

Safari Club International

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

WESTERN MONTANA FIVE VALLEYS CHAPTER NEWS Summer 2002

Outgoing President's Message

It has been an honor to serve as chapter president these last three years. Your board of directors has served you well since the inception of this chapter of SCI some five years ago. Five Valleys Chapter has assumed a leading role and is well known as an "Outstanding Chapter" of Safari Club International. We have without a doubt been in the forefront with our outstanding conservation projects as well as our humanitarian endeavors.

You, as chapter members have quietly assumed a position as responsible and respected conservationists/hunters who are willing to fight the fight and preserve our hunting heritage as we know it today. And you should be very proud of your achievements. Years from now, when we are not of this world, generations to come will be able to walk the hills in pursuit of the game that still challenge the inner soul, the need to hunt, and the need to test one's selves against the elements and habitat of wild game because of our efforts today.

The past few years have been very special to me. I have seen places in the world that few have had the desire or opportunity to experience. I have often wondered what the hell I was doing out there, but what if I couldn't be out there? Several years ago a one day hunt for antelope in Central Montana made it all very clear for me. It was "The Hunt" that brought me there. Stalking straight on in sight of a herd of antelope for several miles brought me to within 100 yards and a good shot. We had hunted and we were victorious. They were the prey and we were the predators. This one day, local hunt is the most memorable to date for me.

Get involved and support your chapter of SCI so future generations can make the 'stalk.'

2001 Fundraiser

Our December Banquet/fundraiser was a great success. We had a good turnout and thanks to our donors and buyers we were able to gross over \$65,000 with a net of near \$38,000. \$11,630 was sent to national to further help our cause. With the matching grant, scholarship and other national programs; we as a chapter garner about 80% of all monies we raise to use as we wish and we wish to use it wisely on your behalf.

I would like to thank Van and Evelyn Dorathy for all their work as chairpersons for the fundraisers. And to those others that worked hard to make this annual event happen my sincere thanks as well. ©

Our fundraiser, of course, could not happen without the participation and generosity of all those who attend and are willing to support our cause by bidding and buying. To those of you who have been willing to show your support in this way, whether large or small, we thank you.

Election of New Officers

Elections were held at our June Board meeting. Congrats to Russ Smith who is our new chapter president. We also have two new board members. Warren Elli, from Kalispell will help us to keep on top of things in the North end and Chad Bauer from Lolo will bring some needed new blood to our organization and help share the responsibilities.

Russ, I am glad to say, has stepped up to take over the chapter reins at a time when we really needed some new enthusiasm and that he has.



Membership

Chapter membership is at about 75 with approximately 15 or more who are past due at this time. It seems to me that with all the incentives and \$30 national membership now possible that we should be able to sign up at least another 25 friends and hunting buddies for our chapter. If 25 folks knew what we and national were doing for wildlife and the continued option of being able to hunt, I believe they would support us. Give it a try - just get one person to join!

Billboards

You may have seen some of the billboards that we have had up around Western Montana the past couple of years. One of Hwy 93 up the bitterroot just came down after being up about a year and a half. (see photo) Our chapter has an agreement with Lamar Billboards Co to run our message for free on their billboards when they are empty of other advertising. We supply the message at less than \$100 each. We have just had 10 more made that are ready for use as soon as possible.

A special thanks to Shawn Andres

Shawn Andres, Five Valleys Chapter member and owner of Alpine Artistry taxidermy in Ronan, received a check to compensate him for a grizzly eating his chickens. He had the organization make the check out to SCI and donated the \$369 to the Safari Care Program for the purchase of medical equipment and supplies for shipment to Tanzania. I'm sure this group really loved making out a check to SCI. Thanks again Shawn for your generosity to SCI and this most worthy program.

Physically Challenged Youth Hunt

We as a chapter donated \$2500 to the Christian Sportsmen's Fellowship group in Western Montana to put on a disabled youth hunt. We had both been working on like projects and our board really didn't have the manpower to pull it off and the fellowship has lots of manpower, but not the dollars which we have. I called Bill Von Lanken who is a Five Valleys Chapter member and also president of the Fellowship and proposed a joint effort with their folks and our money. It's a done deal and they are working on a really good local ranch hunt with all the trimmings for 3 physically challenged youths. Thanks Bill, for all your work and hopefully we can make this an annual event.

Youth Essay Contest

For the past several years your Board of Directors has been debating the idea of having a youth essay contest on the role hunters play in wildlife conservation with the prize being a fully guided Alaska caribou hunt for the youth and a non-hunting guardian. This hunt is all inclusive from Missoula and back. We finally got it off the drawing board and into reality this year.

Grant Winn did all the work on this project and although we had a very poor turnout, we have a lucky youth going to Alaska to hunt.

Sables

Those of us that attended 2002 SCI National Convention in Las Vegas had a wonderful time as usual. The annual Sables luncheon was a hoot as always and despite the Aussie male review "The Thunder from Down Under" we behaved ourselves. At least most of us did..... We cordially invite any wives that are attending SCI National 2003 in Reno to please come and join us at the luncheon whether you are a Sable or not. You can contact Bonita Smith or Dotty Patterson either here before you leave or in Reno. We always have great food and liquid refreshment, great door prizes, great companionship, and just an all-around super time and would love to have you join us.

The Five Valleys Chapter Sables were saddened at the passing of former president Barbara Batterton this spring. A donation was made in her name to the Kidfitters of Montana, which was one of her favorite organizations. We will miss her very much.

