Adirondack-Catskill Chapter Safari Club International News

www.adirondackcatskillsci.com *"United We Stand"*

Adirondack - Catskill Chapter, SCI News VOLUME 6 | Issue 1; January/February 2013

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President:
Larry Steiner (607) 988-6334

Vice Presidents:
Bruce Weakley (315) 725-7033
Daryl Labarron (607) 972-4304
Don DuBois (315) 691-2341

Secretary:
Margaret Smith (607) 988-6801

Treasurer:
Richard Hazard (315) 798-4103

Directors-at-Large:
Del Law (607) 674-4949
Bill Mayer
Erwin Smith (607) 988-6801
Stan Swears (607) 829-8433

Educational Programs:
Jim Digristina (315) 735-1775

Hunter Safety:
Kurt Carman (607) 988-2621

Membership:
Vinny Migliori (315) 827-4239

Sables Rep:
Robin Jerauld (607) 988-6875

Webmaster
Lynn Mayer
webmaster@adirondackcatskillsci.com

The Adirondack - Catskill Chapter SCI Newsletter is Published Bi-Monthly

Remember to send in your photos and articles to:
Adirondack-Catskill SCI
c/o George Gollin
7 Tilton Avenue
Oneonta, New York 13820
acscinews@yahoo.com
(607) 432-9063

Please submit articles by the 18th of the month. Article and photos submitted become the property of Adirondack-Catskill SCI.

www.adirondackcatskillsci.com

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DATES

If anyone has an item to donate for the next SCI Banquet please call **Larry Steiner** to make arrangements. (607) 988-6334

No January. meeting locally.

February 21 meeting 7 pm at Christopher's in Oneonta. Don't miss Moose Mania featuring three different moose hunts all taking place in eastern North America.

March 21 meeting at the American Legion in Coldbrook at 7pm.. Harry Beninati will talk about hunting Brown Bear in Alaska.

April 6, Saturday, is the Annual ACSCI Fundraising Banquet at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta. Don't miss the vendors, games, dinner, auction, awards, fun and friendships. See our website for more details or call Larry at 607-988-6334 for details or reservations

April 18 meeting at Christopher's in Oneonta at 7 pm. We'll all be going to Africa as Martin and Veronica Kosich relive their latest trip

The SCI National Convention will be in Reno from January 23-26. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Larry Steiner, and join the fun.

The meeting schedule is posted on our website.

The Chapter is looking for next years Young Hunter and a teacher to send to AWLS. Keep your eyes peeled for the next qualified candidate. Please contact Jim Digristina's at (315) 735-1775 or e-mail jjdigristina@yahoo.com

As we move forward with our **Hunt for Warriors** program we are always searching for interested men and women who have been injured serving our country. We also need donations to keep the program viable. Please contact Larry to make a donation or suggest a candidate (607) 988-6334.

We are always looking for speakers for our regular meetings. If you have an experience to share please call Larry at 607-988-6334 to get on our schedule.

If you have an event that would interest outdoorsmen and women in you area, contact George Gollin at 607-432-9063 or acscinews@yahoo.com and we will include it in the next newsletter.

ACSCI will be represented at the following sport shows this winter:

CNY Sportman Show 2013 - February 2, 2013, 9 am-4 pm at the Oneida Kallet Civic Center, Oneida, NY

Big East Sports Show - March 22nd 2-8 pm, March 23, 2013, 10 am-7 pm and March 24, 2013 10 am-4 pm at the Turning Stone Casino, Verona, NY.

Your help in setting up, taking down and/or manning the table would be greatly appreciated. Contact George Franke 607-334-9813 for more information. These events are great ways to get the word out to sportsmen and women of the terrific things ACSCI does throughout the year.

Sables News
by Robin Jerauld
New Year Greetings from Adirondack-Catskill Sables!!

Heading into 2013 we are looking for hunters headed to Africa to take a "Blue Bag" over with them. "Blue Bags" are a way SCI Chapters can reach out globally and extend a humanitarian hand to those less fortunate, quite often these are coordinated with local schools.

As seen in the picture they can contain a variety of items from school supplies, mosquito netting, water purification straws, personal hygiene products and first aid items. We always make some room for soccer balls and a candy treat. Cash donations for the bags go towards buying an animal for the hunter to harvest to supply meat for a school.

