

The Alaskan Hunter

A publication of the **ALASKA CHAPTER OF SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL** | www.aksafariclub.org • **2ND EDITION 2020**

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MUSKOX PERMIT RAFFLE**
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AUGUST 1, 2020

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MEET THE BOARD: SCI ALASKA CHAPTER

proudly introduces the

Newly Elected

2020-2021

Board Leadership & Directors



Ruth Cusack, SCI Alaska Chapter Vice President

Get to know our new Board!
Bios start on page 11.





President's Message

I was recently honored to be re-elected as President of the SCI-Alaska Chapter for a third term. I am humbled by the faith and trust you have placed in me to lead our organization over the next year. As my first order of business, I would like to welcome several new people to the SCI-Alaska Board of Directors: Roger Jorgensen, Terri-Jo Mayeur, Bobby Childers, Joel Helgerson, Carri Ann Mueller, and Chad Riedel. These new Board members have already injected a new level of energy and enthusiasm into the leadership

of SCI-Alaska. It is my hope that SCI-Alaska membership will continue to expand and represent a diverse cross-section of Alaskans that endeavor to protect our hunting heritage and advance wildlife conservation efforts throughout the State of Alaska and the world. I thank all SCI-Alaska members and others who have sacrificially donated their time, talents, and/or financial resources to further the missions of SCI and SCI-Alaska.

It goes without saying that change has not been limited to SCI-Alaska. A global pandemic has changed our nation and the world. Travel has been severely restricted. We are all learning how to social-distance, videoconference, and attend virtual events. Both SCI and SCI-AK have continued to operate effectively in this virtual environment, raising money and funding our core missions. When things return to a new "normal", we are going to be stronger and more effective than ever before. During this pandemic SCI-Alaska reached out to support our fellow Alaskans who needed a helping hand. The SCI-Alaska board voted unanimously to donate \$7,500 to foodbanks across Alaska. Donations were made to The Foodbank of Alaska, Beans Café, The Children's Lunchbox, Fairbanks Foodbank, and the Southeast Alaska Foodbank, providing much needed food for families in Alaska. Thank you to all our friends and members that made these donations possible. We are committed to serving our community during this crisis.

I am extremely proud to announce that SCI-Alaska Chapter is the honored recipient of the 2020 SCI "Top Gun" award. This is the most prestigious award granted to an SCI Chapter by SCI National and it is only bestowed on one chapter each year in the world. This is a tremendous honor that all SCI-Alaska members should be proud of... because it is a reflection of you and your commitment to the core missions of SCI.

SCI-Alaska is one of the most successful SCI Chapters in the world, fighting to promote Hunter Advocacy, Wildlife Conservation, Outdoor Education, and Humanitarian Efforts. SCI has approximately 50,000 members and 200 Chapters representing all 50 of the United States as well as 106 other countries. In short, our influence and efforts are global. I encourage you to join SCI today, engage in our mission, and become part of a global team that is committed to a better tomorrow for wildlife and our hunting heritage.

Be Safe and Good Hunting!

Jeff Garness
President, AK Chapter SCI

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¼ Page	\$50.....	\$200
½ Page	\$100.....	\$350
Full Page.....	\$200.....	\$500

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Winter Issue - December 31 • Spring Issue - March 31
Summer Issue - June 30 • Fall Issue - September 30

The Alaska Chapter SCI is organized as under IRS rules as a non-profit 501(c)(4) and membership dues and donations made to AK Chapter SCI are not tax deductible. The SCI Foundation is a non-profit organized under IRS rules 501(c)(3) and donations made to the Foundation are tax deductible. Donors should consult their tax advisors before taking deductions.

2020 NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

MAIL TO: SCI Alaska Chapter
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EMAIL: admin@aksafariclub.org
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☐ Check for a HARDCOPY sent to your home.

* A **New Member** is anyone who has never been a member of SCI before or whose membership has been inactive for more than 12 months. All membership prices listed are for US, Canada and Mexico residents only.

** To join the Alaska Chapter, you must be a member of National SCI. You may be a member of more than one chapter but you will need to indicate which chapter is to be "primary". Dues payment is not tax deductible. Membership will automatically renew at end of term. Membership fees are subject to change and your auto renewal will be processed at the then-current rate.
To cancel contact Safari Club International, 4800 W Gates Pass Rd, Tucson, AZ 85745.
Phone: 520-620-1220. www.safariclub.org



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Or, if you're receiving more than one copy of *The Alaskan Hunter* at your household, please contact admin@aksafariclub.org.

A Dream Come True!

BY THOMAS N. NETSCHERT

AUGUST 2019. DALL SHEEP HUNT.

Many years ago, living in Colorado I was able to harvest a nice Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep. After moving to Alaska to retire in 2003 a Dall Sheep was now at the top of my list of Northern animals to harvest.

I faithfully put in every year for the State draw to possibly draw a sheep tag, with no results for about 12 years. A friend said he would take me into the Kenai Mountains for a sheep hunt. After 3 days of hunting only 3 sub-legal rams were spotted, that

was year 2017. In 2018 I finally drew a Delta Special area tag. My daughter Laurie said she would go with me, but after several days of glassing with no results we had to abandon the hunt because of my daughters' problematic knee.

