



BASE CAMP



Safari Club International - San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Summer 2006

Sighting In a New Season

July begins the new year for our chapter — a new 'season' of membership. New chapter officers have been elected, planning for the 2007 fundraiser has begun, and we have a *new active web site*. This is a great time for members to get involved! You can get involved in a number of ways.

Sponsoring new members is a great way to get more from your membership. You will enjoy the company of your friends and family and each new member you sponsor will give you a chance to win a Browning Stalker rifle. See page 10 for information.

The fundraiser is always looking for help as Ilah Uhl outlines on page 17. You can volunteer your time as well as objects d'art, hunting equipment, trips, and more.

If you are good with words and a computer and you have ten hours every three months, you could be the editor of this newsletter. This is a very rewarding creative outlet.

Good ideas for ways to support the chapter goals are always welcomed — contact any Board member.



- **President's Message**
- **Sables News**
- **2006 Chapter Awards Dinner Photos**
- **Hunt Reports**
- **Chapter Project Updates**
- **New Board Officers Announced**
- **Part One: Owning a S. African Game Ranch**



- **Greenwing "Kid's Day"**
June 24, 10am-6pm
Pacific Rod and Gun Club
- **Youth Outdoor Safari Day**
July 15, 8am-3pm
Raahauge's Shooting Complex (Corona, Ca)
- **BBQ and Shoot**
August 27, 10am-6pm
Coyote Valley Sporting Clays
- **Board of Directors Meetings**
Third Thursday of each month
Vic's Restaurant in San Carlos 6:30 p.m.
Please call Beverly Valdez at 650-697-6538 for details.



San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of Safari Club International

BASE CAMP

Chapter Officers

President.....Dwight Ortmann
 President Elect.....Cathie Nelson
 Vice PresidentMike Davidson
 Past President Jim Peters
 Secretary..... Paul Williamson
 Treasurer Jim Peters

Board of Directors

Stan Atwood Tomas Bermejo
 Bob Keagy Richard Papapiatro
 Richard Pierce llah Uhl

Chairpersons

Awards Dinner.....Open
 Base Camp Editor.....Beverly Valdez
 Budget Committee.....John Peterson
 Conservation.....Stanford Atwood
 Cubs.....Bob Bergstrom
 Education/BBQ & ShootJim Peters
 Fundraiser Chairllah Uhl
 Fundraiser Financial Liason.....Jim Peters
 Humanitarian.....Richard Pierce
 Legislative.....Bob Keagy
 Marketing & P.R.....Diane Sheardown
 Membership.....Gil Ricarte
 SablesAnnette Peterson
 Chapter Administrator.....BeverlyValdez

Past Presidents' Council

Jim Peters 05-06
 llah Uhl 04-05
 Stanford Atwood 03-04
 Tomas Bermejo..... 02-03
 Mike Nice..... 01-02
 Bill Gouin 00-01
 llah Uhl 99-00
 Glenn Chrisman 98-99
 Gabe Tabib..... 97-98
 Dean Miller..... 96-97
 George Cobb..... 95-96
 Joe Bullock..... 94-95
 John Peterson 93-94
 Al Lawson 92-93
 Brenton Scott..... 91-92

The contents and opinions expressed in Base Camp are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Safari Club International San Francisco Bay Area Chapter or the general membership. Information and articles in this newsletter are intended to inform the members about chapter activities and present various viewpoints and issues of general interest. Base Camp, however, cannot verify or be responsible for the accuracy of statements made in the articles and columns written by the newsletter staff or guest authors.

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR BASE CAMP?

If you have an article or an idea please forward. Do you have a hunting experience you'd like to tell us about? A tip or trick you came across? A wild game recipe you'd like to share? Please send info to address below.

Circulation and Advertising Policy

Base Camp is published four times a year; Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall issues, by the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of Safari Club International.

Advertising is accepted for Base Camp to subsidize its publication. Space is available in 1/8 (Business card size) at \$50.00, 1/4 page at \$90.00, 1/2 page at \$170.00, or full page at \$340.00, respectively, pre-paid with submittal of artwork. Ads run for one year, (four issues) and will be in black and white. Advertisers must submit camera ready artwork to the Advertising Officer, c/o Chapter Office. Sorry, photos will not be returned, unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Member ads will be accepted for sale of personal property such as sporting equipment and special hunting or fishing opportunities. There are no fees for these ads and they will be run for a single issue only unless resubmitted for additional issues.

The Classifieds • Free Member Ads!

Advertisements from Safari Club members will be accepted for sale of personal property such as sporting equipment and special hunting or fishing opportunities. There are no fees for these ads and they will be run for a single issue only unless resubmitted for additional issues.

Please mail, e-mail, fax, or call in your ad to:

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of Safari Club International

Chapter Administrator: Beverly Valdez
 Address: 423 Broadway, #624, Millbrae, CA 94030-1905
 Phone: 650-697-6538
 e-mail: bev@safariclub-sfbay.org

President's Message



By Jim Peters

Dear Members,

I have had a very busy, and enjoyable, year as your president. I want to thank you for the opportunity and confidence you bestowed upon me. The year went by very fast! If it wasn't our monthly Board Of Directors meeting, it was one of our chapter events or one of the national meetings in Washington D. C., Tucson or Reno that kept the momentum moving. There was always something to prepare for and to review. We had lively discussions with the Chapter Board about how and what we could do better after each of our events and in our ongoing humanitarian and educational activities. As I said, it was busy and exciting!

