



# Adirondack-Catskill Chapter Safari Club International News

www.adirondackcatskillsci.com "United We Stand"

Adirondack - Catskill Chapter SCI News VOLUME 7 | Issue 3 May/June 2014

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The Adirondack - Catskill Chapter SCI Newsletter is published bi-monthly.

Submit your photos and articles to: news@adirondackcatskillsci.com

Submissions received by the 10th of an even month will be considered for the next issue.

Article and photos submitted become the property of Adirondack-Catskill SCI.

www.adirondackcatskillsci.com

## ADIRONDACK-CATSKILL SCI 2014 BANQUET AWARD WINNERS



Alex Halper  
2014 Youth Award



Ron Meek—Member of the Year  
(l to r) Ron Meek, Jim Digristina & Richard Hazard



Ryan Sanok  
2014 Youth Award



Jim Digristina receives his "Big 5 Award" from Larry Steiner

Trophy of the Year  
North America  
1st Place Bert Scherer



Trophy of the Year  
Worldwide 1st Place  
Jim Digristina



Trophy of the Year  
North America  
3rd Place Robert Brown



Trophy of the Year  
North America  
2nd Place Jeff Hazard



Trophy of the Year Worldwide  
3rd Place Vinny Migliori



Trophy of the Year Worldwide  
2nd Place Jim Cobb





### Message from Larry Steiner, Chapter President:

April 5th, 2014, ACSCI Chapter's 16th Annual Fundraiser was a great success. I personally would like to express my appreciation to the volunteers, donors, bidders and buyers as well as all those who attended the event. The money raised will go a long way to support the programs of the Chapter in the coming year. The 2015 Fundraiser planning has already started and we welcome any interested members to join the fundraiser committee. Please mark your calendar for April 11, 2015, the date of

the 17th A-C SCI Annual Fundraiser.

I would like to welcome the newly elected officers of ACSCI. They are **Harry Beninati, Kurt Carman, George Gollin, Bill Mayer** as Vice Presidents, **Richard Hazard** as Treasurer, and **Robin Jerauld** as Secretary. I look forward to not only working with them, but all Directors and Chapter Members to continue protecting the freedom to hunt and promote wildlife conservation worldwide. Together, and only together, we can make a difference.

Best Regards and Good Hunting!  
Larry

### Welcome New Members

- John Brady, Yonkers, N.Y.
- Taris Charysyn, West Kill, N.Y.
- John Cosel, Quakertown, Pa.
- Kenneth Harris, Punta Gorda, Fl.
- Cody Mikalunas, West Edmeston, N.Y.
- Roger Pisaneschi, Rome, N.Y.
- Bill Rhines, Walton, N.Y.
- Gary Teel, Barneveld, N.Y.
- Mark Zucco, Bellmore, N.Y.

### Join the Adirondack-Catskill Chapter of SCI Today!

Applications are on our web site at  
<http://www.adirondackcatskillsci.com>

or

Contact: Vincent Migliori, Membership Director  
10076 Beartown Road N.  
Ava, NY 13303-2104

## George Franke Inducted into NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame

by Robin Jerauld

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, A-C SCI member George Franke was inducted into the New York Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame (NYSOHOF) at the Rusty Nail in Canastota. George is known to many through his work with such organizations as Friends of the NRA, NYS Conservation Council (NYSCC), NYS Outdoor Writers' Assn., Cross-bow Coalition, and our own Adirondack-Catskill SCI to name a few. He puts in

many miles and hours interacting with state legislators on behalf of the NYSCC and other likeminded groups. George's passion for promoting youth in outdoor related hunting sports is evident in his involvement with Rockdale R&G Youth Day, Otego R&G Youth Day (both co-sponsored by A-C SCI), as an instructor in Hunter Safety and Bow Education as well as an instructor at the "Becoming an Outdoor Woman" event. He was instrumental in obtaining funding for the National Archery in School Program in the Norwich School System and as a major organizer and sponsor of the Chenango County Youth Turkey Hunt. (See page 4-5 for the 2014 event.)

The NYSOHOF is an organization dedicated to honoring sportsmen who have made significant achievements in outdoors-related fields. More importantly, they are recognized for their long-term service in preserving our outdoor heritage and helping others experience it, something we as A-C SCI members can relate to.

### CONGRATULATIONS George!!!!



Howard Cushman President of the NYS Outdoorsman Hall of Fame presents George with his award.



L to R—Don Dubois & Jim Digristina join George in the celebration!

