



SCOUT NOVI
FIRST FOR HUNTERS

SAFARI HUNT

Plus:

Wyoming Whitetails

And the story behind

*Dreadnaught
Country*

Also in this issue:

Hunting and Fishing Expo 2012

Big Buck Night

21st Annual Awards Banquet

2012 winter

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Send in your reports

SCI, Novi would like to solicit your opinions on any recent hunts you have taken. Have you recently had a great experience with a particular outfitter, or had someone whom you would really recommend to other members? Let us know about it. On our website is a blank "Hunt Report" form - just copy and fill it out. Send it in to SCI, Novi at the address on the form. We are building up a file that our members can use as a reference when considering booking a hunt of their own, and we may also publish selected reports in upcoming editions of our newsletter. So here's your chance to let everyone know about that hunt you just took!

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...from the
President's Desk

Greetings to all of our members and friends! I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season, and that each of you is enjoying the start of a good new year. By the time you read this, we will be only a matter of weeks away from the start of our new, and greatly expanded, annual fundraiser. As many of you know, the event has now been relocated to MGM Grand Casino in Detroit, and all indications are that it will be a fabulous time! While you will find extensive information on the fundraiser in this issue, I will try to hit a few highlights.

First, I want to thank our Board of Directors and the many volunteers who have contributed to this year's fundraiser. With a complete change in dates and venue, and with the addition of many new outfitters, donors and guests, your Board has had to put in extensive additional time this year to make this event go as smoothly as possible. My hat is off to each and every person involved in planning and preparing for this year's event. Kudos for taking on a large job, and for doing it well.

Second, I hope that each of you will be able to attend our event, and experience for yourself the expanded lineup of donors, outfitters, auction and raffle items, and the expanded services and amenities available through MGM Grand Casino. The facilities at MGM are absolutely top notch, and the staff has really been helpful in dealing with the myriad of issues that come up in planning an event of this size. If you plan to spend the weekend at the casino for the show, please do take advantage of the special room rates offered for our members. The price discount is significant, and the rooms are very luxurious. Just mention SCI, Novi when booking to take advantage of the discount.

Finally, I want to thank each and every donor who has contributed to the financial success, not only of this event, but of our chapter. Your support is what makes this event work, and enables us to continue all of our educational, humanitarian and conservation projects throughout the year. Please come out and show your support for these friends of the chapter, and we all hope you have a great time!

Jon B. Munger

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jon B. Munger'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the 'g'.

President, SCI Novi





Hosted by

Safari Club International Novi Chapter

at the beautiful and the exciting facilities of

MGM Grand Hotel and Casino

in Detroit Michigan

Open to the Public

Exhibits and Presentation

Exhibit tickets only \$5.00, Kids 12 and under: free

Friday, February 24th 12pm to 10pm

Saturday, February 25th 12pm to 3pm

Banquet Ticket

Holder's Only

Saturday February 25th 3pm to 10pm

exhibits and presentations

5pm dinner

7pm live auction

Banquet Tickets

Early Bird Package: tickets \$300 each, includes special raffle and banquet ticket

Platinum Table Package : Platinum table of 10 for \$900.00 includes entry into a special raffle

Regular Table Package: Table of 10 for \$750.00

Group Table Package: Group of 4 for \$300.00

Single tickets @ \$75.00 each

Presentations

Predator and Prey, African Hunting, Taxidermy presentation and more

Exhibits

Many outfitters and guides, artist, jewelry, hunting and fishing goods, gun dealers, sports memorabilia, home decorating goods, and many other exhibitors

Auction and Raffle

Hunting and fishing adventures from all over the world including: Africa, Argentina, Costa Rica, North America, Michigan, and Canada to name a few. Other items include jewelry, art, home decorating goods, vacations, and sports memorabilia. The evening will also include many raffles for guns, crossbows, shopping sprees, large screen TV, 50/50 cash raffles, and ect.

