A black bear is the central focus, standing in shallow, rippling water. The bear's fur is dark and appears wet, with water droplets visible. To the left, a large, weathered log extends into the water. The background is a soft-focus landscape of green foliage and a blue sky. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

Safari Club International  
**NORTHWEST**  
**CHAPTER**

**2020 BANQUET EDITION**



# Bearpaw OUTFITTERS

41 Years In Business, Thousands of Successful Hunts

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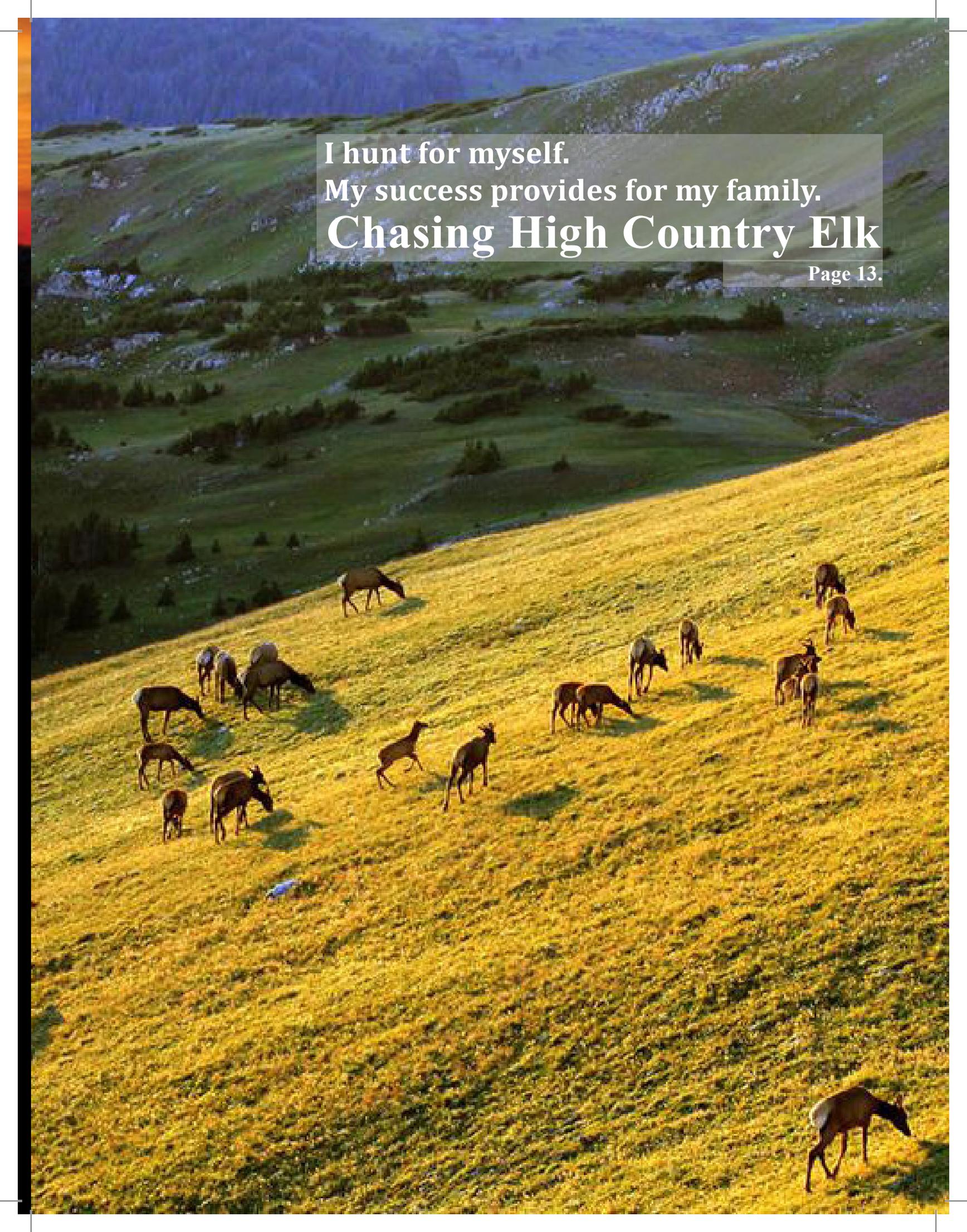


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**Office: (509) 684-6294**  
**Cell: (509) 684-6294**

**For More Info:**  
[BearpawOutfitters.com](http://BearpawOutfitters.com)

A herd of elk is grazing on a golden, grassy hillside. The background shows a valley with green fields, scattered trees, and distant mountains under a clear sky. The scene is captured in warm, golden light, likely during late afternoon or early morning.

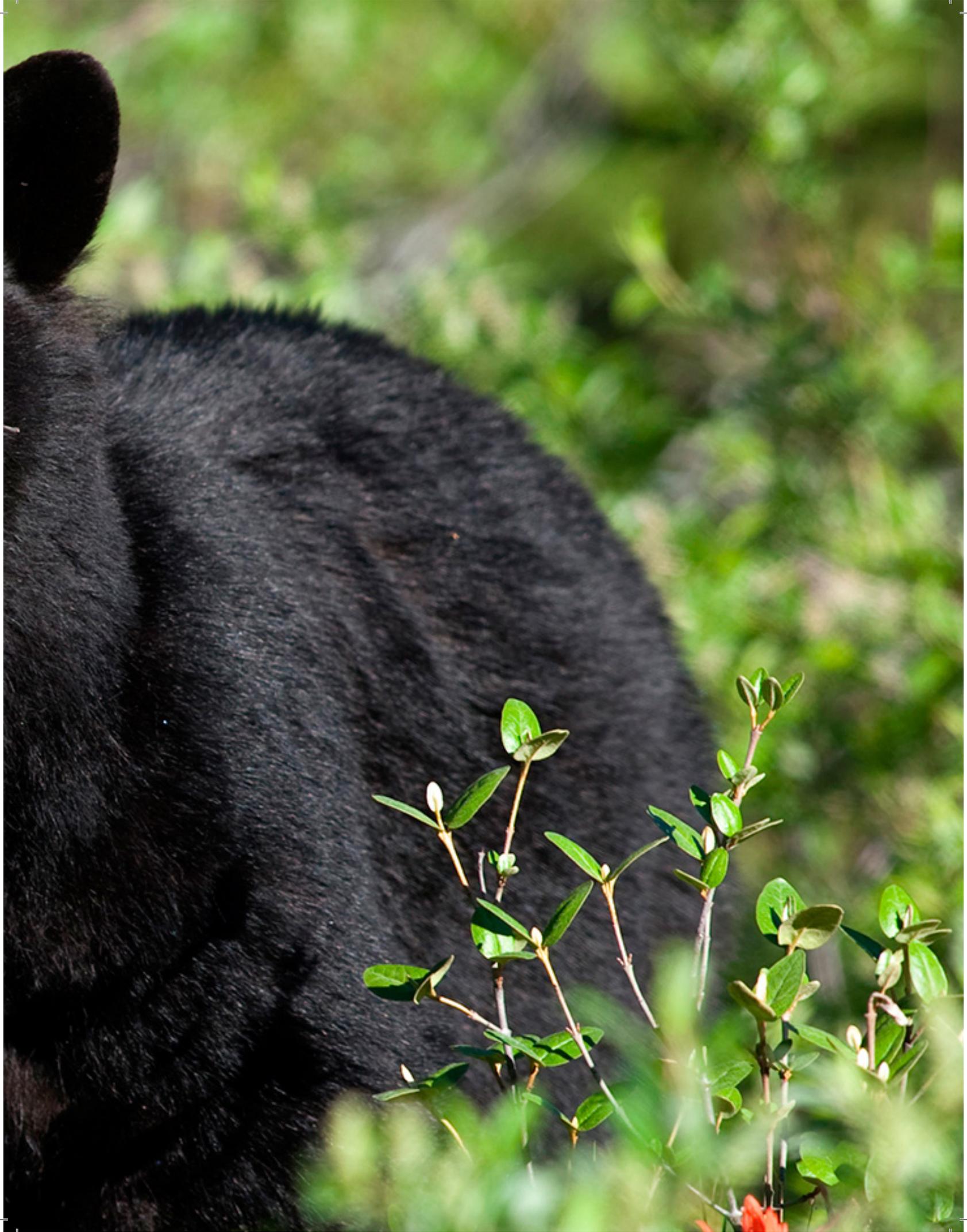
I hunt for myself.  
My success provides for my family.  
**Chasing High Country Elk**

Page 13.



**I was putting the stock  
on the bear and all of  
a sudden another bear  
walked out 75 yards in  
front of me...**

**Page 34.**



**“Without the financial resources provided by hunters to protect habitat and stop poachers, there would be no infrastructure for wildlife Management”**

- National Geographic  
September 2013



# NORTHWEST CHAPTER - SCI FIRST FOR HUNTERS

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**DAVID IRONS**  
**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**SPRING 2020**



**Governor Inslee Bans Events - SCINW April 4th Banquet Canceled!**

For the past few months we have all seen the coronavirus spread across many nations, including the United States. Washington State has been hit exceptionally hard; our hearts and prayers go out to the individuals who have contracted this virus and their families.

Governor Inslee declared a health emergency and announced all meetings of 250 people or more were banned. This means our April 4th banquet is being canceled. The Chapter Banquet Committee has done a great job of organizing and planning for a fantastic event. This committee along with the Chapter Board have been preparing for possible impacts to our 2020 Banquet by the spread of the coronavirus for some time. If you have purchased tickets, you will be receiving refunds in the very near future.

The good news is the On-line Auction will still be taking place with a great selection of outdoor equipment and world class hunts up for bid. To see items available for bid please go to <https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com> and visit the SCINW On-line Auction April 4, 2020.

A very appropriate question is how will canceling the 2020 Chapter Banquet impact the financial stability of the Northwest Chapter? The Board has set aside an emergency fund within our budget to address events like this. The Board will be watching to make certain every dollar is spent wisely; the good news is our Chapter is in excellent condition financially. We can all thank current and past Boards for their wise financial decisions that allowed us to be on solid ground.

On to a happier topic, our quarterly newsletter has received national recognition by SCI. Cody Scriver (Chapter VP) has done a great job putting this together over the past few months, but Cody is unable to continue doing this alone. Cody is in the middle of moving and combined with a young family, he is asking for some assistance. The area we need some help with is in electronically assembling the newsletter. We have software that makes this process very straightforward. Cody, myself, and others are there for help/support. We have a team that works on obtaining advertising and a printer who produces the finished product. If you have an urge to take on a task that makes a real difference with minimal impact on your schedule, give me or Cody a call!

Our winter Chapter event in Portland was truly spectacular. Dr Warnock's trophy room is larger and is more diverse than any museum I have ever seen. Great food and fellowship along with a wonderful host made the event truly memorable. Thank you, Dr., Warnock and Trish, JoDean and team for coordinating this event.

In closing please, contact me if you have a question or if I can help in any way.

Thank you,  
David Irons



Safari Club International



Northwest Chapter

## Northwest Chapter

Safari Club International

## 45th Anniversary

# Sportsmen for Conservation Benefit Auction

*Note: Due to the Governors Emergency Order  
the Live Auction and Banquet have been Cancelled.  
Prepaid Reservations will be refunded shortly.*

## **\*We are Having an Online Auction\***

- 👉 Big & Small Game Hunting Trips, Fishing Trips, Firearms, Sporting Goods, Art, Jewelry etc.
- 👉 2020 Governor's Westside (Roosevelt) Elk Tag! This is your Best Chance at getting that Monster Roosevelt Bull!
- 👉 Preview and Get Approved To Bid At: ONLINE HUNTING AUCTIONS .COM

[https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com/Safari-Club-International-Northwest-Chapter\\_ae2070](https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com/Safari-Club-International-Northwest-Chapter_ae2070)

**Auction Ends April 4, 2020**

**Help us Support Hunter's Rights, Youth, Humanitarian,  
and other Conservation Programs for all of us!**

**See SCINW President David Irons message @: [WWW.SCINW.COM](http://WWW.SCINW.COM)**

Safari Club International



Northwest Chapter

## Northwest Chapter

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## 45th Anniversary

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**See SCINW President David Irons message @: [WWW.SCINW.COM](http://WWW.SCINW.COM)**

## **Cody Sriver**

### **A Message from the Editor**

### **Winter 2020**

I wanted to say thank you again for all of the support everyone has shown the Northwest Chapter's Newsletter. I am still looking for people to help run down articles and updates so if you have any interest, your help would be greatly appreciated. It is not as daunting as it may seem at first glance so give me a shout and we can discuss some of the options and see if it is something you are interested in.

There is good news and bad news with the coronavirus, the good being you finally have a chance to read the newsletter, but the bad is that we had to move our banquet online. I emailed David Irons about how the drink tickets will work but he hasn't responded back (joking).

As most of you know, Chris Klineburger passed away in January 2020. Chris Klineburger, former world-renowned taxidermist, was a founding member of Safari Club International and a pioneer in opening up hunting opportunities in several countries and remote areas of the world. His contribution to wild-life conservation and hunting achievements were recognized through the many awards and honors he received, including being inducted into the SCI Hunting Hall of Fame.

He chronicled his adventurous life in his autobiography "Gamemasters of the World," and worked to explain the sometimes complex necessities of trophy hunting in his book "Conservation or Preservation". We have included several excerpts from "Conservation or Preservation" in our magazine to help our members articulate how important hunters are to conservation worldwide. I included a brief history of the Klineburger brothers in this issue.

Steve Scold was planning on joining us for our banquet this year, but we will have to start over and try to bring him around next year. If you had questions you wanted to ask him feel free to reach out and we might be able to get an answer for you.

Thank you again for your support.

