

Safari Club International

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO CONSERVING WILDLIFE AND PRESERVING HUNTING

WESTERN MONTANA FIVE VALLEYS CHAPTER NEWS

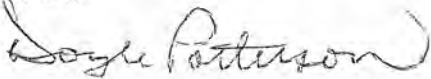
Winter, Spring, Summer 2000

President's Message

There are literally hundreds of groups, large and small, that have dedicated this year to an all-out attack on all those things so dear to us as hunters/conservationists. It is easy to become complacent living as we do in Montana; but all around us hunting is being attacked as never before. This is a global onslaught which we cannot ignore any longer.

I am asking our membership to be vigilant. Keep your ear to the ground and let us know of anything large or small that might be happening in your area that we need to be aware of. Just a couple days ago in an editorial, The MISSOULIAN suggested that spring bear season might be closed to save the accidental shooting of grizzly bears. We, as a chapter, need to stay on top of those things so our chapter as well as SCI National can take immediate action as needed.

I would, also, ask you to take the time to read your monthly Safari Times to keep abreast of what is really going out there.



Doyle Patterson

Just A Sample

Those of you who go online, check out this web site:

www.fund.org/facts/bodycount.html

"Body Count: The death toll in America's war on wildlife."

A NOTE OF APOLOGY

As editor of this newsletter I must apologize for it's late arrival. I was the one who made the noise several years ago at a board meeting about the need for communications, i.e. the need of a newsletter. I was right then and I am sincere now when I say "sorry about that". I have a lot of pathetic excuses, none of which really matter. So with that said; your board has been working really hard for you and I'll get my act together accordingly.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Welcome to Max Bauer Jr. Max accepted a nomination to fill a vacancy on our board of directors and we thank him for that.

Banquet 2000

DECEMBER 9, 2000



Mark your calendars for **December 9th, 2000**. This years banquet/fundraiser will be at the University Center at the U of M in Missoula. Tickets will be available at the end of July. We expect a sellout again this year. We will have a lot more room this year and a greater banquet/fundraiser will be the result.

Soon after our board meeting at the end of July, we will send out a special banquet letter with all the info you'll want to know.

\$500 donation to Kenai chapter SCI

Our chapter has sent \$500 to the Coalition for the Alaskan Way of Life. They are involved in a major fight with the anti's over hunting in Alaska and expect to spend a million plus on this. We must help those around us when we can. Our day will come and they will be there for us.

Accomplishments

Some of the things our chapter has done since the last newsletter:

Had a very successful fundraiser/banquet
Donated \$3500 to the Garnet Moose study
Received a grant from national for another \$1042 for the moose study
Joined COHA - sent \$500
Starting Youth Program
Started disabled hunter program
Started membership drive w/prize
Made some important contacts - more to follow
Donated to Southwest Chapter and Montana Chapter SCI fundraisers as well at MT FANAWS fundraiser
Signed up 19 new chapter members
Started Sportsmen against hunger program
Sponsored a teacher and student to AWLS school
Began work on a "Right to Hunt/Fish" amendment in MT
Enacted new bylaws
Became tax legal w/state
Elected new officers
Sent one cancer stricken child to Camp Make A Dream
Work is underway on this year's fundraiser/banquet
Sables donated \$500 to Kidfitters Camp (MT Outfitters and Guides)
Sables is donating \$300 for two wheelchairs through Safari Cares Program

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1999 Banquet

Besides being a great dinner and get-together we sent \$5869.81 (30%) to national and have over \$20,000 for our causes and projects here in Western Montana. A great success.



1999 Conservation Project

Garnet Range Moose Survey

Our chapter donated \$3500 along with securing a \$1042 grant from SCI national. This money was used to wrap up this survey and help finance the final report as well as pay for copter time for a count which took place on January 5 & 6, 2000. In 8 1/2 hrs. 44 moose were spotted.

COHA

Our chapter has joined the Canadian Outdoor Heritage Alliance (COHA) in their fight for their lives to save hunting of all kinds in Canada. Our \$500 donation makes us a non-voting member. COHA is an organization of organizations and is growing very rapidly and is already reversing some of last years losses. And, yes, they will be there when we need them.

Youth Program

Dan Sorenson will be the Youth Program Chairman. Dan can be reached at 777-1124. Dan can use any ideas you may have and he would appreciate anyone who would like to help start and run this important program.

Disabled Hunter Program

We are working on this program in our chapter and about have all the gears turning together. One of our concerns has been insurance/liability and that has been taken care of with a rider from SCI's insurance. Van Dorathy and Joe Rogers are working on this program.

Chapter Membership Contest

All new member applications since January 1, 2000 and their sponsor will be put in a drawing for a Bushnell laser range finder. This contest will run until December 1, 2000. Please send each new membership to the chapter address and we will send it on to Tucson. Remember, chapter members must also belong to national.

