



Adirondack-Catskill Chapter Safari Club International News

*"Dedicated to our children, the future hunters
and outdoorspeople of America"*

www.adirondackcatskillsci.com

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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

See invitation insert!



*Adirondack-Catskill Chapter
17th Annual Banquet & Fundraiser
Saturday, April 11, 2015
Holiday Inn, Oneonta, NY*



Gun Raffles
Live & Silent Auctions
Games
Outfitters & Exhibitors
World Class Taxidermy



*Information about GAMES, RAFFLES, EXHIBITORS and AUCTION ITEMS
available on the chapter website at <http://adirondackcatskillsci.com>*



A Message from Larry Steiner, Chapter President

I look back with satisfaction at what our chapter has accomplished with our projects this past year. Adirondack-Catskill sponsored Hunts for Wounded Warriors, a disabled Youth Hunt, and two Youth Days in cooperation with Rockdale and Otego Rod and Gun Clubs for starters. Our chapter and Sables Committee sent two Young Hunter Award recipients and one educator to the American Wilderness Leadership School in Jackson, Wyoming. Our two "Hands on Wildlife" boxes managed by the A-C Sables Education members were used in multiple schools and grades, as well as by the Boy Scouts of America at Camp Henderson - Maryland, NY. Individual members mentored young hunters on hunts for turkey, deer, and game birds in 2014. The A-C Chapter *has* made a difference! In 2015 Chapter members can continue the momentum by volunteering to help out at events, buy and sell raffle tickets, and to donate and attend our 17th Annual Chapter Fundraiser on April 11th Holiday Inn, Oneonta, NY.

Remember there are people out there who want to take our hunting privileges away. We must remain vigilant. Encourage your friends and hunting buddies to join SCI and bring them to our meetings and events. The future of hunting and wildlife conservation is in our hands. Let's make an even bigger difference in 2015.

Best regards, and Happy New Year! Larry

ADIRONDACK CATSKILL SCI
ANNUAL RAFFLE
 FEBRUARY 1-28, 2015
 Donation: \$25.00 per ticket
 Proceeds to help benefit Adirondack Catskill SCI Hunts for Wounded Warriors and Disabled Youth.

Last chance to buy your 28 Day Raffle Tickets!

Return unsold tickets, ticket stubs and cash to Daryl Labarron, Bill Mayer, or Larry Steiner by January 25th 2015

Congratulations



A-C SABLES

1st Place Winners of The National "Stars"

Chapter Sables Committee Award

Committees were awarded "STARS" based on membership recruitment and education programs. The first place award was a desert Eagle 1911 C .45 ACP "C" Pistol , 4.33-Barrel.



Watch for this beauty in a future A-C Sables Education Fundraiser!

2014 BIG BUCK Contest Winners



1st Place
Bruce Weakley
95 and 1/8th

2nd Place
Jim Brown
84 and 1/8th

PAUL MATULA vs. THE AMERICAN BISON *By Vinny Migliori*

Another overcast October day brought Paul, Monica, and myself to Wild West Trophy Hunts in West Edmonston, New York.

Paul was anxious to harvest an American Bison bull. He was up to the task using a 7 mm Remington Mag.

When the bull presented itself a shot rang out and the hairy beast instantly fell to the ground. Everyone was elated. Short of cigars and champagne going around, the celebration was beginning. But no, the bison Buddha god intervened and the bull rose from the ground. The sound of the shot did not end the grass eater's day.

For the next 20 minutes the wounded trophy ran wildly among the herd. The other bison violently pushed, horned, head-butted and repeatedly harassed the bull.

Finally a clear shot appeared giving Paul another opportunity that ended the hunt. No getting up this time.

While Cody Mikalunas was skinning the bull, the three of us were pigging out on Cindy's great comfort food: venison chili and homemade pies. What a great day!

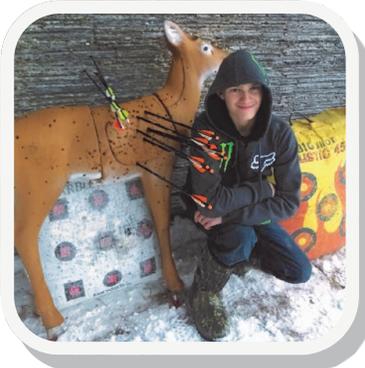
For more information contact;
Cindy and Cody Mikalunas
WILD WEST TROPHY HUNTS
WEST EDMONSTON, NEW YORK
(607)847-6668



American Bison Bull with Paul (the hunter), Monica and Vinny.