Your current and future Chapter Board members are a cohesive group of people; all are dedicated to our common cause of "Protecting Hunters Rights." It is absolutely amazing to hear and read about the attacks on our hunting rights. Every week there is a new restriction or a newly proposed law that keeps chipping away at our rights. Weekly emails from SCI National and our lobbyists in Sacramento and Washington D. C., inform us of these ominous proposed laws. Our national organization works very hard on rewriting them or getting them sidelined. They also get good lawmakers to write and propose new laws that work to protect our hunting rights. This is a great benefit to us at the local level and is often invisible to the members at large. Bob Keagy, our legislative liaison, has kept us informed about the local and national/international issues and makes sure we know when the time is right for us to take action as individuals. Bob, as a recently elected SCI National board member, will continue to keep our chapter needs in focus.

January was a busy month. At our booth in the hunting hall at the San Mateo ISE show, many new members joined. Cathie Nelson and the Sables sponsored the "Sensory Safari trailer" at the ISE show in the fishing hall. We appreciate everyone who volunteered his or her precious time at this event. Right after ISE, many of us were off to Reno for the SCI National convention, the "mother of all hunting shows" and it truly is the largest hunting show in the world. Our chapter won an award for the most members attending the show! We jointly sponsored a cocktail party with Jim and Ilah Uhl for our members, guides, outfitters, contributors and friends from around the world. And yes, we are planning another chapter cocktail party in Reno, during the convention. In January 2007, if you don't see a flyer about it, call Beverly in the office for details.

This year's March fundraiser was a tremendous success. The cooperative efforts between the Golden Gate Chapter and our chapter, along with frequent progress update meetings, have allowed us to improve year after year. Our gross revenue was the largest ever and our net revenue was the largest ever, with funds available for us to donate to our local conservation, educational and humanitarian projects! Naturally, our contributions to National were the largest ever too. Ilah Uhl is the chairperson for the 2007 fundraiser; don't hesitate to contact her to let her know how you can help with this important annual event.

The fundraiser is the primary method of raising funds to support our projects and there are many worthwhile causes for which we can donate and contribute our time and financial support

as a contributing organization or individually. There are numerous articles in each Base Camp about the many projects that we promote. We encourage all of our members to consider new and additional projects for our organization to support. If you have an idea for a project, don't hesitate to contact any Board member.

March and April also brought immense sadness with the untimely loss of a hunting friend and fellow board member, Jim Uhl. It was a shock to all of the hunting community especially to our chapter and his family. We miss him and he is our model of the essence of a man who lived a true hunter's life.

As I prepare to leave my tenure as President, several changes are in progress. Base Camp is starting to show some color. Our chapter won an award for Base Camp, largely due to the efforts of Beverly Valdez. Everyone needs to continue sending hunting reports, articles and newsworthy information to Beverly for future publications. We are continuing to try to go "electronic" and use the Internet as a communications focus, including posting information to our new website and using email for communications when possible. Please send your email address to us if you haven't already. It will be protected and used strictly for chapter information. We are sending email versions to as many members as we can and snail mail to those who don't have an email address. New and exciting things are in our future.

You are in good hands with your next President, Dwight Ortmann. He and his wife, Edie, are dedicated hunters and he will work hard to build our chapter and to continue with all of our programs. Dwight was instrumental in leading our Chapter Board on discussions to decide if we wanted to continue to be a 501c(3) chapter and focus on conservation, education, humanitarian issues. The other alternative was to switch to a 501c(4) chapter and spend more time and money on legislative and political events. The consensus of our members and the Chapter Board was to maintain our local corporate chapter as a tax-free structure under the 501c(3) canopy and allow the national portion of SCI to continue taking the lead in the political arena.

Safe and Happy Hunting
Jim Peters



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Paul Williamson



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Past President
Jim Peters

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Stanford Atwood
Tomas Bermejo
Robert Keagy
Richard Papapietro Jr.
Annette Peterson, Sables President
Richard Pierce
Ilah Uhl

The Sables *Miombo* Corner

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapters of Safari Club and Sables have selected **Meredith Leonard** and **David Beutel** to attend the American Wilderness Leadership School (AWLS) in Wyoming this year.

Both are members of the Sierra Club and are avid backpackers. Both Meredith and David feel it is important to educate their students by what they learn in school. They stress that their students are from urban areas and have had little exposure to and appreciation of the wilderness and the tremendous value it has. Meredith plans to keep a daily log of her experiences which will ultimately help her in creating a program for her students and fellow teachers about the wilderness. David, as a science teacher, plans to use his experiences as a tool to make his students more environmentally aware. He expects some of his students will enter a conservation or science related field.

AWLS was started in 1976, with the aim of providing teachers with the hands-on experience they can use in their classroom. For students, it provides them with challenging experiences and an unmatched education; outside.

For more information on AWLS, please visit either the Safari Club International website at www.safari-clubfoundation.org/education <<http://www.safari-clubfoundation.org/education>> or email sables@safari-club.org. You can also contact me or other Sables members in the San Francisco Bay Area chapter.

Annette Peterson
SFBA Sables President

Remembering Jim Uhl (1943-2006)

Jim started hunting when he was about 8 years old in Livingston, Montana. In the early 80's he began trophy hunting and soon had his wife, Ilah, enjoying the Sport with him. Jim loved hunting and would have been out tramping in the woods daily if he could. He hunted in many places in the U.S. and foreign countries. It didn't matter where he was as long as he could get out in the Wilderness and hunt for animals.

Jim joined Safari Club International and helped to form the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter in 1991. He has been active in the Chapter since joining and attended all National Conventions of SCI. He served on the Board as Secretary for two years and Treasurer for three years. Jim enjoyed all events of SCI and was a great supporter and dedicated hunter.

His wife, Ilah; daughters Joanna and Kelli; Stepdaughters Terry and Sandy and many Grandchildren survive him. We all miss him terribly as do his many friends from SCI, United Airlines and other places.