Cody Sriver  
Cell (253) 988-0557  
Trythis06@yahoo.com  
2019-2020  
Vice President/Newsletter Editor



# Northwest Chapter

## \$500 IN RAFFLE TICKETS

### UP FOR GRABS!!!

### 2020!!!!

### Story, Picture and Recipe Competition

#### Categories Include:

**Best Hunting Article - Adult**

**Best Hunting Article - Youth**

**Best Picture**

**Best Game Recipe**



**Best Hunt Article - Adult** - Send in your 800-1,500 hunting story with 5-10 pictures along with your contact information to enter. The hunts can be recent or even be in our upcoming section "Blast From The Past" section as long as photos are included. You don't have to be featured in the magazine to win.

**Best Hunt Article - Youth** - Send in a 800-1,500 word hunting story written by a youth with 3-10 pictures to enter. The hunt has to be when they were 18 or under and written while 19 or under.

**Best Picture** - Send in your best hunting/outdoor pictures with 2-3 sentences explaining the photo, saying who is in it and where it is taken.

**Best Game recipe** - Send in your favorite game recipe, as long as wild game is a part of it. Preparation pictures are encouraged.

The banquet committee will pick the winners who will be announced in the Banquet Edition (Spring Edition in March-ish 2021) of the Northwest Chapter's newsletter. You don't have to be a member to enter and your submission doesn't have to be printed in the magazine to win but by submitting your articles and photos you are consenting to allow the Northwest Chapter to print your articles and photos in our newsletter at its discretion. The winner of each category will receive \$125 in raffle tickets for use at our 2021 banquet. You can win as many categories as you put in for. Entries are open until midnight on 12/31/2020, submissions after 12/31/2020 will go in for our 2022 banquet competition.

Send your submissions to:

**Trythis06@yahoo.com**

# Chasing High Country Elk

By: Jan Pearson 2019



I love being in elk country in the Fall.

I love the high country. The crisp air, the spectacular scenery. Riding on horses or in a vehicle. The solitude. The physical exertion. I love the challenge of the hunt, wearing a pack and my carrying my rifle. Always searching for the elusive elk. I hunt for myself. My success provides for my family.

*Continued on Page 14.*



*Continued from Page 13.*

Sometimes an opportunity may present itself that you can't resist! Such was the case in December 2019; however, the story actually began in January at the 2019 SCI Convention in Reno. My husband learned of a highly recommended outfitter in Oregon.

After further research, Alan learned that the outfitter was an exhibitor at the Portland Sportsmen's Show. He attended the show and met Bobby Corey of Hunt Oregon, LLC.

Alan went to inquire about a bull elk hunt. There were no bull elk hunts available for Fall 2019, but Bobby offered an opportunity for a cow elk hunt. Without hesitation, Alan lined me up for my own cow hunt. He knows I like cow hunts as I like to hunt for the freezer! During the Sportsmen's Show, I was in Florida with his mom (sun, antiques and other fun stuff) and was thrilled to hear of my hunting opportunity!

After a busy year of family events, hunting Namibia, fishing in Alaska and Montana and bird hunting with our dogs, the time was quickly approaching

for my early December cow elk hunt. I got my Oregon non-resident general hunting license on-line. I purchased my landowner elk tag upon arrival at the ranch.

Alan and I drove from Lakewood, WA to the ranch near Pilot Rock, OR. The geography was open and rolling with lots of dry creek drainages. The countryside was beautiful. Hunt Oregon, LLC has approximately 100,000 acres. The ranch house, at least 100 years old, was well-kept and roomy. We had the place to ourselves. Food and lodging were not included in the price of the hunt, so we brought our own food and all our gear. It doesn't seem to matter where we go nor how long we're away, we can always fill up the back of the truck! Upon arrival, we met Mike, our guide for the next two days. He was considerate and thoughtful, with a plan for everything. We hit it off immediately.

Early the first morning of the hunt, we were off in the Ranger to find elk. We soon spotted two cows feeding along a high ridgeline...far above us. We parked the rig down the lane from the slope and we began our trek. Quickly and quietly, we switch-backed up the hillside toward where we spotted the elk. A sneaky unseen mule deer gave us away

less than 100 yards from the elk. The elk quickly spooked and ran over the top of the ridge. An opportunity was lost. We continued up the hillside to reach the top. The skyline opened to a fabulous vista. After reaching the top, we hiked to the edges of the property. There were lots of elk in the distance, unfortunately, on the neighboring ranch.

That afternoon, we hunted a different section of the ranch. We drove about 20 miles toward the foothills of the Blue Mountains. We followed a tiny, little used track to access the section of the ranch we would hunt, gaining elevation as we went. Soon, we got into snow which got deeper along the shadowed portions of the track. We began seeing numerous elk tracks, as well as wolf and large bear tracks.

As we crossed through the gate into our hunting area, we saw elk everywhere!

The trick was to get out of the Ranger and begin the stalk without spooking them.

Using the terrain to cover our approach, we walked, stooped and low crawled to get into position. Low crawling through snow, cow pies, and scattered cactus is challenging when trying to avoid being spotted by thousands of elk eyes. I loved it! Elk were everywhere. Every little patch of timber and the grassy openings along the ridges contained elk. The best was yet to come. As we came to a small rise, we looked over the edge into a large meadow below which contained literally hundreds of elk. What a thrilling sight to see so many elk in one location and hear their vocalizations. It seemed like they all were looking directly at us.

Cover was sparse and now we now faced the dilemma of getting into shooting range. Mike and I took off moving close together while Alan stayed behind. It took over an hour to carefully traverse the open terrain and scrubby sagebrush toward the cover of scattered trees closer to the elk. We could hear elk moving all around us through the trees, expecting them to spook at any moment. Finally, we could get no closer to the nervous elk. Daylight was rapidly fading. Mike spotted a cow and asked me if I thought I could make the shot. I was using our 300 Win Mag R Bros Rifle, made by our friend Travis Redell. 364 yards and two rounds later, the elk was on the ground.

We were 1.5 miles from the Ranger...

*Continued on Page 16.*





*Continued from Page 15.*

After time to give respect to the animal, photos were taken and the work of field dressing in the dark began. Once we got back to the ranch house that night, we hung and skinned the elk. She was a big animal. Mike guessed her weight at 450 pounds.

The next morning, we finished processing the elk, filled our ice chests and headed home. At home the following day, I processed the backstraps and tenderloins. The remainder was processed by Linds Custom Meats in Kent.

I prefer to hunt for

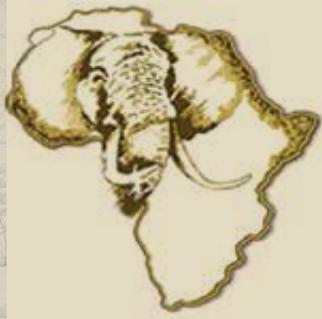
the freezer. This elk is providing delicious and nutritious meals for our family. Our daughter makes a fabulous elk lasagna which we all enjoy. Alan and I have a new favorite, elkloaf, which also makes terrific sandwiches the next day.

We had such a great time. We can't wait to go back. I have another cow tag and Alan was fortunate to draw a bull tag this year. We will return in October.

Future stories to come...

By Jan Pearson





# GAME

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*\*Offering more than 120 species of game*

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# AN UPDATE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2019 - BY MARK PIDGEON

My last newsletter article gave you a preview of what things looked like before the legislative session started, this article will be a legislative wrap-up. In odd-numbered years the legislative session lasts 105 days, in even-numbered years like the 2020 session lasts 60 days. As I am writing this article, there are ten days left of the 2020 legislative session.

It is easy to summarize what happened to the hunting related bills that were introduced in 2019. None of the hunting bills introduced last year were acted on and they died. In 2020 there were very few bills introduced that affected hunters. There was the Governor's fee increase bill, SB 6166, which died. There is a very good bill, ESHB 2571, which would give WDFW the option to make minor infractions civil penalties versus criminal penalties. This looks like it will become law. WDFW asked for a \$26 million general fund lift and right now that is up in the air. WDFW should get most of their request, but we are working hard to get their entire request for them.

This session I could talk a lot about the gun bills. Lots of action on all kinds of very bad gun bills, but the Hunters Heritage Council, like the Northwest Chapter of SCI, is a hunting organization. You can get all the information on gun bills through the NRA, Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, Gun Owners Action League Washington, and many more gun groups. There were two bills so terribly bad, I am going to focus on them. While these bills aren't hunting bills, they do affect hunters. They are animal cruelty bills, HB 2317 and SB 6300. Anytime there are com-

panion bills, that should be a red flag that there is money behind this effort. Usually companion bills are agency request legislation, the last time I saw companion bills that weren't government request legislation was when I-594 was in bill form.

These bills were beyond bad, in them they had language that equated human pain equal to animal pain. The worst part was this loose definition of pain and suffering:

"Pain or suffering" means a state of physical or mental lack of well-being or physical or mental uneasiness that ranges from mild discomfort or dull distress to unbearable agony.

Almost anything could qualify as animal cruelty under this loose definition, especially telling a hunting dog to retrieve a duck in freezing water. What is mental uneasiness in an animal? Who defines that? For so long the animal-rights groups wanted to get something that said animals are equal to people. Less than 1% of Americans support the animal rights community ultra-radical agenda of no meat, no dairy, no hunting, no fishing, no trapping, no ranching, no leather, no wool, no research on animals to find cures for diseases or medical research, no testing on animals for product safety, no vermin control, no killing of insects (animal-rights groups criticized President Obama for killing a mosquito while he was speaking), no killing or control of poisonous snakes or other poisonous creatures, no insect control, no pets, no work animals, no farm animals, no dairy animals,

**I**t is easy to summarize what happened to the hunting related bills that were introduced in 2019. None of the hunting bills introduced last year were acted on and they died.

no service animals, no police or military animals, no show or entertainment animals, no zoos, no aquariums, no petting farms, no animal usage whatsoever, and finally that animals are equal to humans and that animals have rights.

A huge coalition came to fight this bill. The Hunters Heritage Council, Sportsmen's Alliance, the Washington Cattlemen's Association, the Farm Bureau, and even the American Kennel Club was involved. We were able to strike all the pain and suffering sections from the bill and amend the bill to make the bill a very good bill, because no one wants to see animals brutalized. The other reason is that we wanted to amend the bill and not kill it, is to prevent the animal-rights groups from running an initiative next year.

For the hunting community this was a very good session, and our future is looking good too. The state's tribes are working with the non-tribal hunting community more and more.

The tribes want more predator control, just like the hunting community. The Colville Nation is killing wolves in their ceded area in the North Half to the Canadian Border. Now the Spokane Nation is killing wolves in their off reservation ceded area. We are not going to agree all the time, but when we can, it's a marriage made in heaven.

- Mark Pidgeon  
Hunter's Heritage Council,  
President

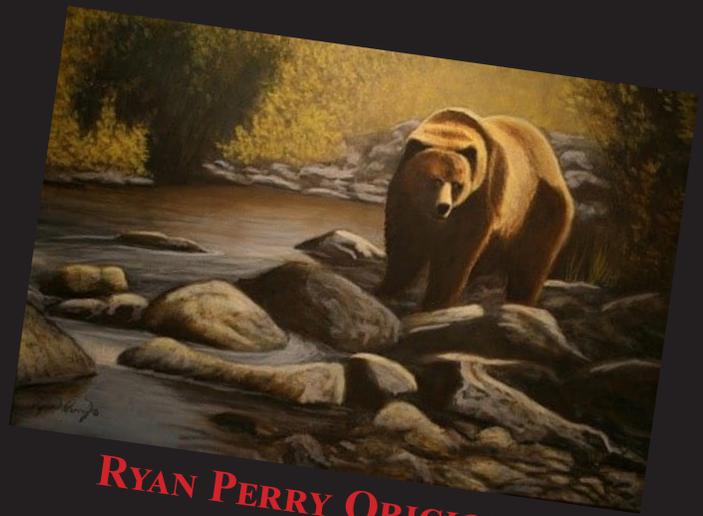


*The Hunters Heritage Council is a Washington State based organization dedicated to political action on behalf of the hunting and related communities of Washington. The Hunters Heritage Council is currently composed of 11 individual organizations representing nearly 30 hunting, trapping and fishing organizations in total. These individual organizations, representing ALL regions of the state from the Inland Empire, Columbia Basin, and several groups in Western and Southwest Washington, have been formally organized as the HHC since 1999.*

## 2020 BANQUET ITEM SNEAK PEAK!!!



85 SAFARI  
SAKO 85 SAFARI 500 JEFFERY (\$10,850 MSRP)



RYAN PERRY ORIGINAL

## 2020 WESTSIDE GOVERNOR'S ELK TAG



# THE NORTHWEST CHAPTER

WANTS TO SPONSOR

A LOCAL TEACHER TO ATTEND

THE **2020**

# AMERICAN WILDERNESS LEADERSHIP SCHOOL



The AWLS Educator Program is a unique 8-day workshop for adults who are educators seeking outdoor education skills, knowledge about conservation and wildlife ecology and seeking instructional materials for teaching students of all ages in the outdoors and in classroom. The program promotes the role of conservation and shows the role hunting plays in it.

AWLS is offered for college credit, continuing education with an opportunity to become a certified National Archery in the Schools Instructor and become certified in Project WILD, all while learning about wildlife ecology principals and hands-on instruction techniques. There are opportunities to view wildlife while visiting the National Elk Refuge and enjoying a white-water rafting trip.

This opportunity brings our guests together with private and public land management agencies for exposure to management policies and current environmental issues and concerns. This also is an opportunity to explore energy and wildlife management issues while visiting gas fields in person.

The Northwest Chapter is interested in sponsoring one or two open-minded and interested educators from the Greater Puget Sound area for the Summer 2020 AWLS event taking place either June 5-12 or the June 15 - 22 courses. The event takes place during the summer break from school and a member will work with the teacher being sponsored to help coordinate travel and logistics so it is a highly informational and low stress event for our teachers.