Rockdale R&G Club and Adirondack-Catskill
YOUTH DAY 2015
SCI

No COST!
Laser Shot
Archery &
Cross Bows
Free Lunch &
Door Prizes



No COST!!
Ice Fishing
Air Guns
K-9's
Game Calls
Fun & Food!

February 14, 2015

9AM-2 PM at the Rockdale R&G Club Grounds

312 Rockdale Rd., Mt. Upton, NY

Pre Registration Suggested-Event FILLS FAST!!!

CONTACT : Ron Meek-607-371-1974 or at ronandkathy@roadrunner.com

NEW YORK ENVIROTHON - *Growing Environmental Leaders for 25 Years*

By Fred Patti von Mechow

Permission for use of this article, which was published in the April 2014 Issue of the Conservationist, was given to A-C SCI by Mr. Fred Patti von Mechow. The 2015 Envirothon will be held May 27th & 28th. A-C SCI is an annual sponsor of this event.

What do you get when you cross the environment with a marathon? You get an environmental event that lasts about as long as it takes a good runner to complete a marathon, and you would call it ENVIROTHON. And when that event reaches a longevity milestone, you might call it an ENVIROTHONNIVERSARY. But we won't. We'll just call it New York State Envirothon's 25th Anniversary.

Spawned by the environmental movement of the 1970s, Envirothon began in Pennsylvania in 1984 and by 1990, had spread to several other states, including New York. Hence, 2014 marks the 25th year of Envirothon in New York State.

Just like a marathon, extensive preparation is required to be successful. Teams of five high school students spend time during the school year learning about the four core Envirothon topics: Forestry, Soils, Aquatic Ecology, and Wildlife; and one annually changing topic, the Current Environmental Issue. They also prepare a ten minute Oral Presentation, offering a solution or plan to address a scenario relating to the Current Environmental Issue. This year's Current Environmental Issue is "Sustainable Local Agriculture/Locally Grown."

"The main benefit students gain is a greater appreciation of the wonders of nature. The level of detail required in the Envirothon is great, so students spend a long time learning about the finer points of field biology and agronomy. The second advantage is the Envirothon can inspire and prepare students for a career in field biology or agriculture. Also, it is a wonderful experience to have the students work together to prepare for the Envirothon. I have many fond memories of late night study sessions and pot luck dinners." Cathy Law, Advisor, New Paltz High School.



Part of the Aquatics station is to identify living fish specimens. Teamwork and positive communication are encouraged and evident in most successful teams.



The Wildlife station is composed of taxidermy specimens primarily of small mammals and birds along with skeletons which need to be identified by the teams.

Teamwork is emphasized in Envirothon as all team members work together in all aspects of the program.

"As a classroom teacher, I love to see the students work collaboratively throughout the school year toward a common goal. The Envirothon gives my students a common interest and focal point for their efforts. The competition itself is a capstone for the project, an opportunity for the students to demonstrate all the knowledge and skills that they have learned." Jeremy Youngmann, Advisor, Champlain Valley Educational Services

Randolph High School student Taryn Dechow "participates in Envirothon because it is a fun way to learn about new things. I love to go to Envirothon because we are always interacting with

the wilderness and I am always with my team. I love spending time with my team and figuring out what we need to know. I participate in Envirothon because I am ENVIROSTRONG."

Teams conclude the "regular season" with a county or regional competition. This one day (usually in April) competition consists of the teams taking a 25 question test in each of the four core topics plus the Current Issue, and presenting their Oral Presentation to a panel of judges. The test stations are outdoors, weather permitting, with several "hands on" questions, and the Oral Presentation may be indoors or out. The five tests and the Oral Presentation each count as one sixth of the total score.



A brief section of the Soils station consists of using a clinometer to measure the slope between two points.

Every participating county sends its winning team to the "playoffs," the New York State Envirothon in May. Averaging 55 teams each year, the New York State Envirothon is a two day event. The content is basically the same as in the regional, five test areas and an Oral Presentation, though the format is a bit different. On the day they arrive, teams give their Oral Presentation to a panel of five judges, and the next day they take the five tests. The 2014 New York State Envirothon will be May 21 and 22 at SUNY Morrisville, Morrisville, NY.