Now after 2 failed hunts I was pretty disappointed. I became friendly with a man named Marvin who is an exceptional person, avid sportsman and hunter. Marvin who has been successful in harvesting a beautiful Dall sheep, and had also taken his two sons to harvest two more Dall

sheep. We had talked in the past about hunting sheep and after a couple of get togethers, Marvin agreed to take this 72-year-old young man, with several past surgeries on his back and neck, desperate for a Dall sheep, hunting in his special sheep area.

Exercising and keeping in shape all summer was the program. August arrived, all gear packed, and we headed into sheep country, by walking, making camp the day before season opened. Opening day arrived, and heading out of camp we immediately saw sheep, ewes and lambs and a few





small $\frac{3}{4}$ curl rams. Walking about 4 to 5 miles in beautiful mountain country produced nothing to get excited about.

About 5:00pm, heading back to camp, I spotted a few sheep out in the open tundra. After setting up the spotting scope, Marvin said "lets go there is a tank in that bunch of rams". After a 20 min stalk we were able to get within 50 yards of the bunch. A sub-legal ram stood in front of the big boy and after a minute or so he moved and exposed the big ram.

My sights were dead on the ram and pulled the trigger on my 300 win-mag. The ram ran about 100ft and collapsed. Walking up to the ram, my shot hit home, right in the heart. Marvin and I yelled from excitement and congratulated each-other. I could not believe how big he was, and words cannot describe how elated I was. To me the ram was the biggest I had seen, and I have looked at many pictures and mounts that could not compare. A rough measurement scored him at 173.

I am luckiest guy in the world to have a friend like Marvin, who sacrificed his time off work and made a tremendous effort to help me harvest such a magnificent ram opening day of the 2019 hunting season. I will never forget this once in a lifetime hunt that is truly a Dream Come True!! ■



A RETURN TO TEXAS

BY TOM LOVAS

It had been quite a while since our last trip to Texas. Mary and I did a self-guided hunt for Aoudad in the Palo Duro Canyon out of Amarillo while living in Montana. After several days of no sheep, Mary elected to take a respectable adult ewe in lieu of none. In a desperate attempt the next morning before heading home, our rancher found a good ram in a group of four on a neighboring property that turned tail and quickly disappeared. Thoughts of returning to Texas for another try had arisen from time to time since, especially whenever I caught a glimpse of Mary's photo from that day or her mounted horns. A New Mexico hunt purchased at an Alaska SCI auction hunt sounded promising, but the 5-day hunt was, sadly, a complete and total bust. We dropped our efforts

for some years, hunting instead here in Alaska, along with Africa, Canada, Spain, Nevada and Montana.

Barbary sheep came up in conversation with our friend Jack, who then stopped in Alpine after hearing about some hunts near that SW Texas spot, but nothing really gelled. By sheer chance, at Reno SCI 2019, we mentioned Aoudad to Tia Shoemaker, a bear guide from back home in Alaska, who suggested we get in touch with Curtis Byrd of Talkeetna, AK. Curtis was out on Kodiak Island guiding for spring bear when we called. Tough weather and a bit of downtime between hunts gave him time to send some info on his Texas location and offerings - in the Alpine area, no less!

After checking references, a plan was hatched for the

three of us to hightail it to Texas after Reno SCI 2020, hunting right behind another hunt party. A quick status call to Curtis, though, brought bad news - sheep were few in his usual areas, possibly from park protection or border patrol work. Curtis needed to find a new spot. The uncertainty of locating any sheep, let alone three, prompted Mary to reconsider and head home while Jack and I stood by for an update. Within a day or so, it sounded like a good spot had been found, so Jack and I loaded up and headed out for the 22-hour road trip through Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico.



Arriving in the area 2½ days later, we connected with Curtis and unloaded our gear in the comfortable, well-equipped Texas ranch-style home next door to Wayne Wiemers. An affable former border patrolman, Wayne had provided Curtis hunting access and a ranch guide, Sean. While I made an office call, Jack, Curtis and Sean headed out to sight-check Jack's rifle and look around a bit. In the meantime, Wayne introduced himself and invited me in. With sundowner in hand, I admired his wildlife and firearm collections as he recounted tales of border conflicts. As evening approached, the three returned with great news - and in the pickup bed was the head and cape of a heavy, battered-horn trophy sheep. They had come across a bachelor band—a careful stalk and single shot of over 250 yards (his longest ever) and Jack had a great ram. On the first day, no less!

That brought on a tinge of anxiety, keeping me awake that night thinking. *Rifle ok? Remember the ballistics? Other bachelor bands out there?* A quick morning test shot calmed my nerves a bit as we worked our way into a new area. At sunrise, while peering into and across a canyon, Sean suddenly told Curtis to grab his rifle - he had spotted a cougar sleeping in a shallow notch of the opposite face. Two quick shots sent the cat bounding up and away, and a third clearly connected. But the cat quickly recovered and slipped over the top into a side canyon. A momentary glimpse was all that came of a trek across the canyon; later, an alternative to pushing it came to mind - a friend with tracking dogs.