If you know a teacher who may be interested please reach out to us at: [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com) in the "Contact Us" section so we can answer any questions and start planning early to lock in their spots.



# JUST PICTURES

- Don't have time to write a story but still want to share it?  
Send in pictures with a quick sentence or two and we'll post  
it in our photos section

Left: Jan and Alan Peaerson on a  
Montana Fishing trip



# JUST PICTURES



**BANQUET SNEAK  
PEEK!!!**

**2020**

**BANQUET SNEAK  
PEEK!!!**

**NORTHWEST CHAPTER**

**BANQUET**

**2020 YOUTH HUNT**



**2020 WESTSIDE  
GOVERNOR'S ELK TAG**



**85 SAFARI**

**SAKO 85 SAFARI 500 JEFFERY (\$10,850 MSRP)**

More information on Pg 9

# The Evolution of a Fisherman and other lies...

By: Alan Pearson

I grew up a fisherman. Some might suggest that makes me cold blooded, which might be hard to argue at times. Just ask my family and friends. But that is another story.

My earliest recollection of fishing occurs at my grandparent's house in a tiny farming community in North Alabama. There was a crossroads with yield signs in both directions. It's a wonder there weren't more accidents, but old pickups and tractors generally didn't go too fast in those days. There was a cotton gin on one corner, and two small general stores across the road from one another and a cow pasture on the other corner of the intersection. The oldest store, Jim Daniel's General Store (I kid you not) sold about everything a small farming community needed, as long as it was coated in dust. The large glass counter held glass jars containing various types of candy. Right at eye level for small kids. Just right for a grandfather to walk his grandkids down the road as an excuse to buy them candy. There was a light dangling down from the ceiling as the only evidence of electricity, and in the winter, the store was heated by an old pot belly stove, fueled from a pile of coal next to the store.

My grandparents had a small homestead with a tiny creek, aka "branch". Some Yankees might make fun of it as a "crick", but it was actually the "branch" to us, running just off the back of their old four room house. Indoor plumbing had been added not too long before I was born.

*Continued on Pg 26.*



MAXIMUM CAPACITIES  
3 PERSONS OR 750 LBS  
IF HIGHER POWER MOTOR, GEAR  
OR WEIGHTS ARE USED

I was the first grandchild and was about four or five years old when I began fishing “on my own”, without adult supervision. There was a 10 foot or so drop down to the water, where the six grandkids, four boys and two girls, fished with cane poles and worms dug from around an old chicken coop. The creek had a mix of rock bass of various sizes and branch minnows. Occasionally, we would catch a catfish, a real prize, which had either been planted in the creek by folks fishing on the nearby Coosa River, or were escapees from local farm ponds which would overflow into the “branch” in the spring. An old feller who used to do chores for my grandfather to earn a little extra spending money would sometimes offer advice to me as a budding young fisherman. Occasionally he would take me to downstream holes away from the property, to search for unchallenged fish which were not used to being stalked by nimrods with a pole. He would bait my hook with worms he kept in an ancient Prince Albert tobacco tin in the front pocket of his overalls. I asked him if he ever mixed up his cans of tobacco with his worms, and he told me he only did it once. My Grandma, who was about 4 feet, 10 inches tall, would filet the prize fish caught and fry them up for dinner. She did this in between dispatching any snakes which had the misfortune of showing up at the wrong time. She was deadly with her little single shot 20 gage shotgun. Lots of snakes, including a few large water moccasins, lost their heads in that creek after my panicked girl cousins began screaming the alarm about “snakes!”. Later in life, I remain amazed at how Grandma could find something to fry from such small fish.

I soon “branched” out to bigger fishing adventures. My dad had an old split bamboo fly rod he got as he left Korea after the war. I soon learned that it didn’t take a very big fish to put a substantial bend in the old fly pole. The fishing industry was exploding in the late 1960-1970’s, with tremendous

improvements in quality of the tackle. Regardless, I still enjoyed fly fishing. I mostly fished in small lakes and ponds. I badgered my parents into finally getting a 12-foot jon boat from the local Western Auto store, which enabled me to expand my fishing horizons. I quickly learned you had to stalk the fish in order to get within range for a productive (i.e. fish with the hook in its mouth) cast. A two-pound bass or one-pound bluegill on a light fly rod is a real hoot. I used to purchase “10 for a dollar” cork popping bugs, ordered from the back of comic book ads, using money earned from



my grass cutting empire. One memorable day, I was out on a local lake with my friend Gordie, who was sitting in the back of the boat. Always avoid the back of the boat if I am fly fishing from the front. I had seen a nice bass, suspected to weigh at least 20 pounds or more, but more like two (see, fishermen never exaggerate!) in reality. The bass was taunting me just out of range. I thought to myself, “Self, you just need to cast harder” to get more distance. Gordie would soon disagree. I whipped my back cast forward as hard as I could. To my surprise, my cast was

interrupted during the forward jerk. Followed by a very loud scream. I thought my cousins had shown up to warn of snakes. Somehow, my size number 8 cork popping bug, dark green with green and yellow hackle, had been halted in mid power cast. I am still sure Gordie moved in his seat just to mess up my cast at the future fly rod world record bass. I looked back curiously to determine the etiology of the world record screaming, to see that my best, most productive popping bug was lodged in Gordie’s right nostril. Yep, the cork bug was in his nose, but somehow, the hook wasn’t. I figured I had incorrectly set the hook and reminded myself to improve my hook setting technique. Needless to say, Gordie was ready to end the day (something about fishing rods and firewood), and I sadly

Continued on Pg 28.

# 2020 Banquet Item Sneak Peak!!



## Make Memories and Take your Kid Hunting 2020 Youth Hunt In Oregon

Now is your chance to spend a fun long weekend hunting with your son or daughter with a hunt donated by Caleb and Shantell Johnson of Four Aces Ranch and the NW Chapter

This is a guided hunt for one youth (8 to 17 years old). Hunt will take place June 25-28, 2020 only. One non-hunting parent or guardian is included with the youth on this hunt. Up to ten youths will be on this hunt. This is a male / female bunkhouse style camp with toilet and shower facilities. Hunt will take place at the Four Aces Ranch in Ashwood, Oregon. Transportation for the youth may be provided if needed. Food for the youth and one parent or guardian observer is included during the hunt. The hunter must provide all their own personal gear including sleeping bag and rifle. Animal selection will depend on availability, but will be for a non-trophy Corsican Sheep, Four-Horn Sheep, Black Hawaiian Sheep or other animals that may be available. This hunt is for a very nice but non-trophy animal. It can be upgraded to a trophy hunt for the youth only. The upgrade price and availability are dependent on Caleb at the time of your hunt. You are encouraged to bring your own RV, trailer, motor home or tent. Sleeping room is somewhat limited but will be provided for the youth hunters first. If you have a quad, please bring it as well. This is a 100% fun hunt for the youth. If they have never harvested an animal, all the better! No dogs are allowed in the camp. Plan for success and be prepared to take home your animal's head, cape and meat if you plan to keep it.

watched my “world record” two-pound bass swim away laughing. I continued to fish through the years. Caught a lot of fish and continued to enjoy fly fishing. As frequently as is the case with added adult responsibilities, the opportunities for outdoors enjoyment became the exception. I entered active duty with the Army, and solely based my first duty assignment upon opportunities involving the outdoors. With ignorance to this fact, the Army agreed to my request to be assigned to Ft. Lewis in Washington. Some might suggest that is a crazy way to begin a career, but it has worked out well. I didn’t know anything about trout, steelhead or salmon fishing. Or clear water fishing for that matter, other than a few trout fishing expeditions to the Smokie Mountains. I began fly-fishing all around the Cascades and Olympics. Mostly small trout, as the steelhead and salmon streams seemed too intimidating. I eventually was able to develop some degree of comfort with steelhead and salmon, and have done well through the years, until the severe decline of the resource.

Somewhere along the way, as a rich and powerful US Army First Lieutenant, I got set up on a blind date. Jan and I will celebrate our forty-first anniversary this year. If she wasn’t a fisherwoman, she might not be here now. When dating, we camped and fished all over Washington. She also served as a one-woman driver on a deer hunt, but that is another story. One of my hunting buddies who sent her down a draw to spook out any available deer, told me that she was a keeper for doing that. He is correct.

After we were married, I was going to school in Washington DC. The first summer, for my birthday, Jan got me a matching Pflueger fly rod and reel, and a fly-tying lesson. Making good use of learning to tie a wooly bugger (which probably looked more like a small dead sparrow), we would go to the Cactoctin Mountains in Maryland and on longer trips to West Virginia for trout expeditions. Despite the appearance, my flies actually did work.

During my fourth year of school, I was able to go to Madigan for four months. We planned to drive across country in June, so, of course, I had to drag us to the Mecca of fly fishing, the Madison River

in Montana. One of our goals is to see how many times we can pass through Yellowstone National Park, and this enabled trip number two. We had booked a stay for two nights of my travel time to Madigan in Ennis, Montana, in late June. The timing was 1) to get me to Madigan by 30 June, and 2) to hit the famed Madison River stonefly hatch. I figured that even I could catch a Montana trout if the stoneflies were swarming. My anticipation leaving West Yellowstone heading to Ennis grew by the mile. I had warmed up with some nice rainbows and a miraculous grayling on the upper Madison as it exits the park, and I was anticipating my new world record two pound bass, er, rainbow would be waiting by the time we got to Ennis. For some reason, we drove faster the closer we got to Ennis. The river was off in the distance to our left as we were driving, and I thought to myself, “boy, that looks like a pretty big stream”. We pulled into the parking area of our fishing lodge and I asked the lady at the desk about the fishing. She gave me a funny look, as she told me the river had been unfishable for weeks due to the winter runoff. She responded to my panicked inquiry and said it would probably be early to mid-July before fishing got good again. Rats! Jan and I went to look at the river, and it quickly became apparent she wasn’t kidding. The river was at the top of the banks, flowing about 90 miles an hour, and was the color of a vanilla milkshake. So much for fly fishing the Madison.

The years passed. I fly fished numerous streams in Yellowstone National Park, every time we could muster a trip through that part of the country. I lost a steelhead size brown trout one October along the meadow stretch of the Gibbon River, on a tiny elk hair caddis, just before sunset, when I jerked too hard (thanks Gordie!) and broke my two-pound tippet. You can see this has had no effect on me, whatsoever.

I have caught plenty of fish from the Madison in the Park, but I had not been back to fish the real Madison.

That changed in the summer of 2019...





Gary Tennison had told me about Onlinehunting Auctions. I was perusing some of the offerings and saw one which “caught” my eye.

Iron Wheel Guest Ranch. Montana. Fly fishing for two people. Floating the Jefferson, Madison and/or Big Hole Rivers. Trout fishing royalty. Looked very interesting. I was interested. I presented the idea to Jan. We have a boat for saltwater fishing, and we have well designated roles. Jan is the captain, navigator and designated reeler. I am the bait boy and hooker of fish. Works out well. She does not have my background in fly fishing (a fact probably appreciated by Gordie) but loves to be on the water. We have done some guided fly fishing on the Yakima, and she is comfortable with the idea, as long as she is in the front of the boat. She was convinced. Bid on the trip we did.

We won the trip. We were both thrilled, and planning began immedi-



ately.

Iron Wheel Guest Ranch is owned and operated by Scott and Jody Cargill. A very nice young couple. Scott’s family has been in the Montana guiding business for a long time. Scott and Jody have a top-notch operation, with their home base along the old stagecoach road to Butte, Montana. The Jefferson River is closest to home so that is the typical river fished on most of their specials. The Madison and Big Hole Rivers are further away, so extra driving and costs are incurred.

Because of our schedule, we arranged our trip for late July. When we arrived, the best fishing opportunity was on the Madison. Considering my history with the Madison, that is where Jan and I opted to fish. We fished two days from Scott’s drift boat, covering two different sections of the river. We elected to use Scott’s tackle as he knows what works best. Scott is an excellent fisherman, thoughtful and patient, and readily

taught us what we needed to know to catch fish and have an enjoyable and safe float (remembrances to Gordie). No noses were injured during this trip!

The trip to the river was beautiful. During the drive each day, Scott gave a running commentary about the area including history of the region and a variety of outdoors activities including both fishing and hunting. Even though temperatures were approaching the 90’s each day and considering our lack of

fly-fishing experience from a boat, Scott put us on fish. He knows his river. The first day had a nice learning curve, and Scott was patient and encouraging, with lots of gentle teaching. And, best of all, we caught fish. Had lots of strikes, lots of hookups and landed quite a few fish especially considering the fast flow of the river. The second day was even better, and I am sure we were pushing 25 fish to the boat for the day. We caught both rainbows and browns with a few whitefish. My largest rainbow boated was an honest 18 inches, and I lost one after four jumps which was much larger. Due to weather, river conditions and insect hatches most fish were caught on tiny nymphs. We had a blast. Food and drink were provided in a cooler, which Jan visited regularly.

Scott's non-fishing guide life revolves around big game hunting. He runs private land elk camps, with some deer hunting thrown in. Impressive photos demonstrate the quality and success of his hunts. He also told me that his true passion is mountain lion hunting and he guides regularly

and successfully for the big cats.

Scott and Jody also provide trail rides with their stable of horses.

If you are interested in a quality experience, you can't go wrong with Scott

and Jody. They are friendly and outgoing and do their best to provide a terrific experience for their

guests. In fact, Jan and I are already figuring out when we might be able to get back with them. I can't wait to fish the Big Hole!

Iron Wheel Guest Ranch has generously donated a fly fishing float trip for our Banquet. Check details in the Live Auction section.