MGM Grand Casino in Detroit

Discount room rate \$159.00, for banquet ticket holders

For hotel reservations call, 877-888-2121

Each guest room to receive \$50.00 of FREEPLAY to use on casino floor

Each guest room will receive one 10% off IMMERSE Spa coupon, upon check-in

Free Valet parking and more



Look for more information or purchase banquet tickets at www.scinovi.com
the reverse side of this flyer or contact Jon B Munger at 248-770-4991

or jonmunger@jmungerpllc.com

**2012 International Hunting and Fishing Expo and Banquet
Ticket Order Form
(Banquet ticket holders have entry to both days, 2/24 and 2/25)**

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Early Bird Package (\$485 value for discounted price of \$300) (Must be purchased prior to the Expo)

Qty: ___ @ \$300 = _____

Includes: 1 Banquet ticket

1 Ticket to \$1,000 Cabela's

Shopping Spree raffle

\$400 in Gold Ticket raffle tickets

1 Ticket to \$500 Somerset Collection

Shopping Spree raffle

Add Early Bird Package to any or all seats in a table or group purchase EXCEPT the single ticket for \$225 per person

Platinum Table Package: Qty: ___ @ \$900 = _____ Add Early Bird Package for \$225 per person Qty ___

Reserved table of 10, with table and program recognition for sponsor, and entry into the \$1,000 Cabela's Shopping Spree raffle.

Regular Table Package: Qty: ___ @ \$750 = _____ Add Early Bird Package for \$225 per person Qty ___

Reserved table of 10, with table and program recognition for sponsor

Group Package: Qty: ___ @ \$300 = ___ Add Early Bird Package for \$225 per person Qty ___ Group of four seats

Single Tickets: Qty: ___ @ \$75 = _____

SCI and Chapter Membership Renewal and New Member Options:

New Member or Renew your international and chapter membership prior to Feb. 24, 2012 for the discounted price of \$95 (Reg. price \$110); or

New Member or Renew your international and chapter membership, with purchase of any Banquet ticket (single ticket, table or Early Bird purchase) for only \$75 (reg. price \$110).

New Membership or renewal: Qty ___ @ \$75 ___ with ticket purchase, or Qty ___ @ \$95 ___ without ticket purchase.

Cash donation: to support SCI-Novi as a § 501(C)(3) _____

Grand total of entire order \$ _____

Return completed form and check to:

SCI, Novi Chapter
7152 Gateway Park Drive
Clarkston, MI 48346

Or Pay by Credit Card:

MC / Visa / AmEx / Discover Card #: _____

Exp. Date: ___/___/___

CVV Code (3 digit security code): _____

Signature: _____

Billing Zip code (if different than above) _____

All sales are final, no refund or credits

For more information or to purchase banquet tickets please contact:

Jon B. Munger at 248-770-4991 or jmunger@jonmungerpllc.com

2012 International Hunting and Fishing Expo

Auction Items

February 24-25, 2012

MGM Grand Hotel and Casino

As of 1/9/2012

- 7 day South African Safari for one hunter with Andrew Harvey Safaris. Donation includes trophy fee for one East Cape Kudu and a \$1000 gift certificate to Karoo Taxidermy. www.harveysafari.co.za
- British Columbia hunt with B.C. Trophy Mountain Outfitters. www.bctrophymountainoutfitters.com
- Ohio Whitetail Deer hunt for two hunters with Briarwood Sporting Club. Donation includes \$3000 credit to be split between the two hunters. www.briarwoodclub.com
- A one year fishing membership to Briarwood Sporting Club in Ohio. www.briarwoodclub.com
- Various Furs from John Hayes at Cascade Furs.
- Pointing Lab puppies from Bill Wollters at Centennial Kennels.
- Various Taxidermy certificates from Kevin Vanatta and Susan Dourlain of Taxidermy by Dourlain. www.dourlain.com
- Daily rates on a 5 day hunt in Spain with Espacaza. www.espacaza.com
- A half day Lake Michigan fishing trip for Salmon with David James of Fish Hunter Chapters. www.fishhuntercharters.com
- Class certificates from Frontsight Firearm Training Institute in Nevada. www.frontsight.com
- Lake St. Claire fishing trip for Musky and Small Mouth Bass with Brad Haggitt from Green Head Guide Service. www.greenheadfishingcharters.com
- A local water fowl hunt with Brad Haggitt from Green Head Guide Service. www.greenheadfishingcharter.com
- Dakota Firearm from Duke McCaa at Gulf Breeze Firearms. www.gulfbreezefirearms.com
- A Kansas Whitetail hunt with Jeff Brondige from Hickory Creek Outfitters. www.hunthickorycreek.com
- A 5 day Michigan Whitetail hunt with Dan Taylor of Hilde Hunting Service.
- A half day Goose hunt for 3 hunters with Dan Taylor of Hilde Hunting Service.
- Various Taxidermy certificates from Bob and Pam Taylor of Hilde Wildlife Studios. www.hildetaxidermy.com
- One year Individual and one year Corporate Hunting Memberships from Dave Fisher at Hunters Ridge Hunt Club. www.huntersridgehuntclub.com
- Various Jewelry from Mike Young of JewelCraft.
- Various Taxidermy certificates from John Lombardo or Lombardo's Taxidermy. www.lombardostaxidermy.com
- Custom South African knives with Red Ivory and Hippo Tooth handles from Mackrill Knives. www.mackrill.co.za
- 6 day/5 night Alaskan Salmon fishing trip from Ron Jewett at McDougall Lodge. www.mcdougalllodge.com
- 5 day South African Safari for two hunters and two observers from Hendrik Botha at Metwetwe' Safaris. Donation includes \$1000 credit on trophy fees to be used by the hunters. www.matwetwesafaris.com
- A Lake Huron Beach Resort all to yourself for Memorial Day Weekend that sleeps up to 49 people. Donated by Ed Swadish of Miami Beach Resorts. www.miamibeach-oscodas.com
- A weekend getaway and spa package for four couples from Perry Heluski at Muy Grande Ranch and Resort. www.muygranderanch.com
- 5 day South African Safari for two hunters from Numzaan Safaris. Donation includes \$500 credit on trophy fees per hunter. www.numzaan.com
- 12 Palace suite tickets to a Detroit Pistons game at the Palace of Auburn Hills.
- One day waterfowl hunt for three people with Robert Stanley of Robert Stanley Guide Service. www.fishduck.ca
- One day fishing trip for two people with Robert Stanley of Robert Stanley Guide Service. www.fishduck.ca
- Safari Club International Life Membership. www.firtsforhunters.org
- Safari Club International Spousal Life Membership. www.firstforhunters.org
- Various Boyt Harness waterfowl and hunting packages. www.boytharness.com
- A Boyt Harness Double Rifle Case. www.boytharness.com
- A Boyt Harness Take Down rifle/shotgun case. www.boytharness.com
- A 8 hour, 6 man Salmon fishing trip on Lake Michigan from Scott Shelagowski of Scott's Sportfishing Charters. www.sscharters.com
- A two man Steelhead fishing trip on the Muskegon River with Scott Shelagowski of Scott's Sportfishing Charters. www.sscharters.com
- A 7 day Namibian Safari for one hunter and one observer from Anso and Peter Thormahlan of Thormahlan & Cochran Safaris. Donation includes a \$1000 credit on trophy fees. www.africatrophyhunting.com
- An Accupoint 3-9x40 rifle scope from Trijicon Inc. www.trijicon.com
- 6 day and 6 night African photo safari from Zulu Nyala. www.zulunyala.com

Plus Many More to Come!!!!

**Check our website, www.scinovi.com
for an up-to-date list!!**

www.scinovi.com

SAFARI Times

Hunt Report



May 2011. Larry. Storinsky of Michigan, USA, contracted a hunt with Andrew Harvey Safaris in the Eastern Cape, Mid-Karoo region of South Africa.

P.H. & Outfitter, Andrew Harvey and his Skinner/Tracker Peter, guided Larry on safari in taking a Blesbuck, Cape Springbuck, Cape Bushbuck, Impala, and Duiker using a Savage Model 111 in 30.06 SPRNG caliber, mounted with a Bushnell 4x-12x 40mm rifle scope and loaded with 165-grain Hornady SST Ballistic Tip bullets. Larry also used Redfield Rebel 10x42 field glasses.