Awaiting arrival of the tracker, the search for an Aoudad ram resumed. A few scattered groups of sheep appeared, generally far, and one young ram seen within range surely needed

aging. No ram bands to be seen. Evidence of aoudad kills in the bottom of the canyon suggested the cougar had put pressure on the sheep, pushing them from the area. Meanwhile, the dogs arrived and soon picked up the scent. Curtis and Sean recovered the lion while Jack and I kept glassing for sheep.

Several portions of excellent Mexican-style chicken casserole prepared by Curtis' cousin disappeared while we celebrated that rare chance encounter with a cougar in the wild and pondered the next days' options. Before daybreak, a quick stop for coffee and tasty "to-go" breakfast and lunch burritos, followed by a short drive south, had us in the general vicinity of Jack's success. Suddenly, a band of four rams appeared on an adjacent property, likely the remaining members of Jack's bachelor party. On distant ridges, groups of sheep appeared while we hiked across the rocky hills, periodically pausing to watch. Ewes and lambs seemed to be everywhere, with young rams mingling. At one point, four mature rams appeared about half a mile off, then disappeared. One group crossed below us and charged up what appeared to be a vertical wall - their soft hooves catching barely visible ridges on the rock face.

Not seeing other rams in that area, we headed past Alpine to another location - a winding narrow valley, allowing us to look upward, rather than down or across a canyon. Numerous ewes, lambs and small rams were spotted here and there as we worked our way up to where the canyon split. Later, while heading back down, two rams suddenly appeared alongside a pair of ewes that were previously alone. Sean and Curtis studied the rams at some length, estimating the older and dom-



inant one to likely reach the 30 inch mark, maybe more. After due consideration, I moved into shooting position some 275 yards below while the ram laid down looking away, exposing shoulder and flank. At my shot, the ram's head dropped. Seconds passed, and a twitch of his rear leg sent him tumbling down the steep slope, coming to rest 30 yards below his perch. Arriving at the ram well ahead of me, Curtis asked "...want the bad news or the good?" "Give me the bad first," to which Curtis calmly replied "It's not 30 inches...." While I briefly reflected on that, he roared "...it's nearly 33!" We noticed fresh wounds above the ram's nose from what had likely been recent battles, and a few rock scratches on the horns.

The trip to Texas closed a gap of thirty-seven years from our first Barbary sheep hunt, and I couldn't have been more pleased with the outcome. In that rugged Trans Pecos region, we observed a hearty and healthy population of Aoudad and enjoyed warm February days with plenty of sunshine. Both knowledgeable and sharp-eyed, our guides Curtis and Sean provided us true fair chase opportunities and successful hunting -- with two excellent trophies to show for it. All in all, a most memorable trip, providing every reason to get underway on planning Mary's return to Texas! ■

FWS Changes Process for Regulating Uses of Alaska Wildlife Refuges

ARTICLE BY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SCI's role in protecting public uses in Alaska

The 1960s-1970s was an era of environmentalism across the United States. During this period, Congress passed national environmental laws such as the Clean Air Act, Wilderness Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act, among others. During this period, several organizations concerned about wildlife conservation and protecting hunting as a management tool formed Safari Club International (SCI). The Alaska Chapter of SCI was founded in 1977 and is one of the largest, most effective conservation groups in Alaska. SCI is the leading sportsman's advocacy group in the world, representing hunters who care about sustainable wildlife and the future of hunting.

Both the international organization and the Alaska Chapter of SCI engaged in providing public use information for deliberations by Congress in the 1970s in passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) in 1980. ANILCA transferred over 103 million acres from Bureau of Land Management to refuges, parks, and Wilderness units under Park Service (NPS), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the Forest Service. The recent US Supreme Court *Sturgeon* decision noted that Congress balanced the creation of those Alaska units with unique provisions to continue public uses, such as access and activities related to harvests of fish and wildlife. ANILCA included provisions to assure meaningful public involvement and to satisfy specific criteria as a threshold before federal agencies could restrict those public uses.

ANILCA protects public involvement in federal decisions

ANILCA established Alaska parks and refuges as 'open until closed' to public access and uses subject to a specific process. Both the FWS and NPS recognized these significant differences were best addressed in rulemaking separate from their national regulations. FWS adopted separate regulations in 50 CFR Part 36 (June 17, 1981, 46 FR 116) for management of Alaska refuges and the process to close

public uses. For the next 38 years, FWS maintained separate regulations governing Alaska refuges to reflect the unique definitions and directions under ANILCA that do not apply to refuges in the other states, which are 'closed until opened' under a national process in 50 CFR Parts 32 and 71.

The process for regulating public uses on all 77 million acres of Alaska refuges includes providing a notice to local residents and the opportunity for Alaskans to request a hearing in their area. The Part 36 process also has specific directions for temporary versus permanent closures, and the FWS must meet criteria to identify specific impacts before restricting uses. This same process was adopted in 1986 by Department of the Interior to protect access on all conservation system units in Alaska (43 CFR Part 36). Environmental groups sued, but the federal Court upheld the regulations.

FWS changed the process in 2019 and 2020

For the next 38 years, FWS respected the process distinction and published any regulations for Alaska refuges separate from the annual national rulemaking that 'opens' uses in refuges in the other states. For the first time, FWS included an Alaska access regulation in its 2019 national rulemaking. The Alaska Chapter objected to the precedent-setting change, along with the SCI Kenai Chapter and the Alaska Outdoor Council. The final 2019 rule committed to address Alaska recommendations and collaborate with nongovernment organizations prior to future rulemaking, but it did not specifically acknowledge this significant issue raised by Alaskans.