THANK YOU

My sincere thanks to all of you for the many flowers, food, cards, calls, loving thoughts and donations to the SCI Sables Scholarship Fund in Jim's memory. It helps to ease the sadness and shock of losing my Jim to have such wonderful friends that care. I love you all.

Ilah Uhl

Hunt Report

Australia and New Zealand

by Dave Briesmeister
May 2006

My wife, Olivia, and I just returned from a four hunt safari in New Zealand and Australia. We used three outfitters to arrange our four hunts. The first two hunts were organized through Wanganui Safaris, owned by Paul Bamber. This outfitter was recommended by Jim Peters, President of Safari Club, San Francisco Bay chapter. Olivia and I found Wanganui Safaris to be a very competent and well run operation. The lodge we stayed in was spacious with separate bedrooms for each of the three couples. We shared a communal dining area with exquisite food prepared by Mr. Bamber's competent housekeeper, Gayle. Each hunter had their own Professional Hunter (PH). I shot a nice Red Stag on the North Island, at the very end of an extremely rainy three day hunt. The owner, Paul Bamber, had assured me that if I did not get a satisfactory Red Stag, the Tahr and Chamois hunts would be free and he would refund my Red Stag hunt cost. This outfitter went well beyond what I expected of him.



Olivia and Dave Briesmeister

We accomplished what we had set out to do. We then flew to Queenstown on the South Island where I shot two Tahr and one Chamois. The Tahr and Chamois hunts were conducted via helicopter, a new and very exciting hunting adventure for me. We finally had one day of beautiful weather, which we spent enjoying the magnificent South Island scenery in the Queenstown area.

Our next hunt was with an outfitter called Spey Creek Trophy Hunting owned and operated by John and Wyatt McBride. These two gentlemen conduct their hunts in the mountains of the South Island, some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. Their operation is teeming with game. My wife and I saw many, many magnificent Red Stags and too many Fallow Deer to count. On this hunt my wife shot her Red Stag and then followed it up with a 400 yard shot on a Goat. I followed up by shooting a Goat as well. This was

my wife's very first international hunting experience and we wish to commend the McBride's on their patience, skill and understanding with regard to their treatment of a beginning hunter. The lodging with this outfitter was in the home of the McBride's, with a spacious private bedroom. Rain followed us to this hunt also, which gave us an opportunity to play tourist. We visited a local winery, went window shopping and took pictures of the local seals on a day that was too rainy to hunt. The coastal scenery in Kaikoura was magnificent.

We then flew to Sydney, Australia. We spent a day in Sydney seeing the Opera House and the Sidney Harbor Bridge. We then caught a flight to Melbourne and met our next outfitter. This hunt was organized by Jamie Bell Safaris, owned by Jamie Bell. We found this operation to be extremely

well run and efficient from beginning to end. The PH was a man named Chris Nash and we found him to be very competent, professional and well organized. His safety consciousness regarding the handling of and use of fire arms is admirable. We would recommend Mr. Nash as a PH for any hunt you would wish to engage him on. On this hunt we collected three more species. I got a Rusa Deer and my wife collected her third and fourth species, an Axis Deer and a Hog Deer. This time the weather was somewhat more favorable. The lodging with this outfitter was in the home of the Ph, a spacious and comfortable environment.

We found these three outfitters, all of whom were recommended through Safari Club International (SCI), to be professional, competent and worthy of recommendation. Additionally, we met all three outfitters at the SCI Convention in Reno in January 2006. Should you wish to contact any of them their email addresses are as follows: Wanganui Safaris at wsafaris@xtra.co.nz, Spey Creek Trophy Hunting at nztrophyhunting@aol.com and Jamie Bell Safaris at jbsafari@mcmmedia.com.au. We really enjoyed our multi-species safaris to the South Pacific and would encourage anyone interested to go Down Under to hunt. Please feel free to contact us directly should further information be needed at breeze@caltel.com.

Alaska Adventure by Chris Grieg

My dad was born and raised in Cameroon in Western Africa. He goes back and visits there every year and usually brings other people along. He trades hunts with these people and they take him all over the world hunting. One person interested in going with him was Robert. Robert is a fishing guide in Alaska. He has a friend who drops people off to go caribou hunting, so he invited my dad, my uncle, and both of their families to go hunting with him in return for a hunt in Cameroon. Everybody but my mom and my oldest cousin could come. That meant that the hunting party included Robert, my dad Cam, my brother Nathan, my Uncle Brian, my Aunt Patty, my cousins Katie and Daniel, and me.

After getting off our Alaska Airlines plan in Kotzebue, Alaska above the Arctic Circle, we walked to the local store and bought our remaining supplies. After waiting several hours for the pilot to come back with other hunters, we boarded two planes and set off. I fell asleep and woke up just before we landed on a large patch of scree, which provided a perfect natural landing

strip. I was told by the others that they had seen a few caribou on the way in, but they were too far away to see how big they were. We camped right below the landing strip in a hollow by a spring. After setting up our large four-person, one-season tent and eating dinner, we went to sleep.

The next day we split up and went three different ways. My dad, Katie, and I went way down the valley; Nathan and Robert went another way; and Brian, Patty, and Daniel went a third. After going past an old, empty fuselage dropped by a plane, we hiked up onto a ridge. There we had lunch and set up the spotting scope. On a farther ridge we saw huge numbers of caribou moving along, including one really massive one. However, they were too far away to reach that day, so we had to head back to camp.

 On the way back we saw several caribou at close range, so my dad told me to get down and pretend to shoot them. One of the really small ones ran back up the valley towards camp. When we were about a mile from camp, Nathan came running up to us. Huffing and puffing, he told us that they had only seen one caribou, the one that had run up the valley, and that everybody was trying to get it now. We told him what we had seen and he ran off to get the others and come back to camp. That night Robert said we had timed it perfectly, the migration was about to begin.