All this takes some coordination time, so we need to know if you are interested in taking a bag and your safari dates ASAP. Bags have been filled by our chapter members as well as the communities, schools, churches and local sportsmen clubs that our hunters are involved in.

For more information contact Robin Jerauld at 607-643-1978 or at rjerauld@toast.net.

Join ACSCI Sables today! Be a part of educating people of all ages on the importance of sustainable conservation management through education programs. It's time to roll up your sleeves and do something! Join us at our youth day programs in Otego and Rockdale. We are looking for ACSCI members who belong to their local Rod & Gun Clubs and are interested in partnering with ACSCI for a Youth day event in their area. Contact Robin Jerauld at 607-643-1978 or at rjerauld@toast.net for more information.

Youth Deer Hunt, Fall 2012
by Bill Mayer, ACSCI member

I took 14 year old Neil McGovern on his first deer hunt during the NY Youth Deer Hunt Oct 6-8. We saw lots of deer during the weekend but just couldn't get them within Neil's shooting range. Finally on Sunday afternoon, a doe came in front of our stand and Neil got her with one shot at 79 yards. He was very happy with his harvest. We want to thank Bruce Clapper for allowing us to hunt his property in Carlisle NY.

Youth hunter, Neil with the doe he harvested

Newfoundland Moose
By Don DuBois

On Friday, September 28, the four of us, Del Law, Sid Westcott, Tom Curtis and I, left the bright city lights of Sherburne, New York and headed for the hinterlands of Newfoundland. Del had arranged for the four of us to hunt with Black Ridge Outfitters. I must admit it Del really struck hunting gold. We've all gone on good hunts. However, our hunt with Barry Strickland and his staff at Black Ridge Outfitters was nothing less than great!

After spending the night in northern Maine, we crossed the border into Nova Scotia and proceeded to Sydney where we boarded the ferry for an overnight cruise to Newfoundland. On Sunday we proceeded to Kings Point where we were met by Barry, Terry (our second guide), and Ang, who would prepare our meals.

Our camp was at the end of a thirty minute dirt road ride. The camp was new, comfortable, clean, and warm. A generator juiced up the lights, TV, and most importantly, the coffee pot.

We quickly settled into a daily routine. Breakfast at 5:30, grab our gear and box lunch, hop on the four wheelers, and head deep into the bush. As with most 2-on-1 hunts, each guide would set up one of his hunters and then proceed to another location with the second nimrod.

Even though the rut was unexpectedly late and the rain seldom eased off to a mist, Del called in a nice bull the first morning. The lesson on moose talk we had received the night before really worked! On day 2, I was lucky and saw a bull slogging through the bog I was overlooking. After some less than spectacular shooting, I dropped the 19 point bull at 250 yards.

As it was getting late in the evening, Barry went and picked Sid up before we headed into the bog. Before we made it to my trophy, a second bull emerged from the bush within 100 yards of us. Sid quickly decided to take advantage of the young bull's poor decision making and dropped him on the spot.

After Barry gutted out my bull, Sid and I suggested that we work on his bull while Barry went for additional help. Utilizing four wheelers, chain saws, winches and years of experience, Barry and his friend Brandon blazed a trail through the bush, up the stream, over a beaver dam and through the muck to where Sid and I sat. Using a portable generator and electric saw, they made quick work of quartering Sid's animal. Because it was so dark at that point you couldn't see your hand in front of your face, we decided to leave the retrieval of my bull until the following morning.

While Del, Sid and I spent the remainder of the week checking out the local scenery and spots of interest, Tom continued to hunt hard from day break till dark every day. Although pre-rut moose were responding to the guide's calls, the bulls unfortunately didn't venture out in the open where Tom could get a crack at one.

As I indicated before, this was a quality hunt. nice lodge, great food, a lot of game and dedicated knowledgeable hard working guides. If you're interested in a moose hunt, a bear hunt or a snow mobile tour through a remote, beautiful area, contact Barry Strickland at (709) 268-2137 or angwheels@hotmail.com .

Newfoundland Moose

Top: Don DuBois

Center: Sid Westcott

Bottom: Del Law

Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan 2012
by Jeff Hazard

The morning of November 2nd was cold and windy. As we waited for the other half of our hunting party to arrive at the thruway exit, I remember thinking how much colder it must be where we were going; colder with more snow. It had snowed half a foot in Meadow Lake the night before, and all I could think about was what the Indians had been telling us for the past couple of weeks – the rut was starting and the big bucks were on the move.