In April 2020 FWS published its annual regulations to 'open' uses in refuges in the other states and again included an Alaska refuge regulation. Just as the previous year, the regulation might be supported, but the change in the regulation process is unacceptable. Merging Alaska refuges in the annual nationwide rulemaking is simply not the appropriate mechanism for changing regulations in Alaska refuges. Also, the 2020 proposed rule fails to even mention that ANILCA is the law that governs management of public uses in Alaska refuges.

SCI protects role of Alaskans

SCI submitted comments to FWS requesting that FWS (1) withdraw the Alaska-specific refuge regulation and republish it under the Alaska process, and (2) include a commitment in the 2020 final rule to use the ANILCA process in future Alaska rulemaking. One of the Alaska Chapter's concerns is that, without a written commitment, the protections for public uses, like hunting and access, will erode over time as the public and agencies lose their memory of

"the deals" Congress struck in ANILCA. One of the most important parts of protecting those uses is the role of the public in the regulation process in order to minimize unnecessary impacts on Alaskans. Stay tuned...

While we heartily support the administration's efforts to reduce redundancy and duplication of regulations in the proposals, we also are concerned the rule will have unintended long-term impacts on those ANILCA provisions. ■

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS REPORT #2

Mr. Sturgeon Won in 2019—Why Does the Battle Continue?

BY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

"Old timers talk about the 'd(2)' battles." – They are not reminiscing about a droid in Star Wars. They are referring to Section 17(d)(2) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971. Congress settled the Alaska Native land claims, authorizing transfer of 44 million acres to the Native corporations established by ANCSA. In ANCSA, Congress required study of up to 80 million acres of federal lands for future legislation to establish conservation system units (CSUs), such as national parks and wildlife refuges.

For nine years, Congress debated numerous options before passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) in 1980. Bipartisan efforts of the committees to address issues included holding hearings in Alaska and testimony in Washington, DC. Alaskans who participated vividly remember battle lines, such as: how many acres to put in CSUs, whether to allow traditional activities like hunting and trapping, state management of wildlife, and access to ANCSA and state lands for development of the new State of Alaska.

"Sue us and win!" – In the end, Congress moved over 103 million acres of multiple use land into CSUs with special provisions to protect traditional uses and access. Among "the deals," ANILCA Section 103(c) limits federal land managers to apply regulations exclusively on federal lands. The Supreme Court opinion in *Sturgeon v Frost* on March 26, 2019, understood the deal (p. 8): "Congress thus acted, as even the Park Service agrees, to give the State and Natives 'assurance that their [lands] wouldn't be treated just like' federally owned property."

This understanding was the basis of John Sturgeon suing National Park Service (NPS) for threatening to enforce regulations that prohibit his use of a hovercraft on a state river. After a decade of his life and over one million dollars, Mr. Sturgeon's second appeal to the Supreme Court concluded (p. 19): "only the federal property in system units is subject to the Service's authority" in Alaska, and **"The Service's rules will apply exclusively to public lands (meaning federally owned lands and waters) within system units."**

"We granted ourselves this authority, so why would we give it up?" – Congress amended the General Authorities Act in 1976 by, among the changes, authorizing NPS to: "promulgate and enforce regulations **concerning boating and other activities on or relating to waters located within areas of the National Park System....**" Before passage, the Secretary of the Interior sent a letter requesting expansive authority beyond supplementing Coast Guard regulations **"for the purpose of preserving and protecting the resources of the National Park System."** The 1976 Act did not grant NPS's request for expanded authority to regulate all public activities in state navigable waters. Congress only authorized NPS to supplement and enforce Coast Guard regulations in park areas on federal waterways. At the time of the 1976 Act, NPS recognized its limited authority in its regulations (36 CFR §1.2(b)): "do not apply on non-federally owned lands and waters . . . within the boundaries of a park area." Similarly, the 1981 Alaska-specific regulations (36 CFR §13.2(e)) "are applicable **only on federally owned lands** within the boundaries of any park area."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Why Does the Battle Continue?

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Then, **20 years later**, NPS turned its interpretation of the 1976 law on its head, revising its regulations in 1996 to extend jurisdiction over State waterways nationwide. For several years, the states protested Congress did not give NPS this authority, and Alaska argued ANILCA limits NPS authority to federally owned lands. In 2000, NPS began incrementally enforcing its regulations on Alaska waterways through limits on fishing methods, such as fish wheels and nets, then by limiting access methods to State and Native corporation lands. State officials tried convincing NPS to exempt Alaska, and the six-year 'statute of limitation' to file suit ran out. NPS even required the State get a permit to access and conduct studies on fish on a state-owned river. In 2010 the State and Mr. Sturgeon each filed a Petition for Rulemaking for NPS to revise its regulations, which NPS rejected. The Supreme Court overturned NPS in March 2019.

Does the NPS April 2020 proposed rule 'fix it'? Yes, well maybe.... The proposed rule exempts Alaska from its national regulation that asserts jurisdiction over waterways in the rest of the country, and modifies the Alaska-specific regulations to clarify NPS regulations apply exclusively to federally owned lands within park areas. Perfect! So what is the concern?