Hunt Report

Robert planned to leave a note on the landing strip to let the pilot, who planned to pick us up after an unsuccessful first day, know what we were doing. However, he forgot until we were at least a mile out, so he had to run back. By the time he had caught up with us again, we were on our way to the ridge that we were on the day before. Everybody hiked all the way to the ridge and up to the top. Right at the top, I stumbled and almost started crying which got my dad really mad. Then he showed me a small herd of caribou a few hundred yards away with a nice male. I liked it, so Robert and I crawled to within a couple hundred yards. Although it was a long shot, I managed to hit it. After it was dead, my dad and I cleaned it, gutted it, and took the meat down to the riverbed. Because there were so many caribou around, Robert and Nathan went to get one for Nathan. As soon as we were done, my dad ran off after them and soon came back saying Nathan had got one also. He left his gear with us and went

back to help them. After I got bored of doing my homework, Brian thought to leave a note telling Dad that we had taken the meat and headed back to camp. We went down to the riverbed, packed up the meat, and forgot to leave a note. By the time he got back to camp, Dad was so beat he did not even yell at me for forgetting to leave the note.

It was too bad that we shot our caribou over eight miles from camp, because over the next few days, the migration took most of the caribou right past our camp. Pretty much at any time you could poke your head out of your tent and there would be several caribou within a couple hundred yards of camp. Since there were no other spots to land where the caribou were, Robert's friend put one other group right by us. We think that they had two tags each because they were banging away all week. In spite of all this, both Daniel and Robert got very nice caribou.

over and talked to the other people to see if they had wounded one. They said that they had not. Dad saw that they had a caribou with velvet on its horns so he gave them some preservative for the horns.

Two nights before we had to leave, Dad woke everybody up and the sky was white. The Northern Lights were out and they were amazing. That day Dad took Nathan and me to a clump of bushes. We hid there while the caribou walked all around us.

The night before we had to leave, the fog rolled in so the plane could not land. Katie was really mad; but Robert was correct in saying that it does not matter how late the pilot is, you are still glad to see him. While waiting for the second trip, our tent made a record by bending so much that the top touched the ground because of the wind. I took the second trip home, and some of Robert's friends joined him for another week. One of his friends was a photographer, so we did a few fancy flying maneuvers after taking off, one of which was going past 90°, and I felt the most G-forces I ever have. We arrived to a chaotic packing scene to try and make the flight home.

We arrived back in time for me to get to fifth period World History in which we were learning about Geography and the Arctic Circle. (I got a piece of candy for having been at the Arctic Circle earlier that day.) We and especially our tent were lucky; it snowed for the next week after we left.



Chris Grieg, 12
with caribou

One day around midday, a caribou came limping right into camp. When it saw us it ran away. By the time Dad had grabbed his gun and ran after it, it was well onto the landing strip. Dad shot it and it looked as if it had already been shot. Because it was wounded, we went

Chapter Project

Support for Coyote Point Hunter Safety

One of our local projects this year was supporting the hunter education activities at Coyote Point Rifle and Pistol Club. CPRPC, located in San Mateo at the Coyote Point Recreation Area, is a volunteer-run organization providing training to support and foster the shooting sports. Their classes include hunter safety, basic pistol, range safety officer, and basic rifle classes. All are taught by the volunteers of the club — these volunteers need to be trained and certified. The chapter is supporting this important activity by sending CPRPC volunteers to training.

Recently Vice President Mike Davidson met with CPRPC volunteer Don DelGrande to provide Front Sight training certificates and travel funds to send up to four of their volunteers for "train the trainer" sessions.

Learn more about the Coyote Point Rifle and Pistol Club at <http://www.coyotepointpc.org/>.



Donald DelGrande, left
and
Mike Davidson, right

2006 Chapter Membership Drive

Encourage a new person to join our chapter (and national if they are not yet members) and you and your friend both win from now through February 2007.

You will have the chance to win a Browning Stalker A-Bolt 270 caliber with BOSS valued at \$850 (one chance per each member sponsored) to be given away at the 2007 Annual Wild Game and Awards dinner. Your friend will have a discount of \$25 on membership. See the membership form on page 25.

"There are more serious hunters here [in the San Francisco Bay Area chapter] than in any other organization," says Richard Pierce, SF-Bay chapter board member.

"We know that our membership increases when we personally reach out to our friends, family, and colleagues," adds Dwight Ortmann, SF-Bay chapter President.

Take aim - sponsor new members and you could win A NEW RIFLE.

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Sporting Environments is a full service design & build firm specializing in the architectural design and construction of trophy rooms and fine homes in the Bay Area. If you are considering building a trophy room, remodeling or building a new home, approach your project with the same diligence as booking the hunt of a lifetime in a far-off land. Entrust the embodiment of your life's work to someone with the heart and mind of a hunter, the professional credentials and experience to both envision and create an environment that represents your passion and personality as a sportsman. Contact Sporting Environments to discuss your ideas.

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Reindeer Hunt in Alaska

By Ilah Uhl

Jim and I had the pleasure of hunting reindeer on St George Island, Alaska in November 2005 with the Great Northern Safari Company owned by Corey Rossi. We took a good hunting buddy, Rich Mears along with us.



Jim Uhl, reindeer

Corey manages the reindeer herd on the Island of St George for the native Alaskan government. In case you question the species of *reindeer*, this is actually caribou that has been transported to an area that they are not native to. It is a legal entry in the SCI Awards book.