## ACSCI Hunts for Wounded Warrior Committee News

At this year's Banquet/Fundraiser, Richard Hazard, committee chair, presented Sgt John Dusek and Sgt Arthur Meyer with Maine Black Bear hunt's both to take place at Bear Tracks Guide Service, Milford Maine on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The recipients along with their families were guests at our banquet April 5<sup>th</sup>. Previous Hunts for Wounded Warriors recipient, Bradley Garfield, spoke about his hunting experience and the benefits of the Adirondack-Catskill chapter's program for wounded veterans. The slide show from the banquet awards program can be viewed on the ACSCI website at [adirondackcatskillsci.com/banquet](http://adirondackcatskillsci.com/banquet).



From Lto R– Steve Valyou, Sgt. Arthur Meyer, Bradley Garfield, & Sgt. John Dusek at the A-C Banquet.

### *We would like to recognize these current generous donations to the ACSCI Hunts for Wounded Warriors*

- ◆ Donation of a major part of one spring Black Bear hunt from **Paul Downing**, owner of **Bear Tracks Guide Service, Milford, Maine**, was obtained by ACSCI member, **George Franke**.
- ◆ **Elyse Clark** donated a piece of custom jewelry to the banquet's live auction that was purchased by **Robert Matyas and Lois Lelko**.
- ◆ The **Women of the Moose, Owego Chapter**, donated \$125.00 to the program, through the efforts of **Denise Labarron**. **Frank Zitz** and **Cliff Barker** also made donations, as well as a donor who would like to remain anonymous.
- ◆ **ThermaCELL** will be donating two units and two refill packs for the Dusek/Meyer bear hunt, obtained by **Larry Steiner** and Marketing Associate **Keith Levon**.
- ◆ **Robert and Lois Matyas** donated the proceeds from the "Dollar Dance" from their wedding to the veterans' programs of the A-C SCI and Lehigh Valley SCI Chapter's. Each chapter received \$256.00.

**THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!!!!**

*In Memory to Jeffrey Christman*  
*Adirondack - Catskill SCI Member*



Jeffery D. Christman, age 45 of Ephratah, N.Y. passed away March, 15, 2014, at his home. Jeff was the son of Alexander Christman and Joanne Jennings Christman, who survive in Ephratah. He was employed as an equipment operator by the town of Ephratah Highway Department for twenty years. Jeffery was an avid hunter and was a member of Oppenheim Trail Blazers as well as AC-SCI. He also attended the Ephratah Reformed Church. In addition to his parents, survivors include his wife, Brenda Dygert Christman, his two sons Robert Christman and Colby Christman and extended family. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to the Ephratah Volunteer Fire Department, 4305 St. Hwy. 10, St. Johnsville, New York 13452.

# Chenango County Youth Turkey Hunt *by George Franke*

On April 19th at the Iroquois Sportsman's Club in North Norwich a mess of volunteer mentors and seven youth got together for the Safety Day, which we hold a week prior to the actual youth turkey hunt weekend.

Some quick demographics; our youth were all boys, age 12-15. While the hunt was named the "Chenango County Youth Turkey Hunt", only one of the seven was from Chenango County. The rest were from Oneonta, Unadilla, Otego, and Sidney. No thought of turning anyone away from a different county ever occurred to us.

On Safety Day the boys were taught about the laws of turkey hunting by ECO Brett Armstrong. They were provided a whirlwind of calls and calling by Master Turkey Caller and ACSCI Member of the Year, Ron Meek. A biology lesson was provided by a real tom turkey we had brought along, and lots of tips and pointers were provided by the dozen mentors in attendance. This same day, after lunch was provided by Steiner Packing via a grant from ACSCI, the boys went out checking their guns and sighting in. Arrangements for the following Saturday's hunt were made between parents and mentors and we'd all meet back at Iroquois for some tall tales...or is that tails?



**Nate Rossman and Connor Patrick with their birds.**

Well...I took out Nate Rossman. Many of you know him as "Margaret Smith's grandson", since he is always at our banquets and many meetings. Maggie got here at 5 am. Nate met up with Lori, who would be assisting me as a mentor. We were off by 5:15 and settled in my "sweet spot" within 15 minutes. On the way in we kicked a hen out of a tree which seemed like a good omen. At least the birds were around. Two birds were gobbling at my tree calls at 6 am and we had one coming in at 6:30. I called the big tom into within 10 yards of Nate and while I was 20 yards away calling I wondered why he didn't shoot the darn birds head off. The bird walked through the rock wall where Lori and Nate were sitting, and when he was about 50 yards away, I belly-crawled to Nate and got him turned around on the rock wall. We watched the bird display for a hen for at least an hour. Finally I got both birds



**Two mentors with each youth just for safety reasons.**

to come in within 35 yards and I told Nate, "Shoot him in the head!" He did...I ran down the hill crashing over brush to get ahold of the bird as I've seen many just stunned and get up and fly off. I lost my hat, head net and glasses along the way...but it was a magnificent bird that Nate downed, weighing in at 15.5 pounds, 8 1/2" beard and 7/8" spurs.