Evaluation of Support: "Andrew Harvey and his men are very knowledgeable, extremely reliable, highly competent, and skilled professionals."

Personal Highlights: "I hunted 5 animals in 8 days with a 100% success rate. This was my brother's and my first trip to Africa and because of Andrew, it will

not be our last. All ten of the animals my brother and I took were well above average trophies."

Comments on Performance of the Guide: "Andrew provided a well organized, comfortable, and safe hunt. We never once felt out of place, worried, or that there wasn't a plan to get us the trophies we desired. From the time we were picked up at the airport until the time he dropped us off, there were no issues or delays.

We hunted on 5 different ranches and preserves. Superb accommodations and gourmet meals made this a world-class hunting/vacation experience. I have hunted in Michigan, Alberta, and Northern Quebec. This African Hunt was by far the best experience."

Cost of hunt: \$10,000. (Air fare and Taxidermy included)



Larry Storinsky and his Blesbuck taken on May 12, 2011 near Graaff-Reinet with a total score of 47 1/8.



Larry Storinsky and his Cape Springbuck taken on May 13, 2011 near Graaff-Reinet in the Eastern Cape with total score of 34 6/8.





Andrew, Larry, and Peter with Impala taken on May 14, 2011 near Port Alfred in the Eastern Cape.

▶▶▶
Larry Storinsky and his Cape Bushbuck taken on May 15, 2011 near Port Alfred in the Eastern Cape with total score of 37 2/8.



Larry Storinsky and his Duiker taken on May 17, 2011 near Paterson in the Eastern Cape with total score of 14 2/16.



SCI

FIRST FOR HUNTERS

Novi Michigan Chapter

BIG **Buck Night**

When: March 15, 2012

Where: Leo's Sports Bar and Grill (lower level)
40380 Grand River Ave. Novi, MI 48167

Time: 5:00 p.m.-Registration & Measuring of Deer
7:00 p.m.-Dinner | 8:00p.m.-Awards Program

Cost: \$20.00-\$10.00 for kids 10 and under

Awards:

Largest deer in each of the following categories (S.C.I. scoring system):

Rifle Hunter	Bow Hunter	Shotgun Hunter	Women Hunter Estate/	Out-of-State
Handgun Hunter	Junior (17 and un-	Muzzleloader Hunter	High Fence	

Firearm Grand Drawing: Each person entering a buck will be given one ticket for a drawing on the grand prize of a Deer Rifle. No tickets will be sold, only one ticket issued per deer entered.

Rules for Entry:

1. All deer entered, except those in the Out-of State or Estate categories, must be Michigan deer legally taken during the 2011 season.
2. All deer entered, except those in the Estate category, must have been free ranging.
3. Taken legally between September 1, 2011-January 31, 2012.
4. Must be a member of junior member of the Novi Chapter-Safari Club International (new members gladly accepted at registration of deer that evening). Membership costs: \$100.00, Youth Member: \$15.00
5. Antlers and hunter must be present to win award or rifle. Antlers may be in any condition, i.e. finished shoulder mounted, mounted on a plaque, or just fleshed out rack and skull plate (boiled clean). To show respect for the dignity an majesty of the animal taken, smelly or bloody racks will not be accepted.
6. May enter only deer personally shot.

R.S.V.P. reservations early to Jon Munger (234) 770.4991 by March 10th



Wyoming Whitetails

With Kretchman Outfitters

By Nick Leon



This hunt started back in the winter of 2004. We had just returned from SE Montana that was a 22 hour ride and great memories of harvesting a Powder River Mule deer. It was a week that made me want more. I thought, "To drive all that way and only stay a week". So I looked at Wyoming, a few hours south. Wyoming fish and game supplied me with land owners list and the phone numbers. My phone bill rose like the Mississippi on a warm winter's day! Karen and I found ourselves flying out in the Spring to Turkey hunt and scout several Ranches. Hunting was slow and scouting ranches on the North Platte led us north. On the last day there was one ranch left. It was an easy decision once you had seen the PeeGee. Known for silt, in the Powder River, they pull water from Clear Creek, straight from the Big Horns, which is the last pivot in the valley. It keeps the alfalfa green and herd of deer healthy in the fall and winter. If I had children, I'd sure like to have Kelbys DNA, for his children's shooting ability. Kelbys son Clancy likes his Mule deer hunting. But his daughter Shayna likes the White-tails.