We started off with a slight problem when we left the mainland for St George Island in a small plane. Unknown to us,

until we arrived on St George, the airline had removed some of our luggage to cut down on the weight. They just forgot to tell Corey or us! The luggage they removed carried all of our hunting clothes, ammunition and Rich's rifle. Corey went on a scavenger hunt after arriving on the Island and outfitted us for the hunt. He also got us 7 bullets between Jim and I.

The hunt was great even with our substitute clothing, etc. The walking was fairly easy, or as easy as one can walk on tundra, especially with boots one size too large. We circled and snuck up on a large herd of the reindeer. It was a sea of antlers. Very difficult to pick which one was the biggest since there were so many to choose from.

Being gentlemen, Jim and Rich allowed me to shoot first. (I still think Jim does this to assure that he can always get an animal bigger than I shoot, though he always denied it).

I picked a nice bull out and shot him from about 125 yards away. The herd did not scatter which surprised me but Corey said they get confused where the sound comes from and so just move around a little. Then Corey told me to shoot the cow standing close to where the bull was, as he needed to thin the herd out. I shot her but she wasn't quite dead so I finished her off with a second bullet. He told me to shoot another one but I didn't want to



Ilah Uhl, reindeer

use up all the bullets.

Since the herd decided it was time to move out, we followed them around for a while then decided to meet the incoming plane to see if our things had arrived. They had so we returned to the hotel to change and prepare to go shooting again. This time Rich got a very nice reindeer. Then it was Jim's turn. Since we had plenty of ammunition Corey had Jim shoot three animals. The amazing thing was he got five animals with three shots since two cows were standing behind the bulls. Quite a surprise when they went to clean the animals.

We would have gone out the next day to help clear out the herd a little more but the weather started to turn nasty and we decided to get out of town before the storm hit and we couldn't leave.

This was a great trip and I highly recommend it to anyone. The price is reasonable and includes a stay in a hotel with a bath down the hall and all meals. All the reindeer will place in the record book, especially Jim's in the top ten. I don't have the measurements since I am not sure where Jim put them. Corey is a wonderful host and expert guide as well as being just a nice guy!

Member Hunt Photos



Six hunters took 3 bears in three days and saw a total of 43 bears during the Port Hardy hunt.



Mike Nevis, Roosevelt Elk taken on Santa Rosa Island.



Don Mah with bear taken on Vancouver Island outside of Port Hardy.



Garrison (9, left) and Graham (6) Grisedale with geese taken in the San Jose area.



Tom Mattusch, of El Granada, with his first bear; taken in the Port Hardy area in May 2006 during spring bear season.

See more photos at
<http://www.safariclub-sfbay.org>

Chapter Awards and Wild Game Dinner 2006

See more photos at
<http://www.safariclub-sfbay.org>



Chapter Awards and Wild Game Dinner 2006

2006 Chapter Awards

See more photos at <http://www.safariclub-sfbay.org>

International

First: Jim Peters, #3 Red Stag free range
Second: Sheila Bohner, Wapiti
Third: Lee Bohner, Red Stag

Africa

First: Nick Bullock, Lord Derby Eland
Second: Nathan Greig, Forest Buffalo
Chris Greig, Western Kob
Third: Lee Bohner, Cape Buffalo
Fourth: Mike Nice, Red Duiker

North America

First: Mike Nevis, Elk
Second: Nathan Greig, Black Bear
Third: Matthew Maseda, Ducks and Geese

Exotic

Jim Uhl, Atay Ibex

Fish

Garrison Grisedale, King Salmon



Jim Uhl,
2006 Member of the Year



Cam Grieg,
2006 Sportsman of the Year



Edie Ortmann,
2006 Lioness

Hunt Report

Africa by Dwight Ortmann March 2006

The trip to Namibia started out great — that was until the police officer checking our guns in at the Windhoek airport stated “there is a problem here with your serial numbers on your guns and the paperwork.”

It was March 16, 2006 when my wife and I left home on our second safari to Africa. We had purchased the trip at one of our local SCI fundraisers. Our outfitter was Makadi Safari in the country of Namibia. We worked all day Friday and then raced home, packed the few remaining items and went to the airport to catch the redeye flight to Atlanta. By the time we reached Windhoek we were ready to sleep in a real bed and have some real food. Oh yes, the delay.....while we waited for the police officer to check in some other hunters I filled out



Edie Ortmann, warthog

our paperwork. When he checked ours, the confusion started. He showed me that the serial number on the gun did not match what I had filled out. I told him that I must have made a mistake. Ok, but he wanted to know where I got the number. I had copied it off of the US Custom form but guessed I was so tired that I got it wrong. He finally signed us off and told us happy hunting. He was probably just happy to see some confused hunters leaving his office.



Dwight Ortmann's tiger fish

Diethelm Metzger (he and his wife Katja are the owners of Makadi Safari) was waiting for us in the airport and helped us with our luggage to his Landrover. We then made the hour or hour and one half trip to his ranch. It was beautiful country and we saw many animals in the wild as we got closer to his ranch. It had been raining and we crossed over many streams that were running quite high, adding to the excitement. That night at camp I figured out why the



Edie Ortmann, zebra

paperwork didn't match with the guns. I was getting the guns out of the hard case and putting the slings on them and then it hit me. I had packed a 257 as I wanted to hunt some smaller animals that I didn't take on our first trip. I was to pack my wife's .300 but had put my 30-378 in by mistake. To make matters worse, I packed my wife's .300 ammo so we were down to one gun.

After dinner I explained my dilemma to our host. After a good laugh (and he assured me that “no one had ever done this before”) he told me that he had a .300 that we could use, so we were set for the morning. After a nice breakfast we sighted in the guns and were off. We walked for a few miles tracking some Red Hartebeest. Finally my wife had one in her sights and made a perfect shot. We took care of the animal and were off to a blind to have some lunch. During lunch my wife spotted a nice warthog coming to the water hold. She took aim and again made a perfect head shot. This ended day one. (Maybe she doesn't miss her gun?) We hunted there for five day taking seven

Hunt Report

trophy animals. All the animals we hunted were free ranging.

