation for the sacrifices made by our Veterans to preserve our freedom.

Since 2010, Marlowe has created a number of programs for returning warriors and their families. He has served as a guest speaker for numerous groups on his work with Veterans. Byron Marlowe received the **2015 Kentucky Veteran of the Year Award**. When asked what inspired him to form such a worthwhile program, Marlowe responded, "When I returned from Iraq, spending time in the outdoors was very therapeutic for me. I started the **Warrior Adventure Program** to introduce recovering warriors to a hobby that will help them recover from the visible and invisible wounds of war. Since 2012, hundreds of war-

riors have experienced the healing power of nature through these life-changing programs."

Another great example that reinforces how Veterans are inspired and encouraged by having participated in and learned about the **Kentucky Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt** is the story of Matt Bradford. Matt Bradford is a double amputee, blind Warrior who previously benefited from this great hunting experience. A former Marine, Brent Buckley interfaced his rifle scope with a laptop computer and coached Matt to shoot accurately at the gun range. He then guided Matt to a very successful **Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt** where Matt shot the biggest buck out of 52 deer harvested. Now, a trophy named in his honor is used to recognize the largest buck harvested each year. Matt attended this year's **Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt** inspiring participants and helping with the presentation of the Biggest Buck award.



Warrior Deer Meat Recipients

Another Veteran who was inspired by the **Warrior Adventure Program** is Steven McCain. Steven McCain is a Wounded Warrior who participated in the first **Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt**. He has volunteered as a mentor or butcher all of the following years. Steven was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) that cracked his skull from the top of his head to the bottom of his chin. His brain had severe swelling and he lost all memories of his entire life prior to the explosion. Steven had to learn how to talk, walk, read and unite with family and friends who he could not remember. Basically starting life over again, he completed educational training, learned how to be a butcher and culinary chef, started a wonderful family and is the founder of a non-profit organization called **Hero's Haven**.

The idea for **Hero's Haven** was birthed from Steven going through pictures. He saw a deer he shot with his dad as a boy. He realized that there was nothing he could do about not remembering that experience or anything else in his life prior to the explosion. But, he could create an organization that could take Veterans and their families on hunting and fishing trips to create new memories. Steven McCain met Brent Buckley (**Hero's Haven** Co-Founder) at the **Warrior Adventure Deer Hunt**. They became instant friends and were even more inspired by their experiences from this hunt. Since then, they have taken multiple military personnel, Veterans and their families on successful turkey and deer hunting trips across Kentucky and fishing trips to Lake Michigan.

Warrior Adventure Programs are made possible by a strong partnership with the Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI, Kentucky Utilities, KDFWR, KHFH, generous local private landowners of Woodford County, and generous gifts from local donors like American Legion Auxiliary Post 34 make it possible to provide this program free-of-charge for Veterans. If you are interested in opening up your property or making a donation to support this hunt, please contact Byron Marlowe at 859-229-6807 or byron.marlowe1@gmail.com.



LTC (R)
Boone

SCI Chapter Donates To BCMS Archery

Article and Photo by Angela Wheatley • The Herald-News



Pictured from L to R: SCI members: Jared Whitworth, Allen Wheatley and Kenny Whitworth look on as Chapter Director Sam Monarch (far right) presents KYSCI Chapter's and individual members donations to BCMS Archery Coaches Allison and David Hall.

Earlier this year, the Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI donated \$500 to BCMS for the purpose of helping the archery program purchase equipment. Notwithstanding the previous contribution, the Chapter voted to give the BCMS archery program a second \$500 gift. The check was presented to the BCMS Archery Program on behalf of the Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI Thursday, October 12.

Chapter Director Sam Monarch stated that he was aware that all the team's targets were in a poor state of repair and should be replaced now or at least in the near future; accordingly, he suggested to several Breckinridge County SCI Chapter mem-

bers that they each donate a new target to the BCMS Archery program at a cost of \$159 per target. The following Breckinridge County members of SCI committed to personally donate the cost of a target: State Representative Dean Schamore, who was unable to attend, his check was in hand for \$159, Jared Whitworth - \$159, Kenny Whitworth - \$159, Allen Wheatley - \$159 and Sam and Alice Monarch - \$159. The gifts from KYSCI and KYSCI Chapter members totaled \$1,295 for a total gift during the year of \$1,795.

Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI proudly continues to support the youth of Breckinridge County. The Chapter gave the Cloverport Independent School Archery Program a \$500 donation and also obtained a matching grant from the international association in a like amount for a total of \$1,000.

The Chapter purchased 11 new .22 caliber target rifles of various weights and stock configuration and one new Beretta 12 gauge shotgun for the Breckinridge County 4-H Shooting Sports Program and Mr. Monty Quinn of Aces Gun Shop did the required FBI background check and transfer without charge. The value of this gift from KYSCI was \$4,700.