The Supreme Court instructed NPS has tools under ANILCA to protect park uplands, including entering into cooperative agreements or buying submerged lands under a waterway. In the intervening year, NPS staff unofficially told the public alternate theories about how NPS would get back authority over state waterways; e.g., wait for a new Congress to amend ANILCA. Some staff suggested only Sturgeon can operate his hovercraft on the Nation River. In one public meeting, an NPS employee explained how they would wait a few years then begin enforcing NPS regulations on small waterways to contest State ownership. (This again turns ANILCA and the Court ruling upside down—federal regulations apply where the federal owner has title; title to state waterways was transferred in 1959 with statehood.) The proposed rule itself alludes to authorities beyond what Congress has explicitly granted in the Organic Act, as amended, by referring to undefined "other regulatory authorities." These interpretations and other loopholes need to be closed in the final rule, so the NPS battle over jurisdiction ends—once and for all. ■

COMING SOON!



Alaska Governor's Tok Management Area 10-Day Fully-Guided **DALL SHEEP HUNT RAFFLE**

The winning package will include the Alaska Governor's Tok Management Dall Sheep Permit, a 10-day fully-guided Dall sheep hunt, and a Dall sheep hunting gear package worth over \$5,000. This Grand Prize package worth over \$70,000 will be drawn at the end of our 2021 SCI Alaska Chapter Banquet.

More information and tickets will be available on our webpage no later than September 1st, 2020.

www.aksafariclub.org

SCI ALASKA CHAPTER

2020-2021

Board Leadership & Directors

As many of you already know you SCI Alaska Chapter holds two elections on an annual basis.

The board of the SCI Alaska Chapter consists of 16 positions. Each year we elect eight Directors to the Board for a two-year term. This is a membership election where you, as a member of our chapter, get the opportunity to vote. This year's election included a 9th position to fill a one-year term vacancy.

Our second annual election is a Board of Directors vote, to select the board leadership positions which consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The SCI Alaska Chapter is pleased to announce and introduce the newly elected Board Leadership and Directors.

Jeff Garness: SCI Alaska Chapter President



My family moved from Seattle, Washington to Anchorage, Alaska in 1969. Growing up in Alaska, I learned at a young age to hunt and fish from my father. Hunting and fishing were more than just recreation for our family, but rather an essential means to put food on the table. I remember numerous hunts as a boy for Caribou and Moose, often braving miserable conditions in the pursuit of food and in some cases the bonus of a trophy set of antlers. Over the years, hunting became much more than just the harvesting of meat for the freezer, but also a cultural experience that has imbedded into me the importance of self-reliance, wildlife conservation, and respect for the environment. I attended the University of Alaska Anchorage earning a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering and an M.S. degree in Arctic Engineering. I am a licensed Civil and Environmental Engineer in the State of Alaska and own/operate Garness Engineering Group, Ltd with my adult children. Lisa, my wife of 40 years, and I have a son David Garness and two daughters, Rachel

Saldana (former SCI-Alaska Chapter youth hunter of the year) and Sonja Blewett. I have 8 grandchildren that all live in Alaska. As a side note, I am also a proud member of the Samish Indian Nation.

I am a Life Member of SCI, SCI-AK, and RMEF. Over the years I have harvested most of Alaska's big game species and have been fortunate enough to hunt in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and numerous areas in the lower-48 states. I have passed on my passion for hunting and the outdoors to my children and taught them the importance of standing-up for all our rights to participate in the hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. If elected to the SCI-AK Board of Directors, I am committed to making a contribution that will have a positive impact on the chapter as we (SCI) continue to serve as the leading Hunter and Wildlife advocacy organization in the world, being both "First for Wildlife" and "First for Hunters".

Ruth Cusack: SCI Alaska Chapter Vice President



Ruth Cusack's passion is the outdoors, hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping. She loves the adventure of remote wilderness hunting and is in her best element when floating a river well off the grid. That is why conservation and fighting for our rights as outdoorsmen and women are so important to her.

Ruth grew up in small town Iowa always exploring. Once she graduated high school, she joined the Army and was stationed in Texas and Germany before returning to Iowa. She had always enjoyed fishing with her father but didn't start hunting until she was in her 20's, harvesting whitetail, geese, and waterfowl.

In 2007 she met her husband Louis, moved to Alaska, and began sharing all that Alaska outdoors and beyond has to offer. Together they have hunted across Alaska, many states in the lower 48 and followed their passion to South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Spain, and New Zealand. They built a lifestyle from their adventures and become a couple best known for remote wilderness big game hunting in Alaska with a special passion for hunting big bull moose in the rut. Their hunts have been featured on Mossy Oak Hunting the Country, Cabela's Ultimate Outdoor Adventures and Alaska Outdoors Television. In 2012 Ruth gained recognition for winning the Prois Extreme Huntress Award and in 2013 Ruth and Louis won the Cabela's Ultimate Outdoor Team award which included an all-inclusive hunt for Red Stag in New Zealand. And most recently, Ruth has won the SCI Alaska Chapter Diana Award.

Ruth shares her passion through social media and by volunteering with various organizations. She has worked with several non-profits over the years including Alaska Healing Hearts, Safari Club International, and teaches classes every year for the Alaska Becoming an Outdoors Women Program.