We then left camp and had a 12-hour ride up to the Caprivi Strip to do some fishing and sight seeing. We stayed at the Ndhovu Safari Lodge on the Okavango River. This is a beautiful first class tent camp where every tent had its own restroom and shower. Each tent looks out on the river. We fished for tiger fish and I managed to catch one even though the river was rising fast due to the amount of recent rains. We saw hippos and crocodiles in the river and could hear the lions roar each night just after our last sun downer. We were there three days and had a real good time, but like all good things they have to end and we took the 12 hour drive back to the Makadi Safaris compound. That night we dined on zebra steaks, which is the best meat that I have ever tasted.

The next morning we were off for the return trip home. If anyone would like a great hunt with a very good outfitter and one that supports our chapter, I would highly recommend Makadi Safaris.

And, for those of you who were wondering how I got the 30-378 back into our country, I was lucky enough to have US Custom paper with me for that gun from a previous trip. Sometimes you just get lucky.

YOUR HELP WANTED

As the 2007 Greater Bay Area Fundraiser Chairman I am asking for your help.

We need items to auction or raffle off at the fundraiser. If you have a business or hobby you could have something to donate that would give pleasure to the winner and make the fundraiser more successful. *It would also be good advertising for your company.*

Or maybe you have a timeshare, tickets to a ballgame, boat, duck club, or other activity that you won't be able to use or just want to generously donate. These are always popular at auction.

You may have something you won, bought, inherited or whatever that is new and unused and would be something someone else would love to have. The fewer items we have to buy for the fundraiser the more profit the club will make to put towards our conservation and education efforts.

One last thing we need – YOU! We need people to help with the many aspects of the fundraiser. Each year it seems to always be the same people working to make this annual affair a success. If you can donate some of your time it would be most appreciated and we need even the smallest amount of time you can give us. Attending and supporting us at the fundraiser is also a big help.

Remember this is your chapter of Safari Club International and everyone should support it in at least some small way. Funds from this event are used to run the chapter, donate to humanitarian projects, conservation projects, and support our hunting heritage.

If you can help or would like to donate something, please e-mail ilahuhl@safariclub-sfbay.org. I will be happy to arrange to have items picked up and — remember — this would be *tax deductible*.

Thank you, Ilah Uhl — 2007 Greater Bay Area Fundraiser Chairperson

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Chapter Project

Support for California F&G Hunter Education Program

Another Chapter-supported project is the Advanced Hunter Education Program organized by the California Fish & Game. In a recent email Susan Herrgesell, program coordinator, let us know how well the program is doing.

On May 20th and 21st more than 50 hunters converged on the Wilderness Unlimited Property in Williams, California to learn some of the secrets to successful big game hunting. The California Department of Fish and Game's Advanced Hunter Education Program in partnership with Wilderness Unlimited and the California Hunter Education Instructors Association sponsored a two day clinic offering hunters hands-on experiences. The clinic offered four sessions: HUNT PREPARATION which included deer biology, hunting regulations, basic hunting gear, survival gear, first aid, navigation and pre-season scouting. The second session, FIREARMS, BOWS AND MARKSMANSHIP offered live fire with rifles, shotguns, pistols, bows, and muzzleloaders and covered sighting in and marksmanship. HUNT STRATEGIES was the topic of the third session and included deer senses, scrapes, rubs and trails, where to aim, shoot/don't shoot situations, still hunting, stalking, stands and blinds and drives. The clinic ended with the AFTER THE SHOT session and included finding the deer, blood trailing, tagging, photography, field dressing/skinning, butchering, transportation and storage, and caping. We actually field dressed a couple of goats...deer were not available.

It was a great time and the participants left with lots of good information and confidence that they can be successful. My thanks to the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of SCI for the contribution to this program. It is because of your support that we can offer these kinds of clinics. For more information about what the program has to offer, go to www.dfg.ca.gov/huntclinics.



Spanish Hunt by Bob Keagy

We had a wonderful time, and the Cantabrian Chamois hunt was one of the most rewarding hunts I've ever had the pleasure of experiencing. The Cantabrian mountains look exactly like the emerald-green mountains and quaint villages in the "Sound of Music".

We shot Beceite Ibex, Cantabrian Chamois and free-range mouflon--two Ovis-qualifying goats and one sheep. All "gold", with the Ibex and Chamois very, very high gold.

Everything went quite well, but I cannot recommend the Barnes-X bullets for these sized animals. For this trip I switched from my normal .300 Nosler Ballistic Tips, since on a prior

hunt they had literally blown a chamois in half. This time, though, in a .257 Weatherby (even at 300 yards) the X-Bullets simply punched through on all three animals without any expansion.

On the photos there is a picture of my Cantabrian Chamois lying in a snowbank at just slightly over three hundred yards, and the resulting trophy. This was a long shot on a small animal the size of a German shepard- needless to say, I missed the first shot, but got it on the second. It was also about a 45%+ uphill shot, which is (for me) somewhat difficult.

Finally, for those of you planning a Spanish trip now or in the future, I can only say that the Euro/US\$ exchange rate, to me at least, has the dollar sorely under-valued, and the 16% V.A.T. further increases costs substantially.

Nevertheless, a wonderful hunt.



Bob and Pam Keagy on their Spanish hunt.



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How in the World did I End Up Here?

By Cam Grieg

[This is a multi portioned recording of how one of our members, Cam Greig, found himself having to deal with being the owner of a game ranch in South Africa. If you ever wondered what went into actually owning a game ranch read on...]