Virtually every penny that Kentuckiana SCI obtains is spent on various youth development programs such as NASP, 4-H Shooting Sports Program, Youth Hunter Education program where youth are taught how to safely and responsibly use firearms/archery equipment. Whatever funds are left are spent on Humanitarian projects such as taking school supplies, clothing and food to improvised children in Africa and feeding hungry people in Kentuckiana through Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry, and like projects. The chapter also sponsors several programs/activities which are intended to say thank you to our military service men and women for their many sacrifices.

**Spend a Great Day Afield
Honoring Our Military!**

2018

**Kentuckiana SCI
Military Reserves
Pheasant Hunt**

Held at

**Lost River
Hunting Preserve
Orleans, IN
February 17, 2018**

*Join Other
Kentuckiana SCI Volunteers*

**Contact: Mike Maddox
at 502-235-0924**

KYSCI Receives Thanks From Cornerstone Christian Academy NASP

By Dan Jessee, Athletic Director



three 4th-12th graders and as I said, the numbers are always changing.

We are grateful to Safari Club for your partnering with us to help get this off the ground. Several athletic directors in our league have asked me about starting programs in their schools and I have passed on your contact information. I hope it continues to grow. You can follow our team as they learn and compete on their Facebook page: CCA Team NOCK



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



YOU ARE INVITED... to the **23rd Annual KYSCI Fundraising Banquet**

Saturday, February 10, 2018

**Audubon Country Club
3265 Robin Road, Louisville, KY**

~ Dress as Your Favorite Hunting Hero or Business Casual ~

Social Hour 4:00 PM ~ Dinner 7:00 PM ~ Auction 8:00 PM

FEATURING HUNTS ON 5 CONTINENTS & MANY MORE ITEMS

Among the anticipated items to be auctioned at this year's live auction are the following:

South African Safaris • Wilderness Mint Jewelry • Colorado Elk Hunt • STIHL Chainsaw
Zulu Nyala Photographic Safari • Argentina Big Game & Dove Hunt • Waterford Crystal
Namibia Africa Safaris • Fire King Safe • New Zealand Red Stag Hunt • Stoeger Air Rifle
Spanish Mountain Hunt • Van Winkle Bourbon • Yudofsky Fur • Ohio Whitetail Hunt
Scotland Queen's Balmoral Estate Hunt • Wisconsin Deer Hunt • Americase Safari Case
Beautiful Custom Built Winchester Model 70 Super Grade Rifle Chambered 280 Remington

For Details About These & Many More Items Visit www.kentuckianasci.org

Important Announcement

As dining seating in the ballroom at Audubon Country Club is limited by fire code regulations to 185 persons, it is important to make your reservations early! Persons wishing to attend after that number is reached will be seated in an adjacent dining room but will be able to move into the ballroom after dinner to enjoy the evening's program & live auction festivities.

Register Online or Contact Sherry Maddox at 502-253-9679

KYSCI Helps Parkwood Elementary NASP

By Tom Hebert



April 10-13, 2017, KYSCI Members/Officers Tom Hebert and Jim Warren, both certified NASP Instructors, taught archery to 18 excited students of the Parkwood Elementary School in Clarksville, Indiana. The archery program, along with several other activities, was part of an *Afternoon Adventure Club* program the school presented to students who wanted to take part. Cathy Davis, a teacher at Parkwood Elementary and wife of long-time KYSCI Supporter/Member Rick Davis, contacted me about sponsoring the class. Cathy had an opportunity to experience

archery at a KYSCI event and thought some of her students would really enjoy it.

Prior to the date of the event, Jim and I visited the school and developed a plan of how the safety net and equipment would be set up. The class ran from 3:30 to 4:30 for the four days. In addition to Cathy assisting with the students, Sabeena Shelton, a pre-school teacher at the school also assisted. Anyone that's taught youngsters knows the more adults on deck watching for trouble the better especially when it involves bows and arrows!

After their archery classes, the students were so excited about archery that the school administration later decided to start their own NASP program. The school was able to acquire funding assistance for the basic archery equipment, but was in need of PVC arrow holders/quiver and arm guards. I assembled PVC arrow holders/quivers for the school and purchased arm guards on behalf of KYSCI and delivered them to the Parkwood School Principal, Brandon Winebrenner, on October 25, 2017. Principal Winebrenner was very appreciative of the assistance provided by KYSCI and was very excited about the new program. They had two teachers scheduled for NASP training and he hoped to be in full swing very quickly.

It should be noted that KYSCI sponsored Sabeena Shelton at SCI's **American Wilderness Leadership School** in Jackson Hole, Wyoming this past summer. Among other certifications, Sabeena was certified as a NASP instructor while attending the leadership school.