By: Alan Pearson



# 2020 Purple Heart Alaska Moose Hunt Update

## Northwest Chapter Veteran Hunt Coordinator Update

BY CODY SCRIVER

The results are out and we had three of the six veterans selected for a once in a lifetime moose hunt in Alaska. We still have a long way to go but we would like to congratulate Jonathan Harmon, Franz Walkup, and Ryan Caldwell on being selected for this hunt. There is no way to compensate for the sacrifices they made, though Alaska is a great place to spend a couple weeks chasing moose.

Louis from the Alaska Chapter is working on the logistics of the hunt while Jason is working on the final screenings and verifications for the veterans with the state.

Now comes the fun part, and where you can help!

The Northwest Chapter is working with the Alaska Chapter of Safari Club International as well as Outdoors For Our Heros to facilitate an Alaska Moose hunt for a select group of veterans.

This hunt utilizes special moose tags only available to active duty service members with Purple Hearts or 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans.

We are looking for donations to make this truly the hunt of a lifetime for these veterans. We are using proceeds from the paddle raise to help make this hunt possible but, as much as it pains me to say, some of our members won't be able to attend the banquet this year. If you would like to support this hunt with financial donations please reach out to David Irons at [president@scinw.com](mailto:president@scinw.com).

We are also looking for donated items to support this hunt, everything from Havalon knives to rifles. If any of our members are interested in learning more about how you can support this hunt, please reach out to Cody Scriver at [vp@scinw.com](mailto:vp@scinw.com).

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# MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

**Safari Club International**



**Northwest Chapter**

The Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International does some great things to promote conservation and bring hunters together. Being a member allows you to meet and connect with like-minded individuals who enjoy hunting or have an interest in hunting.

As with every good thing, there are people trying to take away our right to hunt and undoing the efforts we have made all over the world to promote conservation through responsible

game management. They spend a lot of money and exert significant political effort in a misguided attempt to stop hunting anywhere. In addition to working to educate as many people as possible in an effort to show them why hunting is important and beneficial, we also raise money to sponsor and support events that further our causes.

As a member of the Northwest Chapter, you are connecting with hunters, supporting conservation and supporting future generations of hunters. We are working to increase our membership and are having a new membership special. Right now you can join both SCI National and the Northwest Chapter for \$20 for new members. It is usually \$35 but the Northwest Chapter will help with the other \$15 for the first year.

As existing members, I'm sure you know or run into hunters who may have never heard of Safari Club. Others say they are going to join but haven't got around to it. Now as long as they have \$20 they have the perfect chance to join and the application is on the next page.





# 2019 New & Renewing Member's Campaign

## Safari Club International & Chapter Memberships

*(Limited time offer for 2019)*

- \$20 New & Renewing Member's – SCI & Chapter 1year Memberships
- \$65 Safari Club International - Annual Membership Renewal
- \$150 Safari Club International - 3 Year Membership Renewal + 3 year Chapter

Name of the Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

(All member benefits include hard copies of SCI publications)

New Member is anyone who has never been a member of SCI before or anyone who has been inactive for more than 12months.

All membership prices quoted are for US, Canada, and Mexico Residents only. Dues payment is not a tax deduction.

Membership will automatically renew at the end of term. Membership fees are subject to change and your auto renewal will be processed at the then-current rate.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash:  Check:  Credit Card Type:  Visa  Mastercard  Amex  Discover

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CCV#: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holders Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Member Benefits:

- ✓ 6 bi-monthly issue of SCI's award-winning "SAFARI Magazine"
- ✓ 12 monthly issues of "SAFARI TIMES" Newspaper
- ✓ Annual World Hunting Awards publication
- ✓ Eligible to attend SCI's Members-only Annual Hunters Convention
- ✓ Participation in the SCI Record Book of Trophy Animals and Awards Programs
- ✓ Eligible to join a local SCI Chapter
- ✓ SCI Exclusive Hunter Information Service and Hotline
- ✓ SCI "In the Crosshairs" e-Newsletter
- ✓ Access to SCI First for Hunters website
- ✓ Free admission to the International Wildlife Museum at SCI Headquarters in Tucson
- ✓ Official SCI Membership ID card
- ✓ Free access to SCI "Online Record Book" & Hunt Reports
- ✓ SCI Hunter's Travel Assistance Hotline powered by Global Rescue

### Mail to

Gary Tennison at 9718 36th St NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

### Or email

gtennison@centurytel.net



# Chasing Blackbear in Petersburg

By Jason Nelson

**T**he Lodge provided by Green Rocks Lodge, the stay included private cabins, three meals a day, boat, fuel, crabbing pots, fishing gear for halibut and private skiff for spotstock black bear hunting.

Many mornings will start off with breakfast and then getting in the boat and setting your crab pots and then doing a little bit of halibut fishing; and then come noontime till dark, it was all black bear hunting. We would cruise the shorelines looking for black balls on the shore eating grass.

Dealing with tides that will trap you in a situation that could cause you to spend the night in the woods was nothing to handle lightly. Approximately the fourth afternoon of my hunt, we had a two-hour boat ride to our bear area. I spotted a black bear over 500 yards away from the boat.

The tide was going out rapidly and the evening was approaching fast. My hunting partner dropped me off and I walked to shore. He would give me hand signals, as I could not see the bear from where I was standing, so he would let me

know that it was still there. In the meantime, the tide was moving so fast that he had to walk the boat in knee-deep water so he didn't get the boat stuck. I made it to shore.



the woods. I stood upon the highest log I could find and looked around: 75 yards away lays my bear. After some celebration, some high-fives and some pictures we cleaned the bear.

I was putting the stock on the bear and all of a sudden a bear walked out 75 yards in front of me before I could get to the one bear that I had spotted previously. It looks like a great bear so I lay down, laid out my gun and bipod and took a shot.

The bear made a death ball sound that made my hair stand as I've never heard before. The bear did a 180 and was off into the wilderness. At that point, the tide in the darkness was moving to positions that we didn't want to be in so we had to make our way back to the lodge and look for the bear the next day.

The next day came. We made the boat journey back to the kill site, anchor the boat and walked into

The bear had been partially eaten by another bear during the night so at that point, I knew a half mount would look good on my wall. We put the bear on the tarp and pulled it to the boat. We made a great boat ride to our crab pots, pulled limits of crab and went back to the lodge with crab and my bear. My first black bear and I was thrilled.

*By Jason Nelson*



Safari Club International



Northwest Chapter

## Northwest Chapter

Safari Club International

## 45th Anniversary

# Sportsmen for Conservation Benefit Auction

*Note: Due to the Governors Emergency Order  
the Live Auction and Banquet have been Cancelled.  
Prepaid Reservations will be refunded shortly.*

## **\*We are Having an Online Auction\***

- 👉 Big & Small Game Hunting Trips, Fishing Trips, Firearms, Sporting Goods, Art, Jewelry etc.
- 👉 2020 Governor's Westside (Roosevelt) Elk Tag! This is your Best Chance at getting that Monster Roosevelt Bull!
- 👉 Preview and Get Approved To Bid At: ONLINE HUNTING AUCTIONS .COM

[https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com/Safari-Club-International-Northwest-Chapter\\_ae2070](https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com/Safari-Club-International-Northwest-Chapter_ae2070)

**Auction Ends April 4, 2020**

**Help us Support Hunter's Rights, Youth, Humanitarian,  
and other Conservation Programs for all of us!**

**See SCINW President David Irons message @: [WWW.SCINW.COM](http://WWW.SCINW.COM)**



# Northwest Chapter Member Of The Quarter

Spring 2020

**B**rian Wissner was nominated for the Spring 2020 Safari Club International Northwest Chapter's member of the quarter. Brian began hunting with his longtime friend David down in Deming, New Mexico on his family farms. He began shooting rifles and archery as a teenager in Boy Scouts at the Parson's Summer Camp along Hood Canal. He became a measurer in May of 2017 and a Board Member in 2017 as well. Brian is an active member of the Northwest Chapter, runs the Chapter website and performs background computer work in preparation for the Banquet and during the event. Brian has hunted in North America and is looking forward to his first African Safari this next year in Namibia.

## What brought you to SCI in the first place?

After seeing old family hunting photos and finding my grandfather's and great-grandfather's deer and elk racks in the rafters of the garage, I decided it was time to find a group where I could find people to hunt with and also learn about wildlife conservation. I found SCI at the Puyallup Sportsman Show and haven't looked back.

## How long have you been a member?

I became a member almost four years ago and it has been a great adventure. I also became a National Life and Chapter Life Member at the end of this past year. I plan on being in SCI the rest of my life and hope to have enough adventures to write a book.

## What has been your favorite event so far?

My favorite event so far has been our recent trip at the beginning of the year down to Dr. Warnock's world-class trophy room. It was amazing to see animals from around the world and basically, impossible to think of an animal that wasn't represented in his museum quality collection.

## If money, logistics and time weren't an issue, what would be your dream hunt?

Currently, my dream hunt is to draw an Ibex tag for the Florida Mountains in Deming, New Mexico. For all the years I have been going there to hunt with my friend, it has become a dream to hunt the mountains for this extremely elusive animal and an area that I have started to call home.



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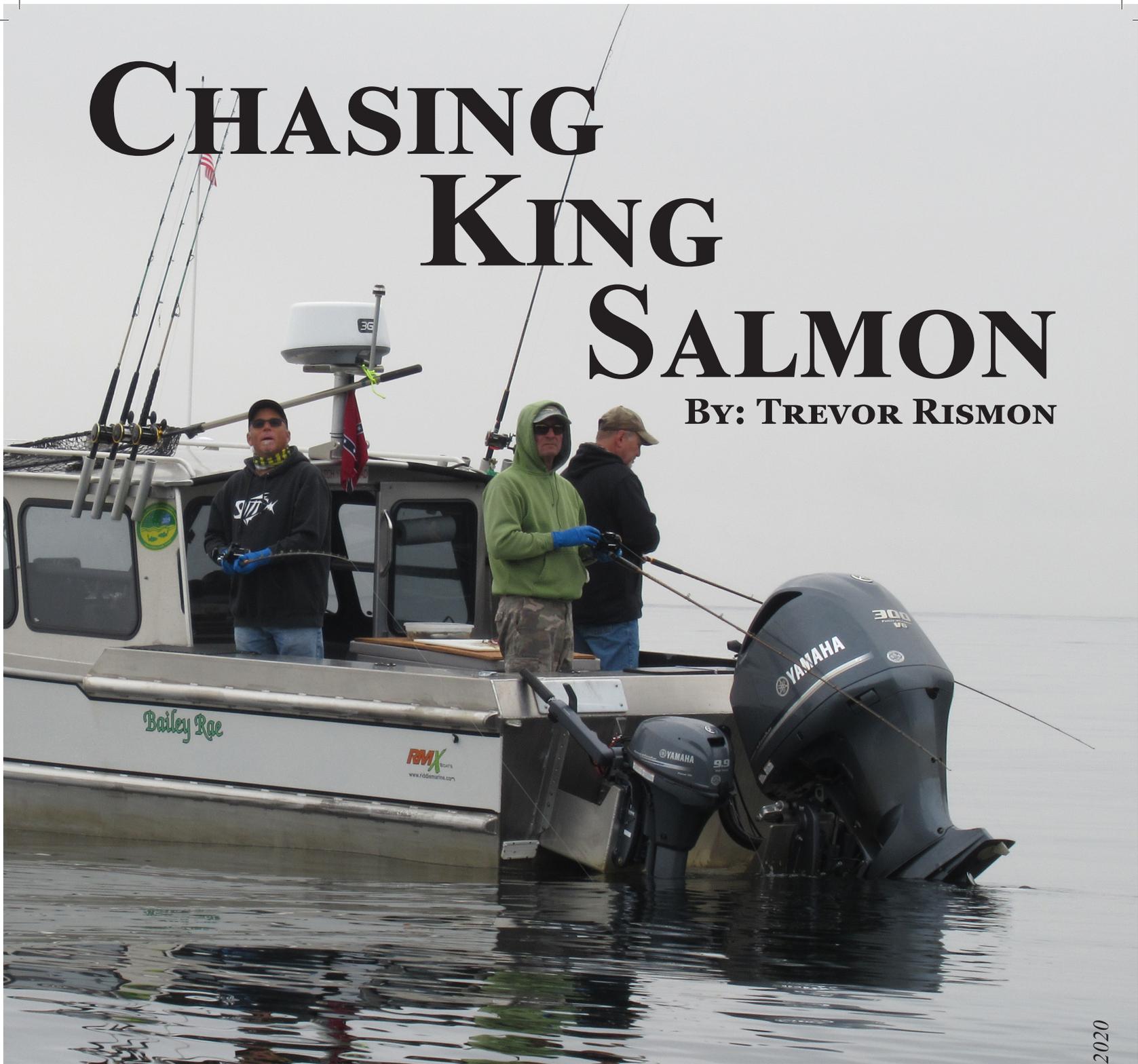
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# CHASING KING SALMON

BY: TREVOR RISMON



Life is only as good as the people you meet and the places you go. That is how this last trip to Alaska felt, good people, tasty food, and a small-town called Klawock on Prince of Wales Island (PWI). Billy Poppie, my best friend since I was 10 years old, Braydon Kuiper, my nephew who is 3 months older than me, and my dad are prepared to set off on an adventure come Monday morning 04:00 hours. We arrive at SeaTac Airport in Seattle, taking an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 up to Ketchikan Alaska airport.

We then board onto a Cessna Caravan, our last flight heading to Klawock, Alaska. I got the opportunity to sit in the Co-Pilots seat, feeling like my Dad for the many years he flew the State of Alaska. As we reach our peak altitude, right above the clouds, I ponder at the blue skies and white clouds about all the past adventures I have gone with my dad, from Alligator hunting in Louisiana at 8 years old, traveling the country of China, and living in the Bush of Zimbabwe. Knowing this will be another chapter in the memory books



I will never forget. We begin our descent and we start to see the runway for Klawock airport. It's a small runway with trees on the far end, tree stumps on the approach end and surrounded by water. We make a safe landing, pick up our bags, and jump on the shuttle off to Fireweed Lodge for our first day of fishing.