Watch the hunt now!
Take a picture with your smartphone.





deer were bedded in an old cut field. We had 10 foot dikes on 3 sides. We left his vision for only minutes and decided to creep up over and catch him in his bed. Our stalk went easy, considering there was hundreds of eyes in the field. Kelby glassed the field and our big boy was gone. In the short time we left he vanished into thin air. It took us a while to locate our target. He was on a hot doe and running her like there was no tomorrow. I guess he was right. They had made their way back to the cut field. We stayed way down wind in the field and decided to wait for our deer to stand and give me a shot. Soon it became apparent that he was content to bed down. Kelby suggested blowing a coyote call. He soon arrived back from the truck with his back pack

to shoot off a coyote call. Once I was locked on my target, Kelby let the calling begin. Every deer had their ears up. They all stood, except the big guy. With another squeal he got up. Deer ran everywhere. As he quartered to me I let the round go. He was hit hard but never hit the ground. After another round the great beast soon reached his demise. I've seen a lot of guys scream, shout and laugh after harvesting a great deer. Although I was overjoyed, I felt remorse. I stroked its coat and admired its greatness. I also prayed he had plenty of time to pass on his genes.

“Although I was overjoyed, I felt remorse. I stroked its coat and admired its greatness.”

Karen and I have enjoyed many great hunts with Kelby. We managed 5 trips in the last 7 years and always harvested a great representative.

Before you knew it, it was the Fall of 2011. Karen and I planned for our migration west, but they all came to a quick end when our dog sitter became ill. Karen decided to stay home. What a trooper you're thinking, but you don't see me holding horns last year. So I decided to fly last minute. Thanks to a friend, he had me in Rapid City early the day before and I arrived at the ranch by noon. I settled in and went to the bench. After 4 rounds down range, my 300 win mag was dialed in. Kelby and I glassed several great deer. I got a glance at a deer in the 170 class. But this big stud had a date. He trailed hot does and vanished in the cotton woods, never to be seen again. I video taped a great deer, a few hours later. Who would have known he was my target the next day? Darkness came quick and soon we called it quits, for the day. After a shower, a hot meal and back to my bed. The next day began like every day I've ever had on the PeeGee. Juice, coffee and breakfast fit for a King. We got back to glassing and scouting the ranch. Our



ATTENTION NOVI CHAPTER MEMBERS

21ST Annual Awards Banquet

**THE TIME IS HERE AGAIN! WE NEED YOUR RECORD BOOK ENTRIES!
Our Annual Awards program is just around the corner on June 21, 2012.**

Start sending entries to:

Jon B. Munger
7152 Gateway Park Drive
Clarkston, MI 48346

All entries must be received by May 15, 2012.

Entries must be submitted on current SCI score sheets.

They must meet the minimum score requirements.

The cost is \$6.00 per entry (record book entry only). Beginning this year, each entrant will be provided with an Award Certificate commemorating their trophy.

Entrants may also choose to purchase a customized Medallion Award plaque for \$40 each, which includes the record book entry fee. Plaques will contain the information regarding each trophy, will bear the appropriate Gold, Silver or Bronze Medallion and Chapter logo, and will be presented at the Annual Awards meeting. Please call with any questions – (248) 770-4991.

All new members are given 1 year to transfer trophy entries from other record books to the Novi book for only \$1 per entry.

Entries will only be accepted if the hunter was a member of Safari Club International at the time that the animal was harvested!

Please save the date of June 21st, 2012 for the Annual Awards meeting! We look forward to a great turnout, and many new record book entries. The event will once again be sponsored, and there is no charge to attend.