By 7:00 AM, everyone had arrived. Vinny Migliori, Larry Steiner, George Gollin, Bruce Weakley, Dominic Aiello, Ed Huckabone, Joe Main, my father Richard, and me. Everyone was excited to get our trip underway. We greeted one another and talked for a little bit before we loaded up the two trucks, mapped a route, and headed off towards Toronto. For several members of the group, this was their first time hunting in Canada. Others were looking forward to getting another shot at all the game Saskatchewan had to offer. Personally, I had something to prove. This was my second consecutive year hunting with Delorme Outfitters. There were 5 of us who went last year, and out of that 5, I was the only unfortunate soul not to harvest a trophy buck. I was skunked in 2011, and despite having a good time, I had grown tired of having to relate my unsuccessful outing when asked how my first hunt in Saskatchewan went. This year was going to be different.

Without too much trouble, we made it across the border and onto our flight. We arrived in Saskatoon and made it to our hotel later that same night. By mid morning of November 3rd, we were met by Eddy, Leon, and the rest of our guides, and we were headed north to Meadow Lake. It was decided that Vinny, Larry, and George would hunt 50 miles north at the camp in Loon Lake with Eddy, while the rest of us would hunt with Leon at his residence in Meadow Lake. We stopped briefly at North Battleford to check our rifles, and by early evening we had arrived at Leon's. After getting a good meal and settling in for the night, we were ready to get the hunt underway early the next morning.

By 5:30 AM November 4th we were up and ready. After breakfast, the first group left for Loon Lake and the other 6 of us were taken to our designated stands via giant Ford F-350s and backwoods trails. I got into my stand before first light, loaded my Remington 30-06, and waited for sunrise. Half an hour later the sun was up and it didn't take long before movement up ahead caught my eye. Through the thick trees up ahead I saw a deer approaching my shooting lane. I had a difficult time making out what it was until it stepped out from behind some cover and I could see antlers. Big antlers. My pulse quickened a bit and I threw the scope on him to try and make out exactly what I was looking at. Unfortunately, that deer never gave me a good look, and it wandered off deeper into the thicket before I could tell what it was. I was a bit disheartened, but it was early on in the hunt and time was on my side. I knew I would get another chance.

I sat and watched various deer come and go the rest of the day. I was entertained by small bucks here and there that would spar and I would occasionally grunt at, scores of doe and fawn, and Moose that could be heard in the distance. All that activity made the day go quickly and kept me on high alert. It got to be about 5:20 PM and I was watching a small 4-point and a doe feeding 100 yards away when out of nowhere a big buck came walking out of the woods. I almost jumped out of my chair. It was one of those moments that you totally weren't expecting to happen. My instant reaction to this buck helped assure me that he was what I had come for. It was the biggest buck I had ever seen, and everything I had been told to look for was there. A thick, wide rack, tall tines (especially his G2s), more than 8-points – I didn't need to debate on whether or not to take him. I calmed my nerves and put the cross hairs on his vitals. He chased off the 4-point I had been watching and stopped to present a broad side shot. That was when I squeezed the trigger.

I didn't have time to chamber another round before he turned and lumbered off. I remember thinking he acted strangely after I shot – almost like he hadn't been hit at all. I noted how he ran back the way he initially came from and I called Leon from my cell phone to tell him what had happened. He assured me that he would be there within half an hour and to stay put and wait for him. I acknowledged and tried to calm my nerves, wondering if my shot would prove true.

Well, half an hour came and went and before I knew it the sun had set. I had no idea what was taking Leon so long, but the wait gave me ample time to replay the event over and over in my head. It also gave me time to second guess myself. Did I hit him or did I rush the shot? Did I accurately judge the distance? Was the deer even big enough or should I have passed on him? All these thoughts and more were racing through my mind. My patience was running out and I thought I was going to have to get up and go down there myself until Leon finally showed up with Bruce and my fa-

ther. I explained to them what had happened and we made our way down to where the deer had been standing. As soon as I got there, I was instantly relieved. There was just blood everywhere, clear as day against the fresh, white snow. I knew he had to be down just up ahead. We walked through the woods a bit, following a blood trail that a child could've tracked. Sure enough, there was my deer, not 60 yards away from where he had been when I pulled the trigger. I was ecstatic. For me, he was monstrous. A 5 x 4, he was even bigger than I had first imagined. We dragged him out and got him on the back of the truck. The Indians figured he was roughly 300lbs, and scored maybe 155. I couldn't have been happier.