On Day One we grab our Sandwiches and head straight for the boat we will be fishing on for the next three days. The boat is a small, 24-foot Riddle Marine made in Lewiston, Idaho, with a standing area in the back and a cabin in the front with two captain seats and bench seats on the sides. We meet our guide, Kyle, who is a Klawock local during the summer and then heads to Hawaii during the winter where he continues guiding fishing trips. We set sail for the next hour to get to the coast off Klawock where we are going to be fishing for King Salmon, Halibut, Yellow Eye, Lingcod, Seabass, and Rock Fish.

We begin fishing in a spot our guide calls Pineapple, which is on the outskirts of an island looking out to the vast Pacific Ocean. The boat

stops, guide puts down the trolling engine, and we toss our lines out into the water. The first bite comes quick and I reel up a small Rock Fish to mark down our initial catch. We continue to fish for the next 60 minutes reeling up a few more Rock Fish and small Halibut, when suddenly Billy bends over the side of the boat throwing up. It was food poisoning from the fish he had the previous day at a truck stop.

Seemed a bit ironic as we're eating fish for the next three days, but that is beside the point. You almost felt sorry for him, but we knew Billy could handle anything thrown his way and he would get over this quick. As he's still bent over the boat, his pole starts to bend like a banana and moves in different directions, the sign he has a King Salmon. The guide quickly tells Billy to stop napping on the boat and get your ass up to reel in the first King. Billy begins the fight with the King Salmon, and it goes on for about 15 minutes. The Salmon is nearing the top of the water when suddenly the line snaps and the fish swims down into the sea. A bit disappointed we didn't get the catch, but luckily this wasn't going to



be our last run in with the elusive King Salmon. It was about 5 pm and at this point, it was getting late in the day so we headed back to the lodge to be ready for dinner.

Every night, we enjoyed an amazing meal from chefs at Fireweed Lodge such as baked Salmon, Halibut Olympia and a big bowl of endless Dungeness Crab. We received the pleasure of Mike Papac the “Hollywood Star” joining us. Every day he was able to get a little time off for dinner and leave his luxury studio at ‘Ax Men’.

We told stories from our day fishing, what we caught, the fight of reeling up the fish, and the excitement of going back out the next day. My dad and Mike chuckled to the great stories they’ve had together back in the day-hunting, fishing and the endless shenanigans.

My dad would tell the famous story of Mike spending time in the federal prison, making our table almost fall out of our chairs with laughter. To hear the full story, you’re going to have to ask my dad or Mike about it, but the moral of it being close friends with my dad can grant you access to many high-power people such as the “Governor of Alaska”.

Day 2 was a day of catches and misses. We started off in a local spot called The Cove. It was tucked around a short piece of land separating us from

the Pacific Ocean. This spot has historically been known to catch Kings and was not a secret as many fishing boats came to the same spot. We were there for about an hour and not even a nibble on anyone’s hook. Even looking around at the other boats it was a quiet morning.

So, we decide to head out past The Cove and into the ocean trolling the sides off of Klawock. We did this for another 1 – 2 hours and were able to reel up a few Halibut and Rock Fish, but still no Kings. Kyle felt the morning fishing was coming to an end.

We should go find a bit more excitement fishing for Seabass. It was about a 30-minute ride out until our guide found a large school of Seabass on the fish finder. This was the first time Billy, Braydon or I have ever fished for Seabass and our guide was hyping up the experience saying this will be the fastest fishing you have ever done. We stop the boat, drop the trolling motor and get



our lines out in the water. It didn't take longer than 2 minutes until I already had one on the hook, then Braydon, then Billy. Soon enough we're all reeling fish up at the same time. We toss them on the boat, our guide unhooks the fish, puts on new bait and we are at it again. Bang, we all have fish back on the line and reel up another 3 Black Bass into the boat. This was happening so quick Kyle was running around like a chicken with his head cut off trying to unhook the fish and get out new bait. In about 45 minutes we caught our limit and our cooler was full.



was waiting for something a bit stronger. Then BANG, my pole started pulling left and right and we knew we had a King on the line. Kyle said to be soft with the reel, slowly bringing it up and then reeling down so I don't let the King go. I'm getting closer and closer. Seeing the line meter go from 40, 30, 20, 10 and then we see the shine of the Salmon hit the water. My heart start rushing knowing we might finally get our first, then suddenly, the fish dives down and the line goes limp. I lost

him. Now our second King has gotten away. We all throw our lines back in to see if we get another bite, but after an hour, nothing. We decide to head in and feast on another amazing meal back at the lodge.

We have about 2 more hours of fishing left and we decide to fish for King Salmon again before heading in. To say we had better luck in the afternoon, would be a lie. We fished for about 2 hours trolling off the coast of Klawock and only pulled up 2 small Halibut. At this point we're getting a better understanding that fishing for King Salmon is always a guessing game. You could fish in the best spots the entire day, have the best bait, and think the fish finder is giving you all the right signs, but sometimes King Salmon just don't bite.

At this point our guide decides to check out one last spot and it was a portion of the ocean that was tucked away into a similar looking cove we fished this morning. We fished this for about 30 minutes, our lines stayed quiet, until I felt a slight tug on mine. I didn't bring up the reel just yet, as I

Day 3 was our last day, lived up to all the glory we were expecting. Everyone was determined to finally catch the great King Salmon. We start our day fishing the cove again to see if we have better luck than yesterday. We were all so anxious to catch our first King Salmon. Even our guide had a bit more motivation, as "Bob the Fish Boss at the Lodge said come back with Kings or don't come back at all". We trolled around this spot for little more than an hour, seeing 3 different boats reel in King Salmon with no luck to us. Our guide then calls over the radio to different Fireweed Boats to see if there is better action anywhere else.



We hear over the radio; one boat has already bagged two King's and that's all we needed to hear to change spots.

We take a short cruise over to the other boat and as soon as we arrive, they begin reeling in another King. We knew this was the spot to be. We cut the motor and start trolling the waters, filled with anticipation to finally get our first. 30 minutes go by, our reels remain quiet as we see our neighbor

fight from the fish, so we all thought this was just another Rock Fish or small Halibut coming up. When suddenly at about 20 feet of line, the fish starts fighting and we see the Rainbow sparkle of a King Salmon approach the surface. Billy does the same as Braydon, making no sudden jerks and smoothly reeling in the Salmon. Getting closer and closer, Kyle reaches for the net and snags the second salmon of the day.



We decided to change up the pace for the mid-morning fishing and headed for deep sea to fish for Yellow Eye, Lingcod, and Halibut. We continued our success from the morning bagging four Yellow Eye, two Lingcod, and four Halibut. Knowing we had some more room for King Salmon, we decided to head back to our trusty spot to see if we can grab one more King Salmon before heading in for the day.

After an hour of trolling it was quiet, a nice time to think about the fishing trip and all the fun we'd had so far. That thinking was interrupted by my pole getting yanked hard and swinging from left to right.

boat catch their 4th King Salmon, bagging their limit for the day.

Soon after they leave, Braydon gets the bite we've all been waiting for. He battles with this King Salmon, as it swims back and forth, taking the line out to nearly 400 feet. Braydon stays with it, smoothly reels in as it approaches closer and closer to the boat. Kyle grabs the net and Braydon pulls up the reel to guide the Salmon straight into the net. Everyone filled relief and excitement for Braydon being the first to catch the King Salmon in the group. We continue trolling through the same spot, not even 20 minutes after, Billy gets a bite. As Billy reels in but there wasn't much of a

Finally, my chance to take in our King Salmon and complete the King Salmon hat trick. I did the same as Billy and Braydon, kept the line tight, slowly bringing it up and reeling in as I let the tip come down. We get closer and closer, when suddenly the fish starts taking line at a rapid pace and the reel was not catching at all.

Come to find out it was half broken and was not able to catch line. It felt like a stripped screw and when you can't tighten it properly. So, I had to be extra careful fight this fish to not let all the line go and still reel it in. As soon as I made strong traction getting the fish closer, it took more and more



pondering as we were leaving Klawock the next day, is what adventures do I want to take throughout my life. My Father has showed me a path of living, not many

line out making this battle extra difficult. I continued this action for about 20 minutes, until I felt the King getting tired out. We were getting closer and closer and finally the King was right next to the boat, Kyle grabs the net as I walk back to bring the fish to the net. Kyle nets it and we did it. Feeling the satisfaction, we all high five and stoked that each one of us got our own King to take home. What a way to end the trip on a high.

This was an amazing three days with my Dad, Braydon and Billy, going on a fishing trip of a lifetime. One of the things I was thinking about and

people have done and when you look back knowing you did everything you hoped to do in your life.

In better words, it's living a life worth reading about. This has made me start to think about, what is the story I am trying to tell, what is the mark I want to make on this world, and who are the people I want to surround myself with following this journey. I use these questions to guide me to a full life.

**I can't wait for the next adventure and what my life has to offer.  
Until next time,**

**Trevor Rismon**



PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRIS BARR

# Stay up to date with The Northwest Chapter By Liking Us On Facebook at SCINW

**Events** - See upcoming and past events our members hosted and participated in, in real time.

**Photos** - Tag SCINW to share pictures from your latest hunt or hunting memories.



**News** - SCINW shares news that related to preserving hunting both in the Northwest and internationally.



**Follow Us on**



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# GIVING BACK

## GIVING BACK WHERE THERE IS A NEED

**T**he Board of Directors have various committees they work on in addition to their general Board obligations. A great way to get involved when you can't commit to a board position is to volunteer to help on a committee.

Currently we have several committees where we could use help partially in planning the events but also in fresh ideas. Please take a look at the committees below and see if you might have any interest in volunteering to contribute.



**SENSORY SAFARI** - The Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International partnered with The Washington State School for the Blind, the Pacific Foundation for Blind Children and received special collaboration and involvement from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to bring a new museum to Southwest Washington. Sensory Safari "A journey of sight through touch" is a unique opportunity in the form of a rare wildlife safari through the sense of touch, called the "Sensory Safari" Tactile Museum of Natural History, brings a new world of discovery not only to the blind, but to our full community.

We need one or two volunteers to help be the liaison between the Washington State School for the Blind and the Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International. If you are interested in helping to maintain a life changing project please reach out for more information.

**SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER** - Sportsmen Against Hunger is a fast-growing, nationwide organization that is part of Safari Club International to request and coordinate donation of game meat to feed the hungry. The Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International is partnering with guides, meat processors and organizations like the Salvation Army to feed the hungry in the communities we live in.

We are looking for one or two volunteers to help develop Sportsmen Against Hunger in Washington state by coordinating information dissemination to contributing hunters and developing relationships with participating meat processors.

**SABLES** - SCIF Sables is a Committee of SCI committed to furthering the understanding of our outdoor heritage, including the positive role of hunting, through the creation and support of wildlife and conservation educational programs.

Founded in 1984 by the women of SCI®, the SCI Foundation Sables are committed to continuing our outdoor heritage. They volunteer their time to raise funds to support educational programs that promote conservation and hunting. The SCIF Sables recognize that the future of the shooting sports and hunting rest with today's youth. Their efforts are directed toward educating teachers, youth group leaders and young people about our outdoor heritage.

**SAFARI WISH** - When another foundation decided not to participate in granting wishes of young hunters battling life-threatening illnesses by providing hunting and/or fishing trips, members of SCI got the ball rolling and the Safari Wish program was created. This program started making dreams come true. Its goal is to grant any hunt as a last wish for kids battling life-threatening illnesses. We currently are accepting volunteers or anyone who is willing to assist us in providing hunts, fishing trips or related merchandise. We are looking for any kids who want to go on the hunting or fishing trip of a lifetime. The mission of this site and this organization is to bring the children and the outfitters together, to make dreams come true where there wasn't an opportunity before.

All of the outings are carefully planned. The safety of these kids is top priority. Anyone who knows of a kid having a wish to hunt or fish can complete the application and a member will be in contact to help make their dream come true! We are also currently looking for a volunteer to help us facilitate these hunts, you could be the one that helps make these wishes become a reality. Please reach out to Cody Scriver in the "Contact Us" section of [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com) if you have any interest and would like additional details.

**VETERAN HUNT** - The Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International works both locally and with National to support some lucky veterans as a thank-you for everything they have done. Hunters are selected by a veteran committee each year by National and the Northwest Chapter has sponsored some of their own.

SCI National is accepting applications for the 2021 Veteran hunt. If you know a veteran who you would like to nominate, please reach out via [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com) and tell us a little about them. There is no requirement to be a wounded warrior but we would like to support those with combat experience.

The Northwest Chapter is also partnering with the Anchorage Chapter and Outdoors for Our Heroes to facilitate a Purple Heart Veterans moose hunt in Alaska in 2020. This hunt is a free range hunt that takes place in a highly successful hunting area because of its limited access. We are looking for volunteers to act as a liaison between the sponsoring organizations and help facilitate the logistics. If you are interested in helping out in any way, please reach out to Cody Scriver in the "Contact Us" section of [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com).