Teddy Roosevelt, the 26th president of the United States, is known for two seemingly contradictory acts; while president he set up the national park system that is the underpinning of the wildlife conservation in the whole USA. At the same time he was also was an enthusiastic hunter. Both before and after his presidency Teddy pursued the sport of hunting aggressively. His trip to Africa immediately on finishing his presidency is well known, as recorded in *African Game Trails*; his hunting adventures as a young ranch hand are perhaps less known, but make for interesting reading in his book *Outdoor Pastimes of an American Hunter*.

I personally have found these two seemingly contradictory facets of his nature very reconcilable, and in fact have found myself following in his footsteps, all be it in my own small way. As I look back I find that this path of moving towards the conservation of the very animals we love is a trait shared by any number of true hunters whom I admire.

I would like to share with you the pilgrimage I have made in hopes that you glean from it bits of truth that may be useful to you, or at the very least maybe a bit entertaining.

With an education in the sciences, and a strong desire to be involved in the outdoors I studied ecology, biology, and geology while spending my weekends hunting and fishing in college. Upon graduation I applied for jobs with the Fish and Game department in California, but as they only took 2 of the 20,000 applicants I was not chosen and ended up in industry, bravely slogging away to put food on the table. Always in the back of my mind was the desires to get closer to nature and maybe even own a piece of it, but the thought was fleeting. Prohibitive land costs were just the initial reason why I did not dwell on the concept until a series of circumstances suddenly unveiled and not only was it a possibility, but it became a reality.

My personal pilgrimage started when I was approached by a family friend. He was born and raised in South Africa. His parents were getting older and they wished for him to move back to the ranch with them. The problem was that he did not think the ranch his parents owned was sufficient in size to generate the revenue needed to support his new wife and child in addition to his parents. That was the reason he left the country in the first place, inadequate work. He did not know what to do, but as we discussed his situation I realized that an opportunity I had

been toying with for a very long time was peeking out from all the turmoil he was caught up in. Seizing the bull by the horns, I proposed to him that if he could find a suitable ranch near his parents homestead we would look into the possibility of managing it on a partnership basis. I would buy the property and own it, but in return for looking after it, he could run some cattle on it. With this general concept in mind he headed home to RSA and I thought maybe I had heard the last of it.

LAND ACQUISITION

Surprisingly, about three months later I got a call and was sent some e-mails about a ranch that seemed to meet all of the prerequisites we both had agreed upon. It seems an old rancher had passed away near his parent's ranch and the property had been left vacant for a couple of years. The widow had tried to sell it, but with cattle prices depressed there was a dearth of interested buyers. The ranch consisting of 4 titled parcels, but was for sale as a single unit. It consisted of mixed vegetation from grasses to bush. It comprised of about 5,000 acres. The asking price was the maximum amount I had been willing to spend on the enterprise, but it qualified, so I agreed and moved forward like an excited school kid getting out for summer vacation. I soon found myself the happy owner of a South African ranch. It comprised of a long narrow

stretch of land currently being ranched for cattle. I had been required to accept the current grazing lease, and although this provided an immediate cash flow, it also severely limited the flexibility I had with regards to what I could do. Among other things I received a very sternly worded letter from the lease holder of the grazing that if even one introduced animal ate a single blade of grass on the property he was leasing, he would sue me. (At the same time his staff had about 100 more goats on the property than he was allowed.)

This was my introduction to the South African people and business models. As far as I could tell at the time there was not a single native game animal on the place, but the land was in fact a bit wild and no one was really sure. Questions about game were replied to in vague manner that left more questions than answers. (For my readers, any thoughts of buying land already teeming with game will only be realized at a stiff price or perhaps in a very unstable country.)

Many people have asked me why I am willing to put my faith in RSA and invest there. I guess the main reason is I am African by birth and have a huge part of my heart there, in spite of having my formal education and livelihood in the USA. My assessment was that RSA was the only country in Africa where I would risk investing money. Even this is considered foolish by many, and so the price of land has been cor-



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respondingly been low. As RSA has managed its post apartheid position, land values have started to gain value rapidly. To date the investment is very sound. At the same time, it is not for risk adverse buyers.

About three months after I thought I had invested all I could afford in my new endeavor I got another call from my real estate agent. Would I perchance be interested in an adjacent piece of property that was just coming up for sale? He pointed out that the main reason I should be interested was that the owner of the property for sale had legal access across my newly purchased property. If I ever really wanted to control who came and went across my future game ranch I would need to buy this property as well. It was priced lower than my first acquisition, so at least the price was right. This low price was because the property was also very “bushy” and not good for cattle. It had a strong reputation for ticks that carry a number of very nasty diseases that made cattle ranching on it difficult. After realizing the need to control access, and the fact that what was not good cattle country might in fact be perfect game country I bought it as well. This piece of tick infested bush now, six years later, has the highest carrying capacity for game on the ranch.

The interesting thing was that as I signed the paperwork to purchase yet another “ranch” in South Africa, I had not even been over to see any of them. Since the properties were 24 hours away by air, I had yet to have the time to get over. I had relied on

my friend to pick the initial properties and to be frank, I just got extremely lucky.

I was flat out broke, so I took my brother and his family down for a family vacation. My intention was to talk my brother into a “family property” in Africa. Fortunately the trip was a smashing success. It sold the place big time and he came in on the enterprise 50/50. With this influx of cash, we started to look closely at what we really had. Upon review of the properties and looking around the neighborhood we cast a covetous eye on two adjacent pieces of property. They were beautiful pieces of property with very different ecosystems from the ones we already had. They consisted of open grassy areas scattered with a number of bushes instead of the thorn trees which were predominant in the properties we already owned. We traded one of ours properties away and bought the remainder, ending up with a nice block of land totally surrounded by other ranches. No public road touches the ranch, and the relatively compact shape made the fencing very efficient.