Ruth hopes to inspire women to become more involved in the outdoors and encourage more young adults to get out and hunt.

Carri Ann Mueller: SCI Alaska Chapter Secretary



Carri Ann Mueller is a lifelong Alaskan, conservationist, preservationist, and aviation enthusiast. She is an accomplished Alaskan outdoor woman. Her enthusiasm and passion for Alaskan outdoors started as a small child fishing on the Kenai river with her family.

Carri Ann has long supported conservation and preservation through event management and fund raising. As the marketing manager for Cabela's, she worked tirelessly with numerous outdoor organizations and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in support of their mission to promote women and children in the outdoors, hunter education, hunting rights and membership drives. She has spent endless hours volunteering. She was instrumental as a volunteer in the Alaska Wood Bison Restoration Project.

Carri Ann has previously sat on the Board of Directors for Alaska Bowhunters and the Iron Dog snowmachine race. She enjoys attending and volunteering with BOW (Becoming an Outdoor Woman) classes. Her fundraising success goes back over 20 years where she first started with the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society Team-In-Training marathon program and it lead her to volunteer for organized runs and biking events as well as the co-race director for the Eagle River Triathlon. She has been involved in community support & networking through Bean's Café, the Covenant House, local food bank programs, Make-A-Wish Foundation & Habitat for Humanity.

Her list of previous affiliations includes SCI - Alaska, Kenai Chapter - SCI, Alaska Bowhunters, AK Wild Sheep Foundation, Rocky Mountain Elk, Resident Hunters of Alaska, Alaska Professional Hunting Association, Women's Fly Fishing, Kenai River Sport Fishing Association, Alaska Fly Fishing, Iditarod, Iron Dog, Alaska Trappers Association, Alaska Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited, and AK Wildlife Conservation Center.



Bobby Childers: SCI Alaska Chapter Treasurer

I'm a born-and-raised Alaskan, originally from Soldotna and currently living in Wasilla. I'm happily married to Krista-Lyrae Childers (2019 volunteer of the year SCI Alaska Chapter). We have one child, Preston Childers, age 4.

My passion for the outdoors started when I was 4 years old shooting my first spruce hen on the Swanson River trail system and catching my first King Salmon on the banks of the Ninilchik River with my dad. Since then, I have traveled all over the world pursuing my passion for hunting, fishing and the outdoors. My Alaska hunts include black bear, Mountain goat, moose, black-tailed deer, caribou, and brown bear. I also enjoy trapping in Alaska. I've hunted whitetail deer, feral hogs and turkey in the lower 48. I've done fresh and saltwater fishing in Mexico, Jamaica, Panama, Florida, Georgia, and Alaska.

I became an SCI Alaska Chapter Life Member in 2017 and have been attending banquets and events since 2012. Aside from SCI, I have been a Life Member of the Alaska Trappers Association and the NRA since 2010, and a life member of the North American Hunting Club since 2003. Although not a member, I still annually attend functions, support and volunteer for Ducks Unlimited, Wild Sheep Foundation and the Alaska Moose Federation.

Professionally I am currently the Electrical General Foreman for Houston Contracting Company (HCC) at the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT). I have been a proud 18-year member of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). I attended the University of Alaska Anchorage (Kenai Peninsula College) for Process Technology and Instrumentation.

Next year we have plans to attend the National SCI function as well as the first year it moves to Nashville. I look forward to one day hunting Red Stag and Tahr in New Zealand and numerous species in North and South Africa and Argentina.



Joel M. Helgerson: SCI Alaska Chapter Director

I was born and raised in Elkader, Iowa in July 1976. My earliest recollections are of my father teaching me to shoot a bow. As an avid outdoorsman, my father taught me how to hunt, fish and trap. After high school I attended the University of Northern Iowa where I received a BA in Elementary Education and was commissioned as an Infantry 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

During the last 20 years, my career in the Army has taken me around the world through multiple assignments, both in the US and overseas. This has provided me the opportunity to hunt and fish in multiple states. I moved to Alaska in 2016 and became a legal resident. I am currently assigned to a unit in Saudi Arabia but will return to Alaska in August of this year where I again will be assigned to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) for another three-year tour then plan to retire.

The outdoors has had such a significant impact on my life. I can't imagine a better place than being in the woods or on the water. As with everything else, people take for granted that the outdoors is a finite resource and one that needs to be managed. Organizations like SCI ensure that this resource will be enjoyed by future generations. I try to spend as much time as possible in the outdoors, and I want to do my small part as a member of SCI to give back for what I have enjoyed.

EDUCATION: BA in Elementary Education (University of Northern Iowa, 2000); MS in Adult & Continuing Education (Kansas State University, 2013)

MEMBERSHIPS: Safari Club International (AK Chapter, 2016-Present), Wild Sheep Foundation (AK Chapter, 2016-Present, Iowa Bowhunters Association (1983-2016), Clayton County (IA) Archers (1983-2016).



George Jacoby: SCI Alaska Chapter Director

I grew up in the Spokane Valley and graduated from E.W.S.C with a biology degree. After graduating I moved to Anchorage and have never left.