Safari Club International



Northwest Chapter

## Northwest Chapter

Safari Club International

## 45th Anniversary

# Sportsmen for Conservation Benefit Auction

*Note: Due to the Governors Emergency Order  
the Live Auction and Banquet have been Cancelled.  
Prepaid Reservations will be refunded shortly.*

## **\*We are Having an Online Auction\***

- 👉 Big & Small Game Hunting Trips, Fishing Trips, Firearms, Sporting Goods, Art, Jewelry etc.
- 👉 2020 Governor's Westside (Roosevelt) Elk Tag! This is your Best Chance at getting that Monster Roosevelt Bull!
- 👉 Preview and Get Approved To Bid At: ONLINE HUNTING AUCTIONS .COM

[https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com/Safari-Club-International-Northwest-Chapter\\_ae2070](https://www.onlinehuntingauctions.com/Safari-Club-International-Northwest-Chapter_ae2070)

**Auction Ends April 4, 2020**

**Help us Support Hunter's Rights, Youth, Humanitarian,  
and other Conservation Programs for all of us!**

**See SCINW President David Irons message @: [WWW.SCINW.COM](http://WWW.SCINW.COM)**

# Welcome New SCI Members

- by Gary Tennison Membership Chairman

Our NW Chapter membership drive is off to a great start for 2020. So far to this point we have already signed up 36 new Chapter Members. I want to remind everyone that our \$20.00 Chapter and National Membership program has been extended for the rest of this year.

Michael Roqueni our Field Operations Representative from National SCI will be on hand this year at our banquet to run our membership booth. Any new member, or old member that has been expired for over one year will qualify and be able to take advantage of the \$20.00 special to join both the NW Chapter and National SCI at the Banquet! I think Michael is even planning to do a drawing from among the new members that sign up during the Banquet for a Cabela's gift card!

Don't miss this opportunity to join SCI! See you at the Banquet.

Gary Tennison  
Membership Chairman.



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# ADVERTISE WITH THE NORTHWEST CHAPTER SUPPORT CONSERVATION & REACH HUNTERS IN THE NORTHWEST

**Safari Club International**



**Northwest Chapter**

Advertising your business or service with the Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International allows you to: reach an active and passionate group of hunters and outdoorsmen, supports conservation on both a local and international scale. Every dollar brought in is another dollar retained that can be used to support:

-Conservation

-Education

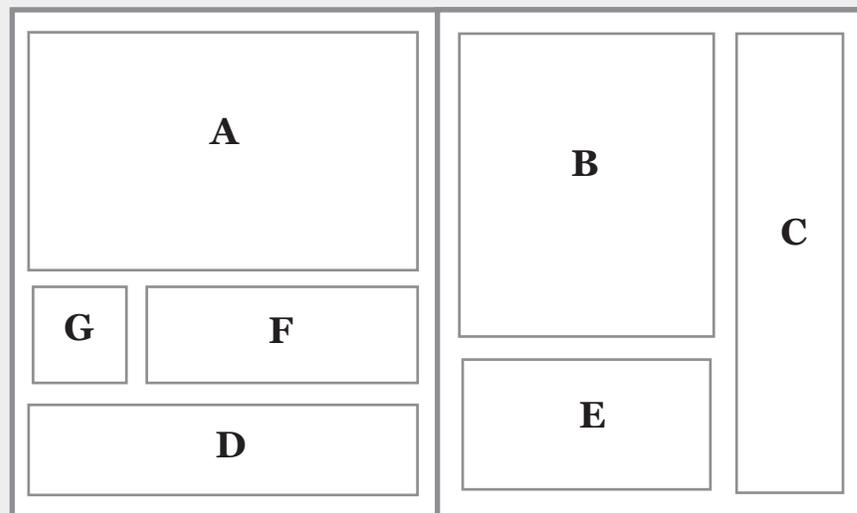
-Preserving a way of life for future generations.

Advertisements run for 12 months and are printed in full color in our quarterly newsletter. Prices are listed below and if you are interested in advertising or have questions about participating, you can reach us at [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com) in the Contact Us section.

We are revamping our newsletter over the coming months to provide a higher quality newsletter for our members and supporters. While we transition we are offering special pricing and support. Space is limited. Reach out today to secure your position.

- \$400 OUTSIDE BACK COVER**
- \$350 INSIDE FRONT/BACK COVER**
- \$275 FULL PAGE**
- A - \$175 HALF PAGE - 8.5"x 5.5"**
- B - \$150 2/3 PAGE - 5.5"x7.25"**
- C - \$125 VERTICAL BANNER - 2.75x11**
- D - \$100 BANNER - 8.5"x2.75"**
- E - \$100 1/5 PAGE - 5.5"x4.25"**
- F - \$75 2"x5.5"**
- G - \$50 2"x2"**

Sizes are approximate based on page formatting and may adjust slightly based on paper and print type.



**Safari Club International**



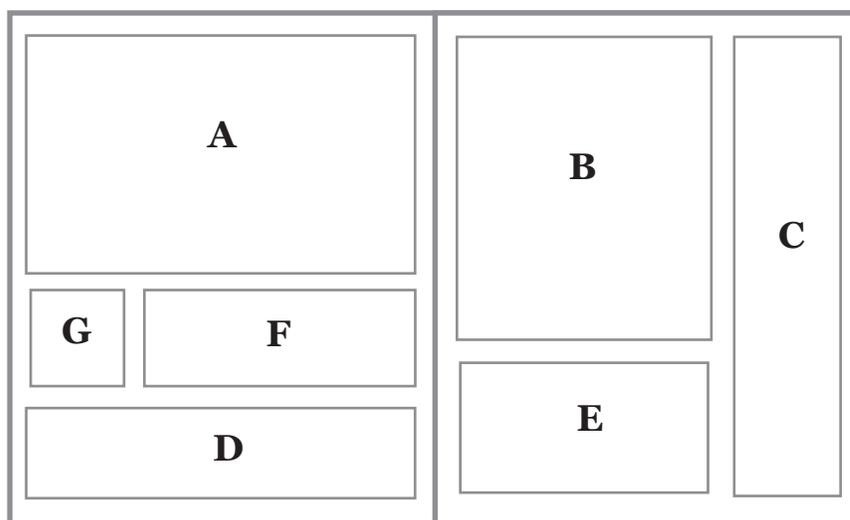
**Northwest Chapter**

# **NORTHWEST CHAPTER**

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- D - \$100 BANNER - 8.5"x2.75"
- E - \$100 1/5 PAGE - 5.5"x4.25"
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Please send advertisements as a PDF with the corresponding measurements to the advertisement requested. The Northwest Chapter can provide limited graphic and advertisement support for an additional cost to maximize impact.

## **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CONSERVATION!**

# The Klineburger Brothers and the High Lonesome Ranch (Sammamish)

By Phil Dougherty

In 1954 three Klineburger brothers -- Gene (b. 1920), Bert (b. 1926), and Chris (b. 1927) -- bought the Jonas Brothers taxidermy studio in Seattle and by the early 1960s turned it into one of the largest taxidermist studios in the world. But



*Gene, Chris, and Bert Klineburger, 1970s.*

their business was much more than taxidermy. The brothers went on to establish their own fur manufacturing company, and introduced fur parkas to the world. In 1962 they established Klineburger Brothers Worldwide Travel, and through it booked hunting trips worldwide. In 1960 Chris established the High Lonesome Ranch on 50 acres on the Sammamish Plateau in present-day Sammamish, where he recreated an Old West frontier town and entertained many of his clients, which included dignitaries from all over the world, for the next several decades. This account, prepared by Sammamish Heritage Society historian Phil Dougherty, reprints Dougherty's articles, "The Klineburgers and the High Lonesome Ranch" (Sammamish Review, October 3, 2007, pp. 14-15) and "Frontier Town and the High Lonesome Riders" (Sammamish Review, October 10, 2007, pp. 12, 14). It is based on two interviews of Chris Klineburger in September 2007, and is reprinted with the kind permission of the Sammamish Heritage Society.

## Beginnings

The Klineburger brothers grew up in Bisbee, Arizona, and served in the military during and immediately after World War II. They had been interested in hunting and taxidermy since they were children, and when their military service ended, knew what direction they wanted to go with their lives: nature, hunting, and taxidermy. In the late 1940s Bert came

to Seattle to serve an apprenticeship under Guy Jonas of Jonas Brothers in Seattle, and in 1951, Chris came to Seattle and joined Bert at Jonas Brothers.

In the early 1950s Jonas Brothers was already well established in the taxidermy field, having operated in Seattle since 1939 and in Denver for some years before that. In 1954 Gene joined Bert and Chris in Seattle and in

July 1954 they bought the Jonas Brothers operation. The business maintained the Jonas name until the mid-1970s, when the Klineburger brothers changed the name to Klineburger Taxidermy.

During the 1950s the brothers opened stores and receiving stations in Anchorage and Fairbanks and opened one in Nome. By the early 1960s, the brothers were also operating in three locations in northern and western Canada (including a receiving station in Whitehorse, Yukon). The brothers also participated in hunts during this time and quickly learned the prime hunting areas; they also worked as

a referral service for guides and outfitters worldwide, as well as for hunters interested in a specific hunt.



By the early 1960s the company had become one of the world's leading taxidermy studios. As part of their work the Klineburgers mounted all kinds of animals -- moose, lion, tigers, elephants, and various types of sheep, deer, bear, and antelope, just to name a few. Their clients includ-

ed museums as well as personal hunters who wanted trophies to display in their homes. But the Klineburgers' work was far from limited to just taxidermy. Beginning in the early 1960s the brothers, especially Chris, branched out in a variety of ventures that left a worldwide impact. **Going Global**

In the early 1960s the brothers began expanding their operations. With the arrival of jet travel about that time, it was now more practical to travel overseas, especially to Africa. Their first big break came in 1960 when they were approached by a representative of the Ugandan government. The Ugandans wanted to develop their own safari operations once they received independence from Great Britain, primarily because they realized the money-making potential in having their own operations as opposed to someone coming in from another nation, fully outfitted for a hunt, and spending little or nothing in their country. When Uganda gained its independence in 1962, the Klineburgers established Jonas Brothers of Africa, and opened a taxidermy studio in Kampala, Uganda. At the same time the brothers packaged their first African safari. In 1962 \$2,350 got you round-trip jet travel from New York to Uganda and 21 days of hunting in three different pre-established safari camps.

This development led the brothers to begin representing clients from around the world. They recognized the potential for further growth in developing sportsman wildlife programs which would bring in a bigger volume of hunters, and later, in developing conservation programs to properly manage the hunts. They established Klineburger Brothers Worldwide Travel and referred guides to various hunters worldwide, depending on the type of animal being hunted. "Eventually we knew every outfitter worldwide," said Chris



*High Lonesome Riders, above Columbia River near Vantage, May 1965*

Klineburger.

From Uganda the Klineburgers branched out and began handling bookings for hunts worldwide -- initially in Africa, India, South America, and the South Pacific, which were the few places outside North America where

hunting was then open to sports enthusiasts. But later in the 1960s other countries, such as Iran and Mongolia, began to open their doors to hunters. This trend continued into the 1970s and 1980s, with even more countries worldwide allowing hunting. The Klineburgers spent considerable time in Asia and Africa from the mid-1960s through the early 1990s developing various programs, referring clients, and participating in numerous hunts themselves. Chris remarked that he tended to spend more time in Asia, while Bert favored handling the company's operations in Africa. The Klineburgers sold Klineburger Brothers Worldwide Travel in 1991.

All of the Klineburgers were avid hunters, and hunted most of the big game animals in their day. Some of these included the "big four" in Africa: lion, leopard, buffalo, and elephant. They also hunted sheep, bear, moose, tiger, and the Lord Derby Eland, the world's largest antelope. But one of their most exciting hunting trips came in the late 1960s when Chris and Bert traveled to Afghanistan to hunt for a Marco Polo sheep. These sheep, named after the explorer Marco Polo, are known for their long, spiral-shaped horns that can exceed six feet in length. These sheep are found only in the Pamir Mountains in the border region of Afghanistan, China, Pakistan, and Tajikistan. They traveled -- first by jeep, then by horse, then by yak -- over a 17,000-foot high mountain pass in this adventure. But the trip was successful, and they got their Marco Polo.

The brothers acquired a wide array of unique ornaments and tools from around the world during their travels, including a bracelet made from an elephant's tail and a flyswatter made from a yak's tail. Chris also acquired Eskimo harpoons and spear points, and an impressive knife and sword collection of weapons from around the world.

But the Klineburgers were not all about hunting. When they traveled they carried with them a keen interest not only of the game to be hunted, but also of the history and culture of the country they were operating in. This helped the brothers set up quality hunting programs in these countries, while leaving as little of a footprint as possible for future generations of hunters and travelers.

Meanwhile, there was still the taxidermy studio in Seattle. One of the Klineburgers' more well-known jobs came in 1968 when they preserved Bobo the Gorilla after he passed away at the Woodland Park Zoo. The brothers maintained their studio in several locations on Capitol Hill between 1954 and 1982; in 1982 they moved to a location on 1st Avenue S, just south of S Spokane Street. Many of their customers remember the large bear, rearing up on its hind paws,



*High Lonesome Ranch, Sammamish, 1990s*

in front of their store. Bert left the company in 1973 to run a safari business in Africa (he is still booking safaris and

guiding the occasional tour to Tanzania and Argentina today) and Gene retired in 1982. But Chris, his wife Colleene (1940-2002) and son Kent (b. 1961) continued to run Klineburger Taxidermy before closing it on November 29, 1996.

Kent Klineburger is still doing business today (2007) as Klineburger Enterprises. He specializes in trophy room restoration, wildlife appraisals for insurance and donation purposes, and works with people and museums with regard to trophy donations to museums.

The High Lonesome Ranch

But there was another component to the Klineburger operation that will resonate directly with many

of Seattle's Eastsiders -- Chris Klineburger's High Lonesome Ranch. When I asked Klineburger how he came up with the name High Lonesome Ranch, he answered, "I dreamt it." In 1960 he purchased 50 acres on the Sammamish Plateau along and just east of 244th Avenue NE, about a quarter mile south of NE 8th Street, paying \$55,000 for one 44-acre parcel and about \$10,000 for another six-acre parcel on Allen Lake. Access to the property was south on 244th Avenue NE from NE 8th Street in what was then unincorporated Redmond. He moved to the property in October 1960, and within a year or so built a "frontier town" for the purpose of providing people with an authentic Western experience. "Come visit and see the recreation of old western atmosphere and hospitality" reads a circa 1961 flyer for the High Lonesome Ranch.