In retrospect, there are a few things you should be sure of if you are serious about this kind of investment. I would never recommend the purchase of property sight unseen. The first thing you would need to check out is that the land encompasses the kind of vegetation and ecological niches that will support the kind of game you wish to raise. Each species of game is in need of a different kind of environment in order to live and thrive. My concept was to have

the game in breeding herds on the place and we would take off the surplus by hunting. What I really wanted was more of a game ranch than a hunting ranch. Achieving this reality ended up entailing a very complex series of maneuvers that I am still in the middle of executing even today.

[To be continued in our fall issue.]



This September 23rd is the 35th anniversary of National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF Day) and plans are underway for a nationwide celebration. Wonders of Wildlife is leading a charge to reinvigorate the celebration and message but this can't be done alone. Take a youngster hunting or fishing, introduce someone new to the outdoors, have NHF Day celebrations. Together sportsmen can create a better public understanding and awareness of hunting and fishing and the important role that sportsmen have played in conservation.

For more information about NHF Day or to submit local events, visit <http://www.nhf-day.org>.

Officers 2006-2007



Dwight Ortmann
President

Dwight is married with three children and two grandsons. His wife (also a SCI and Sables member) likes to hunt and fish, allowing them to spend time in the outdoors together.

Dwight grew up hunting and fishing in northern Minnesota, where he returns annually to hunt with his father and brothers. His hunting experience also includes international hunts.

Dwight supports the Mule Deer Foundation and other hunting and conservation efforts in our area.

A partner in a local general contracting firm, Dwight currently serves on the Board as the President-Elect. Dwight has been on the Board for several years and he enjoys working on SCI issues and events.

Cathie was born and raised in the Bay Area with no hunting experience until my honeymoon to Africa in 1987. After Cathie's husband, Steve, died in 1997 (while on a hunt in New Zealand), she took up shooting and hunting to continue the heritage for her children, Blair, now 15, and Eric, now 14.

Cathie has hunted mule deer and wild boar in America and red stag, chamois, and tahr in New Zealand and looks forward to a pronghorn antelope hunt with her teens this year.

Cathie has been an active chapter and Sables member for over 9 years. She has been Sables president and treasurer and chapter fundraiser chair, vice president, and member of the Board. Cathie recently spearheaded the effort to bring the Sensory Safari Exhibit to the International Sportsmen's Exhibition this year.

Cathie is life member of SCI and Sables and is also involved in DU, CWA and Mule Deer Foundation.

Cathie looks forward to continuing to serve our worthwhile organization.



Cathie Nelson
President-Elect

Mike has been married for 33 years to the love of his life, Laurie Davidson. They have three children and one adorable grandchild, Drew who is Mike's next hunting partner.

In addition to his love of hunting and fishing, Mike has been a charter member of the Foster City Rotary Club, the Palo Alto Elks Lodge, and co-founder of the Foster City Chamber of Commerce.

Fitting work into his busy community service agenda, Mike has a law practice in San Mateo specializing in drunk driving defense.

Mike has served on the Board for several years and continues to find the process interesting and exciting.



Mike Davidson
Vice President

Officers 2006-2007

Paul Williamson Sr. has been a member of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter since 2003 and a member of the Board since 2004. He is also a life member of the NRA, a member of the Golden Ram Hunting Club and a member of CRPA.

Paul enjoys serving on the Board and associating with all the nice folks involved in SCI. Paul is always interested in becoming a better hunter and hunts with his son any time they can get out together.

Paul particularly appreciates being a member of an organization that promotes hunting and conservation efforts in both the fund raising and political forums.

Paul looks forward to continuing to contribute to the chapter activities.



Paul Williamson
Secretary



Jim Peters
Treasurer

Jim is happily retired with a young grandson that will grow up in a hunting and fishing family. He hunts and fishes whenever possible. Jim's wife, Delores, is a Sables member and chapter supporter.

Jim has been on the Board of Directors of this chapter for many years – serving as the President (2005-06) and the Education chair for several years.

Jim also contributes to the chapter's activities by helping with events. He has been on the Fundraiser committee for several years, helped put together the I.S.E. show in San Mateo and organizes the sporting clay shoot each year in August.

Board Members 2006-2007

Stanford Atwood
Tomas Bermejo
Robert Keagy
Richard Papapietro Jr.
Annette Peterson, Sables President
Richard Pierce
Ilah Uhl



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (NEW MEMBERS)

(Please Type or Print Clearly)

Date: _____ National Member #: _____
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Name: _____ DOB: _____

Occupation: _____ Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

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Firm name: _____

Firm address: _____

*Preferred communication: Phone Fax Email

Would you be willing to serve as an officer or on a committee in this chapter? Please check one:

Yes () No () If yes, in what capacity would you like to serve? _____

Applicant Signature: _____

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Mission Statement for San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of Safari Club International

- To promote good fellowship among those who love the outdoors and the sport of hunting, shooting and fishing.
- To promote conservation of the wildlife of the world as a renewable resource in which hunting is one management tool among many.
- To help conservation efforts by supporting worthwhile projects, both verbally and financially, when possible.
- To educate our youth in the safe and proper use of firearms and to interest and teach them in conservation and preservation of the forests and animals, which are our national heritage.
- To share the latest hunting experiences and information of our members so that other members may profit from same.
- To operate the association as a non-profitable organization, originated for the enjoyment of the members, and with the thought in mind that perhaps we can be of assistance in helping to conserve and preserve the animals which we love to hunt today for those who will come to love the sport tomorrow.



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