"I participate in Envirothon because it makes me feel like I can actually make a difference in the environment. It also challenges me academically. It makes global and environmental issues fun to look at because it poses a challenge." Megan Steward, Randolph High School student

Envirothon "finals" take place over a week's time during the summer and include winning teams from each US State and Canadian Province. This event, the North American Envirothon was held in Montana in 2013 where New York State's team, the Hudson Valley's Mount Academy, Esopus, NY, was crowned international champions! The 2014 North American Envirothon

will be in Georgia. New York last hosted the international competition in 2007 at Hobart-William Smith Colleges in Geneva.

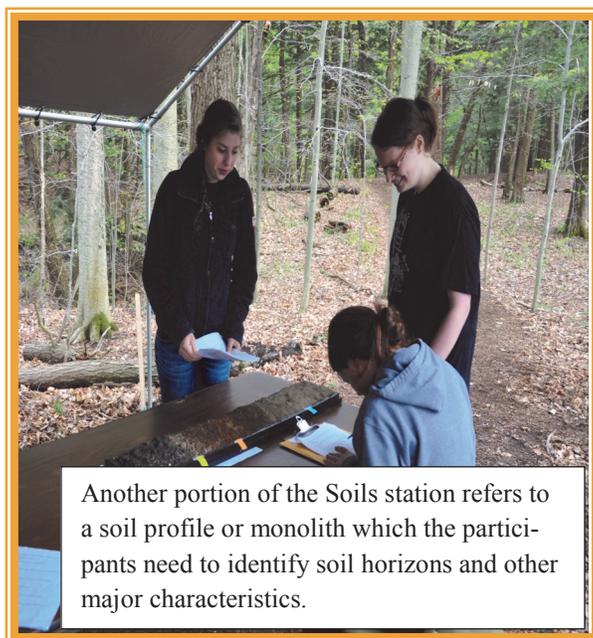
The Envirothon program builds on the skills learned in the classroom and enables students to apply those skills.

Pat Walker, Randolph High School advisor explains "Students learn to go beyond the facts and initial information presented. They learn to apply the information to problem solve and really think about solutions to problems. They also learn how to research the topic areas and delve into the subject matter in depth. The current issue, especially, challenges them to use the research information and apply it to a real world scenario. They also learn to work as a team and discuss the questions to come to a consensus on the problems. It just all works to give more meaning to what is learned in school."

Students who participate in Envirothon do so for many reasons. They become better Earth stewards and many go on to college programs and careers related to the Environment.

"I graduated high school in 2012 and participated my junior and senior years. It was a great way to learn about the environment and get more involved. My favorite part was making the oral presentation. It was interesting to have a real life environmental problem to solve. It was also really interesting to hear other peoples' presentations and see many ways to solve a problem. I'm now majoring in environmental studies and environmental engineering at Lehigh University. The competition opened my eyes and helped me think about what I want to do in the future." Erin Barclay, former New Paltz student.

Continued on page 6



Another portion of the Soils station refers to a soil profile or monolith which the participants need to identify soil horizons and other major characteristics.

NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTHON - *Growing Environmental Leaders for 25 years*

Continued from page 5

Wes Sluga, Randolph High School student, adds: "I participate in the Envirothon for a couple of reasons. I really enjoy the competition, the experiences, and the new friends that I have made. However, I also love learning tons of new information about the environment and meeting various experts in their fields. Every year seems to be more fun than the last, and I cannot wait to participate in the competition again this year."

Some students come to the Envirothon with a good background in the natural world, being hunters, fishermen, or enjoying camping, for example.

Andrew Hvizdzak, of Randolph High School has "always had a passion for the outdoors. Each year Envirothon increases my interest in the field. Being an outdoors man and an avid outdoor lover, I believe that the Envirothon is a perfect opportunity to better understand the outdoors."

Neal Horning, Mount Academy advisor, sums up the Envirothon from the advisor perspective very succinctly. "Through studying the Envirothon's content areas (aquatics, soils, forestry, wildlife, and current issues), students become actively engaged in learning about the natural world around them and thereby gain a greater knowledge and respect for the environment and its conservation. The competition also fosters important interpersonal skills such as teamwork, collaborative problem-solving, and oral communication."