Frontier Town, as it was called, consisted of a long, low pine building that was subdivided into several smaller units. There was the Lavender Horse Saloon, a "hotel" (more accurately described as a bunkhouse), a working blacksmith shop, a livery stable, and a feed house. The ranch was open year round, though late spring through early fall saw the most activity there.

The Lavender Horse Saloon hosted numerous events in its heyday in the 1960s and 1970s. There were school parties there, as well as church parties and weddings; the Seattle Sounders soccer team held a celebration there after one season. Fledgling bands also tried out in the saloon. Some of the saloon's customers -- usually the more genuine westerners (such as Roy Rogers) -- had their own "running iron" (branding iron) which they used to make their mark on the saloon's wall.

Chris Klineburger also hosted many of his clients at the ranch. Roy Rogers came often (and maintained a close friendship with the Klineburgers until his death in 1998), astronaut Wally Schirra visited, as did Texas politician John Connally. The ranch attracted worldwide guests as well, such as Prince Abdorreza Pahlavi of Iran and Afghan Sultan Mahmud Ghazi. Guests from the Soviet Union and China were also entertained at the ranch.

The ranch also had a smokehouse and a meat processing area in the lower barn where meats were



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went to Cape Cod  
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prepared. Klineburger kept exotic animals (various types of rare deer, sheep, and llamas) on the ranch and these provided much of the source of the meat, although occasionally a bear ham or sausage was prepared. He sold most of the meat to area restaurants, particularly Rosellini's Other Place in downtown Seattle.

### The High Lonesome Riders

The ranch provided horse rentals to the public, and in February 1965 Chris Klineburger took it a step further and established the High Lonesome Riders club. The purpose of the club was to develop trails and riding facilities in the area between Redmond and Issaquah east of Lake Sammamish -- "At that time you could go from our house south to Beaver Lake and never see another house," he remarked -- and to provide group and family activities such as trail rides and pack trips.

Membership was open to all, and the club grew rapidly; a year after its inception the club boasted 99 paid members and 120 horses.

The High Lonesome Riders participated in drills in the Redmond Bicycle Derby for a number of years and participated in horse racing contests (such as jumping and barrel racing) with other local horse riding clubs. The club put on barn dances for its members (hay bales provided seating). The club also had "Progressive Dinner" rides. Club members would mount their horses and ride to one house for hors d'oeuvres, a second house for salad, a third house for the main course, and one last house for dessert.

But the High Lonesome Riders were particularly known for putting on some long, challenging rides and campouts, and not just on the Sammamish Plateau. During Memorial Day Weekend 1965, 15 club members participated in a ride and campout east of the Cascades, along the Columbia River near Vantage. (There were) "only a few major inci-

dents," commented the club's June 1965 newsletter in recounting the trip. "Chris had his toe stepped on, Pam's horse dumped her in the swimming hole, [and] the cattle ate the wiring off of the stock trucks."



*Lavender Horse Saloon, High Lonesome Ranch, Sammamish, ca. 1966*

The ranch continued to host the High Lonesome Riders into the 1970s, but by the late 1970s Chris's business ventures prevented him from spending as much time on the club. By this time, Colleene had been seriously injured in a fall from a horse and this affected her ability to handle the numerous activities on the ranch. The Klineburgers phased out of the High Lonesome Riders, which moved to another location in Redmond in the late

1970s and seems to have disbanded soon after.

The staff at the ranch was small -- probably fewer than 10 employees, and that included Chris's wife Colleene and, when he became old enough, their son Kent. Chris maintained the ranch through the 1960s and 1970s, but as his taxidermy business continued to expand and he traveled more and more worldwide to set up hunting operations and to hunt, he had less time for the ranch. Meanwhile, Colleene's horse-riding injury had slowed her down. Chris also grew frustrated with customer thefts at the ranch, such as the barstools from the saloon.

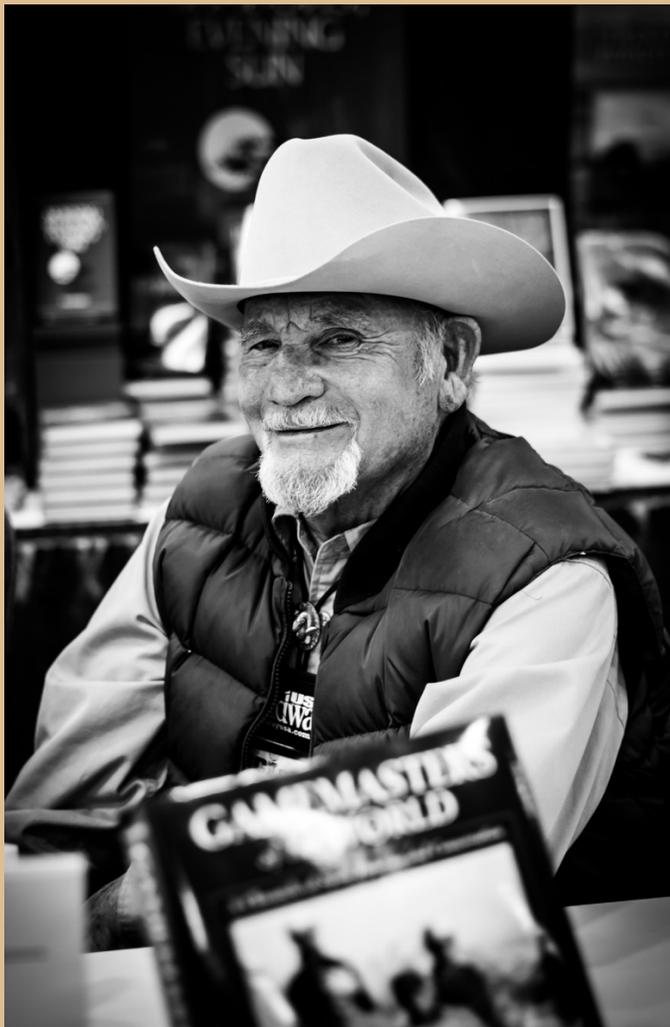
### Later Days

About 1980 the Klineburgers subleased Frontier Town and let others run it, but the problems continued. People kept pilfering from the saloon; the crowds grew ever larger, and, by the mid-1980s, development on the Plateau was accelerating rapidly. "It wiped out the solitude, which was the whole point of the ranch," observed Chris.

By the late 1980s the Lavender Horse Saloon was closed. During the 1990s Lori's Sammamish Stables leased Frontier Town and offered horse rentals to the public before closing its operations in the late 1990s.

The Klineburgers lived on the ranch until March 2000. They sold the ranch "as is," with Frontier Town still intact. Although there was talk of preserving Frontier Town, it was instead quickly torn down as was the Klineburger ranch home and other structures on the ranch. New housing was quickly built on the site and today no trace remains of Frontier Town or the High Lonesome Ranch in Sammamish.

But what a journey it's been. Says Chris Klineburger: "The essence of life is discovering what is on the other side of the mountain ... [but] upon reaching the destination, we realize that there is no end. Distant mountains lie before us; it is time to meditate and give thanks."



**Life Membership  
Special!!!**

**Life Membership  
Special!!!**

## **NORTHWEST CHAPTER**

**Chapter AND National Lifetime Membership  
for one low payment**

<b>SCI National Life Membership</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Northwest Chapter Life Membership</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Promotional Discount</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Total For Both Life Memberships</b>	<b>\$2,250</b>

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**12 payments of \$187.50 Per Month**

**Or**

**24 payments of \$93.75 Per Month**

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\$200 SCI Hunter Pride Apparel

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to the SCI Annual Hunter Convention  
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The Northwest Chapter of Safari Club International is offering a promotional Life Membership program. You have to have a Life Membership from National before you can get a Life Membership for the Northwest Chapter. That means you have to shell out \$2,500 to be a Life Member of the Northwest Chapter. With hunting season upon us, I don't see many skipping a hunt for a membership so we came up with a way to have both.

Now you can become a Lifetime Member for either 12 monthly payments of \$187.50 or 24 monthly payments of \$93.75 which is a bit more manageable. You still get all of the perks when you sign up for Lifetime membership and are immediately a Life Member with all of the perks.

**Safari Club International**



**Northwest Chapter**

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Safari Club International



Northwest Chapter

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Access to SCI First for Hunters website

Free admission to the International Wildlife Museum at SCI Headquarters in Tucson

Official SCI Membership card

Free access to SCI "Online Record Book" & Hunt Reports

SCI Hunter's Travel Assistance Hotline powered by Global Rescue

### Mail to

Gary Tennison at 9718 36th St NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

### Or email

gtennison@centurytel.net



# Elk Meat Helps Feed The Hungry

By Gary Tennison

The NW Chapter of SCI authorized up to \$1,000.00 to pay for the cutting, wrapping and charitable distribution of any elk that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife confiscated or came across in various ways. Well sure enough a hunter with a cow tag shot a spike bull by mistake. The hunter did the honorable thing and call the WDFW and self-reported his error.

Scott Harris from the WDFW arranged for the elk to be taken to the nearest meat market for processing. His next step was to send an email to Jim Chaffee – his local contact from the NW Chapter. It just so happened that Jim was a few thousand miles across the Pacific Ocean in Australia at the time. So, what does Jim do? – simple he sends an email and a phone call to me to contact Scott along with Scotts contact information.

After a few phone calls of my own I finally got the correct phone number for Scott at the WDFW office and managed to get in contact with Scott. He informed me that the elk is at Wynooche meats for processing and gave me their contact information. The elk was processed into 220 one-pound packages of Elk burger in just a few days. When it was ready, I drove out to Wynooche and picked up elk meat and took the first 120 pounds of elk meat to the Tacoma Salvation Army food bank and kitchen on my way home. The rest of the meat went into my freeze to wait for Jim's return from Australia. Upon Jim's return from his vacation, I took him the other 100 pounds for his part in a week-long feed for the hungry at the Federal Way Lutheran Church.



These are just some of the many Conservation, Education and Humanitarian projects that are done all year long by your NW SCI Chapter!



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# Classifieds

The classifieds section is up and running. Classifieds can be used to sell extra gear, tell members about upcoming hunts or even to find new hunting buddies when your old one shoots a bigger deer than you the previous season.

These are free to post for chapter members so long as they are not advertising businesses. Please keep posts under 80 words and one picture per post is encouraged but not mandatory.

For questions or to post something in our classifieds section please reach out to Cody at 253-988-0557 or email him at [trythis06@yahoo.com](mailto:trythis06@yahoo.com)

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY



# Tuna Time

By: Alan Pearson

As the days get longer and the temperature warms up, the drumbeat begins again. And grows louder.

Tuna Time.

Another clue to the upcoming tuna season is the delivery of empty canning jars from our kids. Our daughter handed me 29 empty jars last week, with instructions to “fill em up again!”. Our family eats a lot of home canned (“Caught by Alan, Canned by Jan brand”) tuna fish sandwiches.

As fishing opportunities continue to decline across the board in Washington, one fishery remains

strong and appears to be more than holding its’ own. Albacore tuna. The search for offshore albacore brings multitudes of hopeful anglers to the Washington coast each year and provides both sport as well as a reasonable chance to bring home a load of fish for the pantry. This is a fun-filled fishery and can be extremely productive.

Tuna sportfishing in Washington is predominately based out of Westport. Other options include Ilwaco, La Push, and to a lesser extent, Neah Bay.

Fishing heats up, literally, as the water warms up in the summer. Albacore travel tremendous distances about the Pacific, and follow warm water pushed toward the north from more southern climes. Albacore are warm blooded and always on the move to enhance oxygenation and locate food such as cephalopods like squid, and baitfish including saurys, anchovies and herring. Chlorophyll helps attract and locate the bait. Savvy boat captains can pinpoint the likeliest locations for temperature and feed conditions to best predict

where to begin the day's fishing in the vast Pacific. When conditions come together just right, this can be an amazing fishery.

Fishing may begin as early as June, and in some years, extend into November. Later season tuna fishing becomes problematic, however, due to changes in the fall weather patterns which can limit days on the water, and the interference (some might more accurately suggest the blessed onset) of the fall hunting season.

For the fisherman who isn't equipped to head out to the open Pacific on their own (probably most of us), there are numerous charters. There are larger boats who take 10-20 fisherpeople at a time. These boats generally require longer trips of 1-2 days, depending on how far offshore the fish are currently located, and desires of the folks booking the charters.

Smaller boats are referred as "six pack" charters. These boats have a captain and mate, and usually are licensed to take six fishermen. Although these boats can be a little more susceptible to weather conditions compared to the larger charters, they offer many advantages, which in my opinion, far surpass the larger charters. I will discuss these advantages shortly.

There are many fine charters out of Westport where I fish.

My personal experience is with All Rivers and Saltwater Charters, out of Westport. This is an absolutely top of the line charter operation, which is owned by Mark and Merry Coleman. Mark is the lead skipper, and Merry likes to remind me that she is in charge of everything else. And she is. And does a terrific job. They run three 29-foot Defiance boats. This year, Mark is adding a 42-footer to the

stable, which he will operate. I plan to break it in on the second day of the 2020 halibut season, with a fishing crew including our own SCI members Del Berg, Ron Carter, Brian Wissner and Brent Fleckner. My son, also experienced with Mark, rounds out the boat. I am also lined up for tuna in August with Del and Brent and three other friends. I have fished with Mark and Merry for several years, including tuna, halibut and bottom fish. They are my go-to charter in Westport, and I have my dibs in on several choice trips each year. I have also fished with several of his other boats, and all are top notch.