American Wilderness Leadership School

Five Valleys Chapter SCI is again sponsoring a teacher to attend AWLS this summer in Jackson Hole. The teacher we sent last year raved about the school and came back with a new vision on hunting and conservation and ideas on how to present same to his students. This year we are sending Jill Rene Oberstein and we hope her experience will be a memorable one also.

Miscellaneous

Jon Wemple once again was successful in the special permits drawing. If I knew a witchdoctor you'd be cursed.

President's Message

First and foremost, on behalf of the Five Valley Chapter Board, our membership, and from me personally, "thank you Doyle". You did a great job leading us during the last three years as President. From this chapter's beginning, first under the leadership of Jon Wemple and then Doyle Patterson, much has been accomplished locally, nationally and internationally by Safari Club International. Many challenges have been met head-on in the tasks of conserving our resources and protecting our hunting heritages. Continued successes in our annual fund-raisers will assure that local projects and support to S.C.I. Headquarters will proceed. Plans are underway for our Sixth Banquet/Fund-Raiser. The date is December 7th, '02. It will be held at the Joker's Wild in Missoula. Our '99 Fund-raiser was held at the Joker's Wild and they did an excellent job for us. The only problem is the seating capacity. We will be limited in our ticket sales. Expect to see details soon, along with featured hunts, rifles, art and other items, which will be auctioned and raffled during this event. The board is sharing in the responsibilities of organizing our '02 fund-raiser. If you would like to assist in any way please contact us.

I look forward to serving my "turn" (not "term", new chapter terminology) as the Five Valleys Chapter, President. We don't have to reinvent the wheel, only keep the wheel rolling in the direction it has been rolling since our chapter's birth.

As a point of interest to us all, past president Doyle is currently in Africa on safari. He is hunting with Touch Africa Safaris - Zimbabwe on a safari he bought at our year 2000 fund-raiser. Prior arrangements were made with his P.H. to meet with the local tribal Witchdoctor to exchange gifts and roll-the-bones, in order to ensure a successful safari. We wish Doyle well and good hunting.

Russ Smith

**Five Valleys Chapter
Safari Club International
P O Box 16142
Missoula MT 59808**

"Mark your calendar"

Directors

- Russ Smith, President**
Box 88, Phillipsburg MT 59858 859-3948
- Grant Winn II, Vice President**
2510 Highwood Dr, Missoula MT 59803, 251-2375
- Jim Weatherly, Secretary-Treasurer**
710 West Hallmark Ln, Missoula, MT 59801, 728-4611
- Bonita Smith, Sables Rep. and Director**
Box 88, Phillipsburg, MT 59858, 859-3948
- Doyle Patterson, Director**
2151 Alder Springs Ln, Victor, MT 59875 642-3171
- Van Dorathy, Director**
840 Swamp Crk Rd, Plains, MT 59859, 826-5684
- Chad Bauer, Director**
5558 Meadow View Dr, Florence, MT 59833 273-7912
- Warren Illi, Director**
115 Dover Dr, Kelispell, MT 59901, 257-5703
- Max Bauer Jr., Director**
17850 Hwy 93 N, Florence MT 59833, 543-3157
- Mike Illi, Director**
2511 Sunridge Ct, Missoula MT 59803 251-0368
- Bill Balew, Director**
P O Box 208, Phillipsburg, MT 59858 859-0027

Saturday, December 7th '02

Sixth Annual Five Valleys Chapter SCI

Banquet/Fund-Raiser

Joker's Wild, Reserve St. Exit, Missoula, MT

-- limited seating capacity, ticket details soon --

JOIN SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL!

SCI Hunter's Code of Ethics

Recognizing my responsibilities to wildlife, habitat and future generations, I pledge:

- *To conduct myself in the field so as to make a positive contribution to wildlife and ecosystem.*
 - *To improve my skills as a woodsman and marksman to ensure the humane harvesting of wildlife.*
 - *To comply with all game laws, in the spirit of Fair Chase, and to influence my companions accordingly.*
 - *To accept my responsibility to provide all possible assistance to game law enforcement officers.*
- *To waste no opportunity to teach young people the full meaning of this code of ethics.*
- *To reflect in word and behavior only credit upon the fraternity of sportsmen, and to demonstrate abiding respect for game, habitat and property where I am privileged to hunt.*



PLEASE ENROLL ME

Special Introductory offer (US funds)

- 1 year-\$25 (Introductory membership good for one year only)

Membership Dues (US funds)

- 1 year-\$55
 -3 year-\$150
 -Life Member-\$1,000

Overseas (\$25 annual for shipping)

- 1 year-\$80
 -3 year-\$225
 -Life Member-\$1,500

Chapter Name: _____

Chapter Dues: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Application for Membership

To: Safari Club International 4800 W. Gates Pass Rd., Tucson, AZ 85745 USA
Telephone (520) 620-1220 Fax (520) 622-1205

Name _____ Youth birth date _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ ZIP _____

Country _____ Daytime phone _____

Sponsor's name & SCI memb. no. _____

Chapter (if applicable) _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ or charge to my Mastercard Visa AMX
(Overseas payments by credit card only)

Account No. _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Annually, Regular SCI members receive six issues of the SAFARI Magazine (\$15 of membership fee) and 12 issues of the SAFARI TIMES newspaper (\$5 of membership fee).
\$25 Special Introductory membership has a reduced benefit package.

\$25 Introductory Members receive 12 issues of Safari Times and the Sept/Oct. issue of Safari Magazine. Renewal fee is \$55.00