Back at Leon's, I met up with everyone and we all retold our events from the day. Joe had also taken a beautiful deer. His was a 5 x 5, and we congratulated each other and took some great pictures of our trophies. The atmosphere that night was elated. The food was fantastic, the beer was cold, and our spirits were high. I purchased another tag and looked forward to continuing my hunt, knowing now I could pick and choose a bit.

We hunted the rest of the week until the evening of Friday, November 9th. I saw lots of deer that week – on some days I saw over 50. However, nothing was quite as big as the one I took the first day. Each day would start and end the same. Up early, hunt all day, come back, warm up, have dinner, share stories over drinks, and then call it a night. The entire trip was a great experience with too many individual stories to recount. There were lots of laughs (Ed had us in tears at the end of every day, mostly at the expense of Dominic. Ed also saw a deer score well over 200 one day, but never got a chance to take a shot at it). The majority of the hunters who accompanied me on this trip shot the biggest Whitetail bucks of their lives that week. It was a very successful venture, and just writing about it now makes me yearn to go back there. I know it would be hard to replicate a hunt like that one, but with any luck, I'll get back there next year and get a chance at another monster Whitetail, make new friends, and share experiences with old ones along the way.

Long Range Deer Hunt
by Doug Dutcher

NE, North Platte area , 4 day hunt. I see 25 + bucks and 20 of them were shooters!

The first day we were eating lunch in the truck looking out over a big valley with open grass and rolling hills. Our guide spotted a good buck laying down in the tall grass 1500 ayrds away.

He had good tines , but we couldn't see his spread . after about 5 minutes I asked the guide if I could stalk up on him and he said it would be tough. It was all open grass .

I told him I only needed to get inside 800 yards for a shot — well his eyeballs were sticking out of his head a bit with what I had said. After a little more talking, along with the guys and I telling him that if I got inside of 800 yards, that I would be able to shoot him in the head! I'm standing there trying to be as humble and as serious as I can, while the guide is standing there trying not to laugh out loud.

We start out for the highest cover grass and after about 900 yards we decide to cross in front of the buck to the other side of the valley where there is some rolling hills and higher ground .

On our hands and knees, now 40 minutes into the stalk, I set up prone behind my rifle at 775 yards. There is a lot of high grass and some heavy weeds and brush in front of my barrel. I couldn't really get in front of it as the hill went into a steep drop off. I tried a sitting position but it only got me above some of the brush and I wasn't comfortable with a sitting shot at that distance. Looking around I spotted another hill just a little ways to the side and closer to the deer with not much heavy grass on it. I ask the guide if he would stay where we were and watch the buck while I crawled forward, if he looks my way or stands up, whistle to me and I'll set up where ever I am for the shot. That was the plan and I headed forward sticking a few more cactus thorns in my knees and elbows. I crawled to the next knoll and set up there at 640 yards and was very happy with the set up. I dialed the scope up 7.5 moa for 640 yards. I rolled over and with one arm straight up I measured for the wind dope , 12 mph wind, right to left. For my rifle that's a 3 moa hold into the wind. I had a side profile of the deer's head from where I was. Thinking about the head shot I was really not happy with that much wind. I did not want to hit that deer in the jaw and watch him run away with a miserable death if the wind dope was off. The guide had now reached my location, which was a surprise to me. I told him I was going to shoot him in the neck. It was a better plan for me as either the deer is dead or I miss clean, either way I can sleep better .

I could only see just the start of the white spot on his neck through the grass he's hiding in. I checked the wind once more and settled in behind the scope.

I ask the guide if he has him in his bino's. Breathe, hold, heart beat, squeeze. Bang. I heard the bullet's thwack telling me the shot was good. The guide was happier than I was, I think.

It turned out to be a nice high 10 pt, but with a very narrow 14 in spread.