A typical trip involves communication with Merry regarding weather conditions which might impact the trip, and the time to meet at the dock prior to departure. Wind generally plays the biggest role limiting the fishing. Mark always keeps us safe. If conditions are not good, reschedule is in order, with the call to fish or not fish made before we head to the coast.

For some reason, the usual meet at the boat time of 0530 (army time) seems to come earlier as I get older. We get our safety briefings, life vest adjustments, boat orientation and instruction

*Continued on Page 66.*



Continued from Page 65.

regarding the current methods of fishing, and off we go, heading to the bait barge. After getting large scoops of live anchovies, out of the harbor and across the Westport bar we go. Usually not bad, occasionally lumpy.

I like to go on these six pack charters for several reasons. We book all six spots with friends so that we, and the crew all know, or quickly get to know one another. This allows friendly fishing conditions, as frequently, on a hot bait stop, the action gets hot and heavy quickly. No disagreements when the inevitable spiders' webs of multiple lines develop due to sneaky tuna (although in my opinion, it is always Brent's fault!). On our tuna trips, the catch is divided up as equally as possible, regardless of who was the hot rod. We all socialize together the night before, usually at Bennett's Fish Shack with Halibut sandwiches. Calories don't count on fishing trips!

Mark and his skippers always have a plan on where to go and find fish. Sometimes the fish cooperate and are quickly found, other times some searching is in order. It is a really big ocean. An advantage when your outfit runs four boats. As soon as someone finds fish, everybody heads for the action. I have caught tuna as close as 34 miles out of Westport to as far as 65 miles almost straight out. One year, the fish were located off the mouth of the Columbia. We ran 75 miles southwest from Westport and found the fish 35 miles due west of the mouth of the Columbia River. Mobility and speed are likely the greatest advantage of the faster six pack boats relative to the larger (50+ foot) slower charters. Covering the water quickly is the name of the game. I can leave the dock at 0530, fill the boat and drive the 100 miles back home and be back usually by about 8 pm.

After you head out to the fishing grounds, you begin hunting the fish.



Unless you find jumping fish and start fishing with bait, you generally begin with trolling to locate the biters. Seems like there are almost always some fish down deep, and they can be caught, but not usually in the numbers desired. Trolling covers the water, and as soon as a fish hits, the first man up (usually the least experienced tuna fisherman as this is the best way to learn how to fight the fish) gets on the rod. The goal is to get the fish into the boat and keep the school close. Sometimes

easier said than done. The boat is stopped, other anglers quickly clear any troll rods without fish, the mate tosses live anchovies into the water all around

the boat to attract and hold the fish, and the rest of us get our rods baited and quickly in the water. This is called a bait stop.

Mark runs quality tackle on his boats. Fairly light rods with matching reels, braided line with 30 lb. fluorocarbon leaders with hooks generally size 1 or 2, to match the live anchovies. You free spool your live anchovy to allow it to swim away from the boat, into the mouth of a hungry tuna, which just happens to be swimming by at, oh, about 30 miles an hour, sometimes 10 feet or less from the boat. It can be a shock to learn that a 4-inch anchovy actually can't swim off at 30 miles an hour. By itself. It can when assisted by a shiny torpedo. As we were taught during the instructional portion of the briefing, we calmly allow the line to rocket off in free spool with only gentle

thumb pressure on the spool for a slow count of 3. Or one. Or whatever. Or panic. Engage the lever drag and hopefully you are hooked up (if you did it correctly! If not, we all laugh!). Can't stop and shouldn't even try to stop the first run. Keep your thumb off the spool or blister you will get. If this happens, you will be reminded for the rest of the trip, by your painful digit and the ridicule of your "friends". Amazing to think you can land a 30 lb. fish on a size 2 hook. But you can. And will.



These fish swim around the Pacific looking for something to eat. To say they are powerful is an understatement. Tuna I have caught range in size from 10-12 lbs. or so up to the upper 30's in weight. My wife, Jan, won a derby once with a fish weighing 37 lbs. They are built like a muscular torpedo. Dark blue on top and silvery white with yellow below. Beautiful. They have large pectoral fins which enable them to swim fast and fight hard. They make blistering runs, and in my experience, they love to try and wrap your line around the motor prop and run under the boat in order to tangle everyone in the county in one large knot. After you think you are ahead in the fight, albacore have this favored tactic of swimming directly under the boat in large circles. I believe they do this intentionally in order to create the greatest number of tangles possible.

The goal is to get as many fish into the boat as quickly as possible before the school swims away. Sometimes you get one or two fish or a dozen. Other times I have seen a bait stop last nearly two hours and you fill the boat at one time. You never know. Once the fish are in the boat, they get bled immediately. Albacore are warm blooded, and to preserve the quality of the meat, they need to be bled and iced down as soon as possible. This results in blood all over the deck, hence the term "bloodydecks".



porpoises and once a sunfish. On the 65-mile out trip, one lucky angler boated a nice yellowtail off a kelp paddy. Mark catches a few bluefin tuna each year, and you hear of an occasional mako shark. Mythical dorado and striped marlin are whispered about.

On the ride back to port, for a small fee (well worth it!), the mate will loin out your tuna into four beautiful tubes of meat. Tuna bellies smoked up are a real delicacy.

At the dock, bags of tuna loins hit the coolers and ice fills the chests for the ride home.

As soon as possible, the decks washed off. If still fighting fish, care must be taken to avoid slipping, tripping and falling. Mark's boats have two large fish boxes. When the boxes are full of tuna and ice, you are done. Otherwise you might impair the quality of your fish. The 29 ft boats generally can hold about 700 lbs. or so of tuna and ice. Size of the fish determines the numbers kept. Typically, the larger the fish, the fewer fit into the fish boxes. Obviously, fishing is fishing, with some trips better than others. Catching is never a guarantee, but I have never had a bad trip with Mark. Knock on wood. I have been on trips ranging from 29 to 52 tuna in the boat. Divided 6 ways, that is a lot of fish. I have brought home hauls of tuna loins weighing from about 40 lbs. to over 90 lbs. Pure meat.

We like to can the majority of our tuna. Tuna fish sandwiches rule and are year-round fare. Our kids are always coming to the house for jars of tuna. Canned tuna makes great gifts. Jan cans our tuna and wrote an article about her methods in the Winter edition of our Northwest Chapter magazine.

Mark and Merry are wonderful people and are great supporters of our chapter. They have provided live auction donations of tuna trips for the last several years. There is a tuna trip on the auction again this year. If you are interested in a great experience with the likelihood of a haul of great tasting fish, you can't go wrong fishing with All Rivers and Saltwater Charters.

It is cool to be offshore and see such a live ocean. I've seen whales, lots of different types of birds,

By Alan Pearson





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# The Bent Horn Gemsbok and A Twig

By: David Irons



**F**or many years I had dreamed of taking a safari to Africa with my three daughters. At our Chapter 2009 banquet I was the successful bidder on two hunts in South Africa for plains game. My plan was for my three daughters and myself to travel to South Africa in August of 2010, which gave me a year and a half to plan.

As we approach our hunting dates in 2010 life got in the way. My oldest daughter was offered her dream job and my middle decided to get married. After some quick discussions with my PH's and my 21 year old nephew I rebuilt the hunt with my 20 year old daughter Coleen and my sister's 21 year old son Tom.

The flight from Seattle to Port Elizabeth is exceptionally long with several contacting connecting flights that left us exhausted. But we recovered quickly and spent the next seven days hunting plains game and meeting many wonderful people from South African.

Where this trip takes a major turn is when we traveled to our second hunt with Jacques Senekal

of African Maximum Safaris. One of Colleen's major goals was to bag a Gemsbok. Did I mention the hunting camp had a swimming pool?

As luck would have it though, I drew the long straw

that first morning, not my daughter, and when we spotted a herd of Gemsboks first thing that morning I was on foot with my PH in a hearts beat. The herd was playing hide and seek for about 90 minutes, and every time we got within 250 yards, the herd would spook and run off. I finally was able to close to about 235 yards when and an old bull made the mistake of stopping and looking back at me; Bingo, I had my Gemsbok!

After a great lunch we hit the field with my daughter looking for an even bigger Gemsbok than mine. All three of my daughters are excellent shots and Colleen my youngest was as close to "one shot and one down" as you can get so I knew if we could get close she would finish the deal.

In early afternoon we spotted a herd of Gemsbok that included several mature animals, the adrenaline started pumping. The herd was roughly 25 animals in size and after glassing them the PH said there were two old bulls and one female that was

*Continued on Page 72.*



truly spectacular. Colleen asked, “why was the female so good?”, The PH explained, “that she bigger than your Dad’s animal plus one of the horns has a bend near the end.” When the PH said “the female was larger than your dads”, the question of which animal to go after was answered. There was no stopping Colleen from her single minded pursuit of wanting the Gemsboks with the bent horn.

The only thing better than hunting yourself is watching your children hunt. As the PH and Colleen started their stock I followed them at a safe distance. This turned into a classic stalk with the herd moving slowly and the PH attempting to find an opening in the brush but staying down wind. Finally after 45 minutes of chasing the herd, I could see Colleen put her rifle on the shooting sticks.

I heard the shot ring out and the Gemsbok went

down, but then quick as a blink of the eye it was back on its feet and running with the herd.

When I caught up with the PH and Colleen, I asked, “did the shot look good?” They both said that the Gemsbok had been standing in the clear but took one step forward moments before Colleen shot. At that point the head and neck were covered by trees but the shoulder and body were clear so Colleen took the shot.

African trackers are world renowned for their ability; and ours were no exception, quickly demonstrating this was a well-earned reputation.

Our trackers were following Colleen’s Gemsbok closely after the shot, but much to our surprise, the animal was running with the herd and not slowing down. After about a half mile on the trail, the trackers spotted blood which was not unusual. But what surprised all of us was blood was mixed

with saliva. After much discussion, we realized that when Colleen shot somewhere between her and the Gemsbok, there must have been a small branch that hit the bullet but was that was invisible through the scope. So the bullet changed trajectory after hitting the branch, and traveled behind the trees striking the Gemsbok right behind the jaw in the neck.

Colleen “directed all of us” that we had to find this Gemsbok and put it down ASAP.



After several hours of searching our trackers found the herd and with the help of one bent horn we were able to spot Colleen's Gemsbok. I taught my daughters to enjoy the outdoors and hunts, but that includes ethical hunting. Colleen was driven to finish the hunt for the bent horn Gemsbok she originally had started.

Within minutes the PH had Colleen in position and the Gemsbok was down, no twigs in the way this time.

The PH was quick to measure the Gemsbok and confirm it was a half inch longer than mine. I then whined to the PH about the size of her Gemsbok and he explained that he could not help the fact that Colleen was "a better shot" than I was.

Except for a dad's wounded ego (a better shot?), we continued another four days of spectacular scenery and wonderful hospitality.

By David Irons



**If we get quarantined for 14 days, do the game wardens have to stay home too? Askin for a friend**

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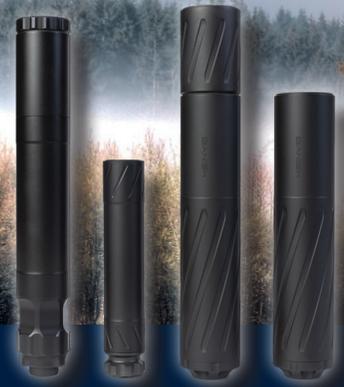
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Participated in the capture and reintroduction of antelope to the State of WA  
Participated in the Mountain Goat capture and relocation in the State of WA  
Participated in a Washington State Sheep capture and study  
Participated in a Washington State Elk Hoof Rot Survey and study  
Participated in building 900-pound capacity pheasant feeders for the Dept. of Wildlife  
Provided 700 fishing poles for the National Youth Hunting and Fishing Day event 2020  
Participate in Bass Pro Outfitters day with the HOW box and booth  
Participation & booth at the WA Dept of Fish & Game "Youth Hunting & Fishing Day"  
Participated in sheep capture and inoculations at the Clemens Mountain Feeding Station  
Participate in the SCI Lobby Day in D.C. every single year (over 15 years +)  
Participated in multiple WDFW Projects  
Hold Educational Booth at the Washington State Fair every year  
Hold Measuring program & booth at Sportsman's Warehouse, twice every year  
Hold Measuring program & booth at Cabela's, twice every year  
Removed ½-mile of old fence for the WA Dept of Fish & Game  
Sale of one to two state "Governor" Game Tags for the WA Game Dept each year  
Sportsmen Against Hunger food collecting, multiple times per year  
Purchased Sheep collars for sheep disease study  
Hold annual membership events  
Help fund Wolf Studies  
Help fund Wild Sheep Studies  
Helped fund Grizzly Bear study in B.C.  
Anti-Poaching Poster Project  
Numerous Safari Care "Blue Bags" have been taken to Africa by chapter members  
Participate every year (as voting member) in the Hunter's Heritage Council to actively lobby our legislators on hunting issues

Please join us again this year to  
continue contributing towards conservation

Thank you for your support!!!



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Members make the Chapter, and feedback is omnipotent to keep our Chapter fun and engaging. On behalf of the Board please don't hesitate to reach out with feedback, suggestions, or questions. David and Cody have provided their personal contact information but if you would like to contact a specific Board member besides them, they can be contacted through the "Contact Us" section of the website at [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com).

We have openings on several committees and are actively seeking volunteers from the Northwest Chapter. If you don't quite have the time to commit to an active Board position, committees and subcommittees are a great way to get involved and leave your mark without the same time obligation that comes with a Board position.

If you would like more information about volunteering, please reach out to David, Cody or the "Contact Us" section of our web-page at [www.SCINW.com](http://www.SCINW.com).



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