Welcome to new members who have joined since December

Lee Helgeland, Bigfork; Larry Jenkins, Victor; Pride Johnson, Kalispell; Matthew D Williams, Kalispell; Wendell Barnes, Missoula; C R Bartkowski, Darby; Ron Burchett, Missoula; Skip D Clevenger, Hamilton; Steven J Gronbach, Victor; Lowell Haines, Columbia Falls; Richard D Hardy, Corvallis; Mick Iten, Hamilton; Michael Jacquire, Florence; John B Kelly, Dillon; Jammin Krebs, Plains; Frankie Laible, Victor; Donald W Luettjohann, Plains; Robert E Smith, Plains; Bill Stratton, Roberts



Jack Atcheson, Jr. **Keith Atcheson**
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Sportsmen Against Hunger

This program was a total bust. I didn't receive any donation forms other than my own deer, antelope and beef to send to national. I got the message.

American Wilderness Leadership School

The Board of Directors voted to send one teacher and one student to AWLS, but because of scheduling it fell apart at the last minute and neither went. We were not out any funds, but hopefully next year things will go better.

Banquet donations

We need people to get donations for our fundraiser from your local business's, banks, artist etc. call Dorathys with your donations. 826-5684

Right to Hunt Amendment

Your Board of Directors has voted to investigate the possibility of our chapter spearheading a drive for a state constitutional amendment for the 'right to hunt and fish' for all residents of the state of Montana.

This would be a major undertaking and would ultimately have to involve all fishing and hunting organizations in the state. We are now in contact with Washington D. C. SCI office, Utah chapter, Idaho Chapter and others who have either passed such amendments or failed trying. Utah has a very strong amendment which it passed last year. We are looking at that as a model.

If we were to take on this important challenge and seriously take it to Helena and hope to get it passed; we would have to have some major help from our members. Once underway we would need continuing help from our chapter as well as the members of every organization who share this goal.

If you and I were to undertake this challenge it might just be the most important legislation to come down for a long time both past and in the future. It won't be easy, but if there ever is a time to do it, it is now before demographics change to the point of being impossible to pass. The Board will begin on this project December 2000.



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Sables

New Officers:

Joyce Garrels - President
Dotty Patterson - Secretary

Our Sables ladies gave the Montana outfitters & Guides Association \$500 to help finance their Kidfitter's Camp in Alder. This is a 6 1/2 day ranch camp for 12 kids selected by MT's Big Brother/Big Sister Chapters. Bill and the late Joyce Stratton put on an evening program about hunting, taxidermy, and SCI.

At their last meeting our sables voted to buy and donate 2 wheelchairs to the Safari Wheels program.

Young Hunter Award

We invite all members to nominate a Young Hunter Award candidate for SCI. If you know of one, please let me know. Some of the criteria are:

14 to 18 years of age

Does not have to be related to SCI member

Examples of accomplishments to be considered are trophies collected, a special animal taken without assistance, special conservation efforts of unusual heroic deed related to hunting. I need your nominations by August 31, 2000

Public Relations

Grant Winn II has agreed to take the public relations position. His number is listed under directors if you have something for him to pursue.



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Membership Losses

As of our May 18th roster of chapter members we have 62 active members plus 3 new members so far for June. BUT, we have 20 inactive members whose dues have not been paid in the last month or two. I am sure that many of you didn't realize it, so I'm sending this newsletter to you. Those of you that have expired memberships will have an 'ex' on your address label. Please send in your dues and stay current as we don't want to lose anyone who wants to stay with us. SCI and Five Valleys Chapter are your best hope for a secure hunting future. We're the best buy for the buck!

Congrats to Doug Rehbein

At the Reno Convention this year Doug Rehbein was awarded 2nd place for Best North American trophy taken. The Western Canadian moose he took in 1998 is not only awesome; it is now #1 in the SCI record book.

District Rep

Bill Stratton is our new District Rep. District 8 covers Montana and upper Wyoming. Bill was at our last board meeting. He has been an SCI member for 19 years and lives in Roberts, MT. He will help us in any way he can.

4th Annual Fundraiser/Banquet December 9th, 2000

In April I sent a letter to all members asking for our members to help Van and Evelyn Dorothy in any way they could. I suggested we could use hunts, art, as well as any large or small live/silent auction items as well as raffle and door prizes. Evidently these letters were not delivered in most areas because the only call we got was from one of our newer members in Big Fork, and we thank him for that. Hopefully this newsletter will reach all our members and remind them that our banquet/fundraiser is December 9th at the University of Montana University Center and to please call Van or Evelyn or myself with any help you can give. Dorothy's number is 826-5684. Banquet tickets will be available August 1, 2000.

SCI National Members

There are approximately 70 national SCI members living in Western Montana who do not belong to our chapter. Letters were sent to these folks requesting them to consider joining us. A few have done so. Maybe some of them are your friends and a little nudge would get them to come on over.

Officer Elections

The Board of Directors re-elected the existing officers for the upcoming year, July 2000 to July 2001. Those officers graciously accepted.



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**Five Valleys Chapter Safari Club International
Banquet Reservation Card
December 9, 2000**

Name/Host _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone(s) _____

Number attending _____

\$35 per person or \$60 per couple

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Charge my credit card \$ _____

Visa/Master Card (Circle one)

_____ exp date _____

Print card holder name _____

Tickets will be at the door in the name of the host.

Please respond by December 3, 2000

Western Montana five Valleys Chapter SCI

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Missoula MT 59808