As a kid I followed my dad around hunting and fishing all over Washington State. Now my son and oldest grandson follow me around caribou hunting and fishing on the Kenai River.

After 40 years being self-employed, I finally retired and spent 5 years on the Anchorage Advisory Committee and now 6 years on the Board of SCI. I lead the taxidermy committee for our banquet display and am always looking for diversity and unusual mounts.

I do not want to look back and say, “We should have done that (to save a species).” Let us react now to save our hunting heritage.



Roger Jorgensen: SCI Alaska Chapter Director

Roger Jorgensen, 25, of Eagle River, Alaska is North American Representative of FN Hunting, HHK Safaris, and Chelet Safaris. Roger was active in the Hunter Education program with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game as well as Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson.

He also ran the Alaska Chapter SCI magazines for the military program. Roger formally was a youth director at Alaska Chapter SCI and a graduate of AWLS. He received the “Youth Hunter of the Year” in 2005 and 2009, “Outstanding Youth of the Year” in 2007, and the “President’s Award” in 2011.

Roger has hunted around the world, including Zimbabwe, Austria, Hungary, South Africa, Namibia, Hawaii and Alaska, harvesting 20 trophy animals. Roger is returning to Alaska after 6 years in the lower 48 and looks forward to joining the Alaska Chapter Safari Club again as a Director once more in order to further Wildlife Conservation, and Education in his home state of Alaska.



Terri Mayeur: SCI Alaska Chapter Director

Greetings! My name is Terri Mayeur. I have been a resident of Alaska since August 1992. I love the lifestyle we are afforded here in Alaska through hunting and fishing. I grew up in a very anti-hunting / anti-gun home. When I moved to Alaska I was introduced to fishing and a few years after that, to hunting. It was an interesting transition for me, but I quickly realized how important it was to eat wild, organic meat that was ethically harvested. I also learned what a valuable learning opportunity hunting and fishing was for a family. Our children understood where our food came from. Not from the sanitized meat counter at the grocery store, but from the wild and the circle of life.

I believe it is up to us, as stewards of this earth, to protect the population of animals. A well-managed population of animals keeps the animals healthy and available for generations to come.

Last year I decided I need to “put my money where my mouth is” with activities I support. I want to become more involved with the activities I support because I am afraid if we do not speak up and support, it will be gone.



Jene Mobley: SCI Alaska Chapter Treasurer

Jene Mobley was born 1939 in Wendell, Idaho. He lived there until 1960 and then moved to Montana. After 3 years in Montana, he left for Alaska. He thought he'd better keep moving to stay ahead of the herd from California that wanted to change hunting.

Jene has hunted and fished his whole life. He has hunted in Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Montana and Alaska. Jene has also hunted the world including seven trips to South Africa, Namibia and Botswana.

Jene enjoys sharing his passion for the outdoors with his family. A few years ago, the Mobley family, including his son Rick, his wife, 3 grandsons and families took a trip to South Africa hunting in Limpopo, in the free state, creating a lifetime memory that his whole family will never forget. His passion for hunting and his willingness to share with his family has created a legacy, and there are currently four generations of Mobley's participating in the outdoors and sharing our outdoors lifestyle!

Over the years Jene has mentored many new SCI Board Members on what the club is all about. Jene has an extensive Outfitter network, which has proven invaluable to our SCI Alaska Chapter's live auction team. Each year Jene attends the SCI National Convention and spends his time introducing the Hunt Coordinator to potential donors and offering advice on hunt selection.

Jene has over 40 years of contracting experience and lends his skill to many SCI Alaska Chapter projects, such as the building of our mobile conservation trailer. Jene is currently assembling plans which will create a new booth building for our Alaska State Fair booth.

Jene has been an SCI and SCI Alaska Chapter Life member since 2003. He believes our job is to ensure the right to hunt and fish and to enjoy the great outdoors will never be taken away!!!



Mike Sewright: SCI Alaska Chapter Director

Michael W. Sewright has resided in Alaska and engaged in hunting, fishing, and similar outdoor activities here since childhood. He attended local public schools, graduating from West Anchorage High School in 1967. He became an Alaska lawyer in 1975, admitted to practice in state and federal courts including the U.S. Supreme Court. He served many years both in private practice and in the State of Alaska Attorney General's Office representing the State in fish and game and natural resource matters, including public access, ANILCA, navigability, and subsistence issues. He represented the State of Alaska in many lawsuits, at both the trial and appellate levels. His cases included the Gulkana River and Matanuska River cases establishing navigability standards furthering state ownership and public access in Alaska. His interest in serving on the Board of the SCI Alaska Chapter is a natural extension of those interests. Mike is presently retired but remains admitted to practice law.

ALASKA GOVERNOR'S 2020

NUNIVAK ISLAND MUSKOX PERMIT RAFFLE

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- Muskox bull drawing locking tag: \$500 resident, \$2,200 non-resident, \$3,000 non-resident alien

TOTAL PRIZE VALUE:

Alaska resident—\$5,500 Non-resident—\$7,360

Non-resident alien—\$8,630



DRAWING AUG. 1, 2020 AT THE SCI AK HUNTERS GET TOGETHER BBQ ON THE STATE FAIR GROUNDS!

... NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN ...