For the first time this year, we will be asking members to bring in mounts of their best trophies harvested in 2010 or 2011. Awards will be presented for the best trophy in each of the following categories: North American, North American Introduced, African, European, South American, Archery, Muzzleloader, and a People's Choice Award, to be voted on by members attending the meeting. Please come down and check out the display of animals harvested by our members!

Event sponsored by Munger & Associates, PLLC

All trophy awards except People's Choice Award will be determined by reference to Safari Club International's record book, and will be awarded to the entry which ranks highest within its record book category, or which would rank highest if entered into the record book. In the event of a tie, decision of Record Book Committee will decide the winner.





Dreadnaught Courtly

By John Searles

“How was your deer hunting John?” I was having a cocktail at Flint’s University Club with some friends, waiting for my wife, Sandy, to join me for dinner. My response was not positive! Like most of us, the November rifle deer season was the focal point of Michigan’s myriad of a score of hunting experiences. Ours had been less than exemplary!

Back then, in 1970, deer herds had greatly diminished due to over-harvesting, icy winters and a reduction in timber harvesting. My hunting friends and I were at the mercy of property owners in upper Michigan who would grant us permission to access their deer woods or the state and federal lands where the vast majority of down-state hunters plied their craft. As the bar-room chat unfolded, I explained the frustrations of previous years of declining quality by our group of nimrods. I concluded with the remark that unless we could purchase a suitable deer hunting area, I wouldn’t

be involved again! By pure blind luck one of the cocktailers smiled and announced that he knew of a 160 acre parcel in mid-Michigan that might be available! Needless to say, all eyes were on him. It seemed that a small group of local investors had purchased the quarter-section of land on the speculation that Dow Chemical Corporation was quietly looking at options northwest of Midland for an impoundment on the Salt River to assure they could create a “cooling pond” that they were going to construct. Local adversaries however, were dead set against the project and Dow concluded that the plan was unworkable. For a reasonable cost, the investor group was willing to dicker on a price. I quickly contacted five of my hunting friends, got a commitment from each to pursue a negotiable contract and was granted a five year land contract at an affordable interest rate and plunged into the fray! Bear in mind that our “lady friends” raised some

serious questions about our “investment”! The first set-back was our assessments of the deer herd locally! After trudging the entire area and talking with the local property owners about sightings of deer, was sobering to say the least! There was not a single track to be found on old February snow.

A taciturn neighbor next door said “the deer would have to be giraffes to feed twenty feet up in those trees!” Well ... our first order of business was to contract a timber harvest- a tough job in early 1971 with lumber and pulp markets greatly reduced! It took two years plus to locate anyone interested in a tree harvest. Finally I was lucky enough to contact Mr. Harry Morey, the president of Morbark Industries in Isabella County where our parcel is located. He had been designing a “total tree” harvesting method which required vast amounts of pulp wood (aspen, birch and soft maple trees) to make a profit.

Harry’s “timber cruiser” informed us that to make us a contract, we would have to cut nearly 80% of the standing timber on our 160 acres-leaving conifers and oakhickory-beech trees alone. The six of us “gulped” at his pronouncement. .. but signed the contract. After all, we were loaded with trees ... and not loaded with deer!

The first deer season, in November of 1971, (where I killed the only buck out of eight hunters!) convinced us that cutting was the only option. Furthermore, the pulp

revenues, some \$6,000 in total, allowed us to build a pretty spring-fed trout

pond and improve some needed road work. Our first winter harvest produced a “golf course” appearance to the property ... a real shock to the members! What had we done?! But the spring weather produced an incredible flush of new growth reassuring us of our commitments! By our third hunting season, in 1973, we killed three bucks- and missed three others! The real surprise was two-fold ... our burgeoning woodlands attracted not only more deer, but many more

grouse and woodcock- music to our ears for the few of us who were avid scatter-gunners! The deer season of 1975 produced seven bucks- for nine hunters! Our efforts (and monthly land contract fees!) had come to fruition . . . in spades! There was more good news. In 1976, we were contacted by an oil broker who

offered us a five year lease for a nice sum. The area around Mount Pleasant has been the “oil capital” of Michigan for many years and the “Niagaran Reef” was located in our

area. The six members agreed that the oil lease revenues should be allocated for any more land that became available adjacent to us. Shortly after the lease monies arrived, an 80 acres parcel came up for sale ... and it contained a usable mobile home with power and well! Needless to say, we couldn’t

write the check quickly enough! Because this eighty acre area had been used for cattle with the resulting “cropped look”- we induced the nearby farmer to relocate the herd and shared his property line job of stringing barbed wire to allow the vegetation to re-grow. Life is good!