Congrats, photos and a search for my gear...then home. We met Maggie on the way back as she heard the shot from my house. The bird was tagged and off we went to the Iroquois Sportsman's Club, hopefully to meet other successful youth.

We arrived at Iroquois Sportsman's Club and met up with Connor Patrick from Otego. He scored on a nice bird but hit him head on and shot the beard right off the bird. Another dandy bird going over 20 pounds with 1" spurs!

After lunch, provided by Roma Pizza of Oxford we set up plans for the following day. Mine was to sleep in (thanks Nate!). Ron Meek helped skin the birds for the boys, and we presented John Fuller with a painting of turkeys as a gift of our appreciation for all the time he donated cooking, cleaning, and keeping the heat on.

On Sunday, Hunter Burch of Oneonta took a jake, and Kenny Liezear of Norwich sent pellets flying right past a nice bird, but didn't connect. All our other hunters were hearing, seeing and near birds, but not close enough for a shot. Lunch again was provided by Larry Steiner /ACSCI...and I'm happy to say I didn't have any leftovers to contend with! Warren and Ruth Smith of Chenango Taxidermy gratefully donated their services to mount the tails for the three successful boys.



Hunter Birch displays his bird in the group photo.

Well, it was a great couple of days with the kids, mentors and parents. We'll be doing it again next spring, for sure....Hey, it's all about the kids...retention and recruitment is the key! Anyone want to help out next year? Give me a holler.

I'd like to thank the following people, companies and organizations for their generous donations. We wouldn't be able to pull this off without you!

*The NRA Foundation - Friends of the NRA  
Adirondack-Catskill SCI  
NYS Environmental Conservation Officers Association  
Heading Due North, Norwich – Mayhood's Sporting Goods  
Iroquois Sportsman's Club - John Fuller, Chief, Cook and Bottle washer at Iroquois  
ECO Brett Armstrong - The Leader of the Pack (without his guidance this wouldn't be possible).  
Roma Pizzeria & Canal Street Hardware of Oxford  
Warren & Ruth Smith, Chenango Taxidermy, Preston  
Quaker Boy Game Calls  
Steiner Packing, Otego  
Federated Sportsman's Clubs of Chenango County - who provided the insurance for the event  
And of course the many mentors who dedicated their time to take these kids out.*

## The Morning After, It's All About the Birds!!!! By George Gollin

The morning after the banquet came very quickly for Patrick Lewis, Bill Mayer, Erwin Smith and me (George Gollin). The wheels were turning all night over the excitement of the banquet and because we four were scheduled to hunt pheasant bright and early at Mountain View Preserve with our gracious host Frank Cavalieri. The idea was to check out the facility, hunt some birds, and talk to Frank about the possibilities of a Hunts for Wounded Warriors day at the preserve for a group of wounded vets our chapter would put together. After our long cold winter the ground cover was non-existent and once released the pheasant would just run away so Frank switched us to chukars which was a great call. We all hit more birds than we missed and Frank's dog was the best I ever hunted over. We are now moving forward with our plans for an A-C Hunts for Wounded Warriors at the Mountain View Preserve this fall. To find out more about Frank, his dogs and preserve come to our June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting in Oneonta where Frank will demonstrate his dog's skills and present a slide show. If you can't make it, you can reach Frank at 607-638-9509 and schedule your own hunt. You'll have a great time!



L to R— A-C Members Patrick Lewis, Bill Mayer, George Gollin, and Erwin Smith III.



EOIN BRADY harvested his first bird during the Spring 2014 Youth Turkey Hunt in Sharon Springs, N.Y. CONGRATULATIONS EOIN !!!!!!!



Brian Carman of Otego shows that practice and patience pays off!!

WELL DONE BRIAN!!!!!!

# A Letter from James Harris of the **Maine Wildlife Conservation Council**

Dear Members,

A serious threat to sportsmen is before us now. The anti's are attacking Maine with severe ramifications on sportsmen all over New England. Below is a review.

1. The Humane Society of the United States is bankrolling a referendum in Maine to stop bear hunting with dogs, the use of bait and trapping.
2. This attack is not about bear hunting it is about stopping all hunting.
3. They stopped bear and cat hunting in California, now they are working to stop ALL HUNTING WITH DOGS. Every thing from rabbits to birds.
4. This attack is not about stopping hunting just in Maine. It is about stopping hunting in all states, one state and one species at a time.
5. The anti's have boasted if they can take Maine they can take the rest of East.
6. They bring their massive financial resources, which have been collect all over the entire country and attack one state.
7. No state or group of sportsmen has the ability to stand this type of attack alone.
8. We are asking you join with sportsmen from the entire country and make a donation to stop the ANTI'S ATTACK.

### THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT DONATING.

1. If the Anti's attack prevails, their agenda will be legitimized and will spread to other adjoining states like a virus.
2. Other groups of sportsmen and species will be attacked all over the East.
3. With other species and groups of sportsmen eliminated, it will be easier for the anti's to prevail with what sportsmen are left.
4. Fish & Game Depts. are financed by hunting and fishing license fees.
5. Without these fees their will not be funds to pay biologists, wardens, much less fund game management programs. **In short the Humane Society of the United States will be managing all our natural resources.**
6. While this is a hunting issue at the moment, the same people who are ANTI-HUNTERS are ANTI GUNNERS. You can be sure a win for the anti-hunters will strengthen the anti-gunner's ranks as well, they are one and the same.
7. Without your donation our cherished traditions, culture, and heritage will perish. Conservation and game management programs will be eliminated.
8. To WIN we need your donation.

### DONATE NOW!

Maine Wildlife Conservation Council  
205 Church Hill Rd. Suite 1  
Bangor, Me. 04430

Jim can be contacted at [jim@vermontwholesalegranite.com](mailto:jim@vermontwholesalegranite.com)

Join Your Fellow Sportsmen at the  
**SHOOT for SCOUTS**  
Benefiting Scouting Programs in  
Otsego, Schoharie and Delaware Counties



Prepared. For Life.™

**August 2, 2014**  
**Registration 8:30 a.m.**  
**Safety Talk 9:15 a.m.**  
**Shoot Starts 9:30 a.m.**



**Sunset Farm Sporting Clays**  
**492 North Knight Rd.**  
**Delanson, NY 12053**

### For more information contact:

**Paul Brody - evenings 518-432-3141**  
**Tom Wright - daytime 607-432-6491**  
**[thomas.wright@scouting.org](mailto:thomas.wright@scouting.org)**

**Event Format—Sporting Clays -Shooter will shoot 100 targets. Lewis Class Scoring with Prizes.**  
**Awards Banquet Featuring Local BBQ to Follow**

The Adirondack –Catskill SCI Chapter was sad to hear of the fire April 22nd that took the Oxford home of the Brett Armstrong Family, claiming the lives of their 3 dogs, Nitro, Hawk and Shadow. Many youth and adults in the surrounding counties know ECO Armstrong and his canine partner Nitro. Their demonstrations on how the partnership of man and canine can work together to solve environmental conservation crimes left a lasting impression. Donations for the Armstrong Family can be sent to New York Conservation Officers Asso. Fund, c/o Lt. Robert Peinkofer, 1475 Bowen Rd. Elma, N.Y. 14059



## Upcoming Meetings & Events

### March-July, 2014

**FIVE GUN RAFFLE** tickets on Sale - Pick up your tickets at the next chapter meeting, or contact Daryl, Bill or Larry. Drawing will be at the July 17th meeting.

### May 15, 2014

7 pm **ACSCI Chapter Meeting at American Legion, Cold Brook, NY**  
 Speaker: Jim Harris, Maine Wildlife Conservation Council (savemainesbearhunt.com)

### June 19, 2014

7pm **ACSCI Chapter Meeting at Christopher’s Restaurant, Oneonta, NY**  
 Speaker: Frank Cavalieri, Mountainview Preserve (mountainviewpreserve.com)  
 (See article on page 6.)

### July 17, 2014

7pm **ACSCI Chapter Meeting—Location to be announced or check the web site**

### August 2, 2014

**Boy Scout Shoot 2014, Sunset Farms Sporting Clays, Duanesburg, NY**  
 George Gollin is organizing a team to represent ACSCI at this event.  
 Contact George (607-432-9063 / ggollin@stny rr.com to register or obtain more information.

**Guests are always welcome at the monthly chapter meetings.  
 We encourage members to bring hunting partners and potential new members to our meetings and events. Bring your spouse, son, daughter or other youth to a meeting or event.  
 Keep informed about chapter activities and the guest speaker schedule for meetings**

## 2014 ACSCI Meeting Schedule - Meetings begin at 7pm

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b><u>Location:</u> Christopher’s Restaurant, Oneonta, NY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 19</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 18</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>November 20</b></p> | <p><b><u>Location:</u> American Legion, Cold Brook, NY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>May 15</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>July 17</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>October 16</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>December 18</b></p> |
|---|--|

**No chapter meeting in January and August**

We are seeking guest speakers for chapter meetings. The membership is interested in hearing about your hunting trip or projects related to conservation and hunting. If you would like to present at a meeting or recommend a guest speaker, contact Larry Steiner at steinersci@stny.rr.com or 607-988-6334 to schedule the date.

**ACSCI Website: <http://www.adirondackcatskillsci.com>**