SCI ALASKA CHAPTER TO DONATE 100% OF AK GOVERNOR'S NUNIVAK ISLAND MUSKOX PERMIT RAFFLE TO STATE FISH & GAME CONSERVATION PROGRAM

In a unanimous and unprecedented decision, Safari Club International's Alaska Chapter recently voted to donate 100% of the proceeds from their coveted Nunivak Island Muskox Permit raffle to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game's Wildlife Conservation program.

SCI AK Chapters executive director Louis Cusack stated that the Chapters February Banquet was a great success and we were fortunate to have missed the pandemic impact window. SCI AK Chapter has been finding opportunities to share their good fortune via donations to foodbanks across the state and this recent decision

to donate the raffle proceeds to help the state's wildlife conservation program.

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game relies heavily on the income generated from nonresident hunting and fishing, which has been severely impacted by season closures and travel restrictions suffered from the pandemic.

The Chapter is selling up to 800 raffle tickets, which will result in a donation of roughly \$30,000 to the Department.



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Drawing will be held August 1st, 2020 at the SCI Ak Hunters Get Together BBQ!

(WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!)





— AUGUST 7th, 2020 —

3rd Annual National Purple Heart Day Memorial Fishing Charter

Donated and Sponsored by Captain Bob Candopoulos of Saltwater Safari

On August 7th the winning bidders from our February 29th live auction will join Captain Bob and 10 members of the Alaska Chapter of The Military Order Of The Purple Heart aboard the newly remodeled 53ft *Legend* for a full day of Halibut and Salmon Fishing out of Seward, Alaska.

The National Purple Heart Day Memorial Charter is dedicated to the men and women "combat" veterans who have received the Purple Heart in service and sacrifice to their country.

Captain Bob Candopoulos is the founder of the Armed Services Combat Fishing

Tournament which is entering its 14th year. Since inception, Captain Bob and friends from the Seward Charter Fleet have hosted 2,700 active duty members of the Armed Services to what is considered the largest military appreciation fishing tournament in history!

For well over a decade Captain Bob Candopoulos, founder of the Armed Services Combat Fishing Tournament, has dedicated himself, his boats, and his company to the continuous support of the Military Services Community and to the Alaska Chapter of Safari Club International. We would like to thank Captain

Bob for his tireless effort in support of our Armed Service members and for his commitment to conservation.

For information on how you can help, or to book your own fishing trip, contact Captain Bob and Saltwater Safaris at: Phone: (907) 242-5232, email: sales@saltwatersafari.com or at their website: saltwatersafari.com

SCI Alaska Chapter would also like to thank Delta Constructors for their generous donation and support in honoring these members of the Military Order Of The Purple Heart with a great day of fishing!


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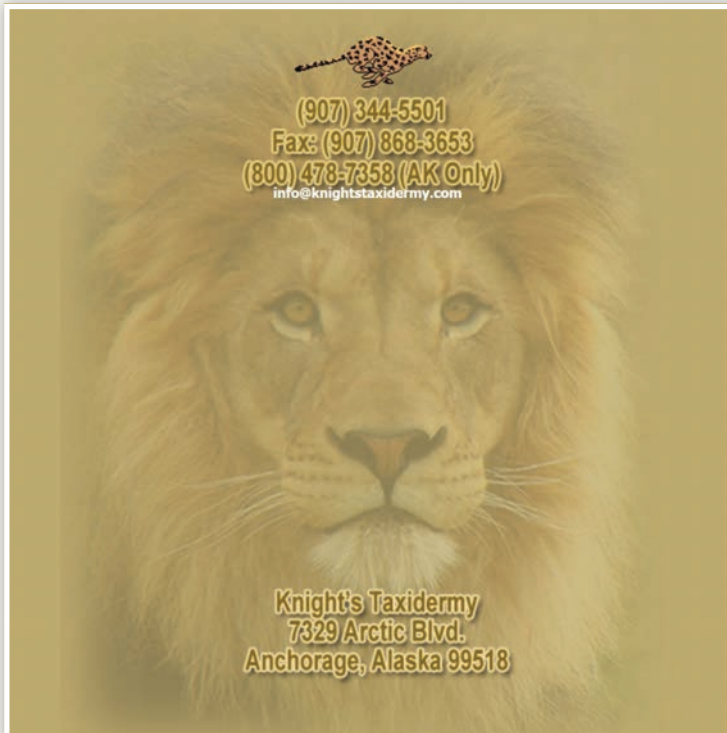
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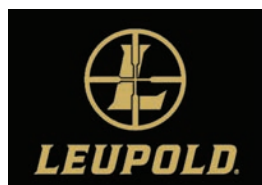
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August 1, 2020

at Summer Membership Meeting BBQ

SCI Alaska Chapter Summer Membership Meeting BBQ

August 1, 2020

Tickets: \$40 per person

(Only 50 tickets will be sold to ensure adequate
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For time, location & details, please visit:

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SCI Alaska Chapter Christmas Party

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CONTACT INFO :

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Tanner Betts, son of SCI Alaska Chapter member Derek Betts made a great 150 yard uphill shot, successfully harvesting his first black bear in Prince William Sound. Young Hunters like Tanner are the future of our Organization and SCI AK appreciates Derek and all of the families that are helping to ensure that our great hunting heritage is passed on to the next generation.