Long shots like this are not to be taken lightly, I shoot more during the year than 99% of hunters out there. I built the rifle I'm using and load my own ammo. I study ballistic tables for fun .

I have good equipment and a lot of time invested allowing me to be confident of a shot like that. There really wasn't any more cover for us to stalk up to it any closer. With out the time spent at the range with the rifle, I know I wouldn't have brought that deer home .

NE, North Platte hunt my 10 pt shot at 640 yards

PA Elk Hunt, Fall 2012
by Bill Mayer, ACSCI member

On October 14th, ACSCI member Dick Mayer, Russell Marlow and I traveled to Equinunk, PA to hunt Elk with Adam Hill of Adam Hill Hunting Adventures (AHHA). We were after three cow elk. I had met Adam at our last SCI Banquet/Fundraiser in March where he was an exhibitor. Adam has preserve hunting as well as thousands of acres of free range hunting for Whitetails, Turkey, Pheasant and Chukar. He also offers fishing on the Delaware River.

Our hunt was on a rainy foggy day but we setup in shooting houses so we stayed dry. Tree stands are also available for hunting. The elk on the preserve were every bit as wild as free range elk. Dick and Russell got their elk after 4 hours; I had to stalked mine for another hour and shot it at 92 yards. We hunted just the one day but overnight accommodations are available for longer hunts.

In addition to elk, we saw lots of really nice hogs and exotics. We had a great time hunting with Adam and are planning to go back again next fall. If you are looking for a really nice hog, give Adam a call. The preserve has 100's of them – it's worth the trip just to hang out with Adam 'he's a riot'. Contact information: office 570-224-4191, cell # 570-229-1357 or visit the website at www.adamhillhunting.com.

George Franke - 6 pt. buck and doe both taken on Opening Day of the Southern Zone regular deer season in Norwich, NY

Adirondack - Catskill Chapter of Safari Club International Membership Application

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal for Membership # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

If New Member, Sponsor's Name _____

Sponsor's Membership # _____

SCI Dues

☐ "Special" Available for New Members Only: $40.00 (includes National 1yr & Chapter 1yr)

Renewal Options for Current SCI Members:

☐ 1 Year Membership: $85.00 (includes $65.00 National 1yr & $20.00 Chapter 1 yr)

☐ 3 Year Membership: $210.00 (includes $150 National 3yr & $60.00 Chapter 3yr)

☐ 1 year Chapter Dues for National Life Members Only: $20.00

☐ Chapter Life Membership for National Life Members Only: $200.00

Payment Method

☐ Check Enclosed (*Make check payable to*: Adirondack-Catskill SCI)

☐ Credit Card ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Total Enclosed $ _____ US Dollars

Mail completed form with payment to: Vincent Migliori, Membership Director
10076 Beartown Road N.
Ava, NY 13303-2104

Revised 12/16/2012

WANTED:
New Members

We encourage existing members to bring potential new members to our meetings and events.
New members can join for the first year at $40

New Members

Our Chapter would like to welcome our new members

Ivon Small, Green, NY

Joe Main, Frankfort, NY

Ed Huckabone, aka "Saskatoon Sam", Prospect, NY

Adirondack-Catskill SCI Member Trophy Awards Form

(Deadline for Submission is December 1)

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State: _____ Zip:_____

E-Mail:_____ Phone:_____

Type of Animal:_____

Where Taken:_____

Who was the Outfitter/Guide:_____

Method of Hunt:_____

Trophy taken with: ___ Rifle ___ Pistol ___ Bow ___ Muzzle Loader

Does this trophy complete a SCI Grand Slam? ___ No ___ Yes (If it completes a SCI Grand Slam, which one: _____)

Rate the hunt: ___ Best of My Life ___ Top 5 Hunts ___ Top 10 Hunts

Describe the hunt for this species: _____

_____

Rules for 2013 ACSCI Member Trophy Awards

1. Any animal taken legally worldwide. 2. Photograph must be included. 3. All entries must be completed and received by December 1, 2013*.

Trophy Awards Categories:

Best of North America (First, Second, Third) / **Best of the World** (except North America) (First, Second, Third) / **Grand Slams**

Judging Criteria: Animal Taken Type of Hunt Method of Hunt Completion of a Goal

Please send pictures and this completed form to:
James Digristina, 11369 Cosby Manor Road, Utica NY, 13502-7703