The New York State Envirothon is coordinated by the New York State Envirothon Committee, a subcommittee of the New York State Conservation District Employees Association. Committee members include Soil and Water Conservation District employees, representatives of partner state and federal conservation agencies, and volunteers from throughout the state. Fundraising to support the New York State Envirothon is conducted by the Environmental Education Foundation of Soil and Water in New York State. Envirothon relies on many volunteers. To get involved at your local level, contact your county Soil and Water Conservation District. To help at the New York State Envirothon, check the web site: <nysenvirothon.net>.

WYOMING MULE DEER HUNT *By Del Law*

The picture shows the results of the trip to Wyoming in October 2014 for a 4-day Mule Deer hunt at So. Fork Mountain Lodge and Outfitters owned by Wayne and Holli Jones. The Jones's have attended our banquet in



L to R -Del Law, Gary Williams, Jim Plesniarsky, Don DuBois and Sid Westcott show the results of a successful hunt!

the past and been hunt contributors to our chapter. Don DuBois, Sid Westcott, and Del Law drove the 1,850 miles to Buffalo, Wyoming in an easy three-and-one half days journey where they joined Gary Williams and Jim Plesniarsky who had flown into Billings, Montana and then driven to Buffalo. The Lodge is nestled at about 8,000 feet in the Bighorn Mountains 15 miles west of Buffalo. The hospitality, lodging, and food were top notch.

The hunt was carried out from pickup trucks roaming the mountains glassing for big mule deer bucks. When a "shooter" was spotted, it was just a matter of getting into position for a good shot. Within the first two days, all five had knocked down their buck.

The mountains were scenic and pronghorns were plentiful but mule deer bucks were the target. The weather was chilly with a thin covering of snow but no significant weather problems. With a stop at the butcher shop, the meat was packed in a small freezer in the back of the rented Chrysler Town & Country Minivan for a fast two-day trip home. A great hunt and a lot of fun!

A Picture's Worth a Thousand Words. . .



Central African Republic

Photos from the fifty-one-day hunt A-C Chapter Member Frank Zitz took in Cameroon and the Central African Republic, June until August of 2014. Frank harvested two Bongos, two Yellow Duikers, a Harnessed Bushbuck, Giant Forest Hog, Peters Duiker, Oribi and a 3.5 foot Gaboon Viper.



Thirty-three-inch Bongo



Giant Forest Hog



Yellow Back Duiker



Harnessed twelve-inch Bushbuck



Peters Duiker

Upcoming Chapter Meetings & Events

January 2015 NO CHAPTER MEETING

January 16-18, 2015

New York Sportsman Show, Convention Center at OnCenter, Syracuse NY. Go to www.nysportmansshow.com

January 25, 2015

28-Day Raffle Tickets and money due. Return to Bill Mayer, Daryl Labarron or Larry Steiner.

February 1, 2015

28-Day Raffle Begins, watch the NY three-digit evening lottery numbers for the day's winner. Refer to raffle ticket for rules.

February 4-7, 2015

Safari Club International Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada

February 14, 2015

Rockdale Rod & Gun Club - ACSCI Youth Day, Rockdale, NY

9am-2pm Free event including lunch for all and prizes for all youth 17 and under. Contact Ron Meek at 607-371-1974

February 19, 2015

7pm **ACSCI Chapter Meeting at Christopher's Restaurant, Oneonta, NY** . Speaker to be Bill Mayer on Stanley Kocyba's Wild West Trophy Youth Hunt.

March 19, 2015

7pm **ACSCI Chapter Meeting at American Legion, Cold Brook, NY**. Speaker to be announced or check the web site at <http://www.adirondackcatskillsci.com>

March 27-29, 2015

24th Annual Big Camping & Outdoor Sports Show, Turning Stone Resort & Casino, Verona, NY. Contact George Franke to work at the A-C SCI booth at george_franke@yahoo.com

April 11, 2015

Adirondack-Catskill SCI Chapter Banquet/Fundraiser at the Holiday Inn, Oneonta, NY. *See invitation inserted in this newsletter.*

April 16, 2015

7pm **ACSCI Chapter Meeting at Christopher's Restaurant, Oneonta, NY** . Speaker to be Harry Beninati/Bill DeClue on Water Fowl & White Tails in Missouri.

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 guest speaker schedule by visiting <http://www.AdirondackCatskillSCI.com>

*Great things happen when
good people work together!
Support and attend
A-C SCI Meetings
and Events!*