By selling timber off the new 80 acres we entered into yet another land contract on the adjacent property next door- which included all mineral sights. It didn’t take long for us to secure another oil lease which added to the “kitty” for improvements and additional acreage. Our deer harvesting increased in 1982 with the DNR’s move to a “Second Buck Law”. We had several of the





members and guests immediately take up bow hunting, which enhanced the entire fall period! We have always been asked, “Where did the name ‘Dreadnaught Club’ originate?” When my longtime hunting partner, Chris Gutscher, and I were hunting and fishing around the country, I carried an axe, a cruiser style, for pounding tent stakes, cutting firewood and quartering game. Stamped on the handle was “Dreadnaught”, an old British phrase for “go without fear”. Turn-of-the-century gatling guns and ancient battle ships were also so named. When we incorporated the hunt club in 1971, we chose the name ... and it has been so, for now forty one years. As the years passed, four of the original members have retired, moved away, or have passed away. Today only “uncle Chris” and scribe hold forth at the “Dreadnaught Club” as full members. However, six other “associate members”, dear friends and adult children carry on the great traditions of “Deer Camp”; and “turkey camp”, “grouse camp”, “fish camp” and whatever delights that take them! For all you Novi-SCI members, the current decline in northern Michigan’s wildlife property costs can open the door for achieving very similar goals. What started out in a “Club Bar” chat come forty one years ago, based on very negative mutterings of a dreary deer season has produced, to date, 404 whitetail deer, 73 turkey gobblers and the joys of sharing a thousand memories of “Dreadnaught Country” with the myriad of special friends and families that call this 400 acre club ... “magic”!



WHAT'S

COOKING

Venison Stew

Ingredients

- 4 large venison steaks cubed, or desired cut
- 1-2 onions
- 1 bag of baby carrots
- 1 can corn
- Mushrooms canned (or fresh)
- 4-6 large potatoes chopped
- 3-4 stalks of celery chopped
- 1 can of tomato sauce
- 1 can of stewed tomatoes
- Tablespoon of garlic
- Seasoning of your choice

Instructions

Brown the venison cubes with onion and garlic. Once the venison is browned add the potatoes, carrots, mushroom, corn, celery, stewed tomatoes, tomato sauce and seasonings. Bring to a boil, stir and simmer. Once vegetables are soft, serve and eat.



Southern Michigan Black Bear Project

SCI Novi Chapter is an active member of the Michigan Involvement Committee (MIC). SCI member and past president Bob Taylor is the current president of the MIC. Along with other SCI Michigan Chapters we support graduate students who study wildlife in the State of Michigan. One of the projects we support is the Southern Michigan Black Bear Project. This project is only one of the few ways that SCI supports Michigan wildlife and supports hunting in Michigan. Without your participation and support these programs would not be possible. Below is a description of our Black Bear Project. We currently have black bears extending to our southern border.

Black bears are an important species in Michigan providing many values, including ecological, social and economic. Bear populations are increasing in Michigan and more dispersing bears are entering agricultural regions of southern Michigan, resulting in increased bear-vehicle collisions, and increased conflicts with agriculturalists and the general public. Through surveys, we know that humans in southern Michigan are less tolerant of bears than northern Michigan residents and are more likely to seek action from the Department when encountering bears. However, seventy-percent of residents in southern Michigan desired at least some level of bears present.

Managing bears involves balancing healthy bear populations that provide both viewing and hunting opportunities for the public against excessive human-bear conflicts. Management of bears in southern Michigan requires information on the ecology and movement patterns of bears outside of the traditional northern range. These factors are likely a function of the fragmented agricultural habitats and increased access to human related foods and agricultural crops. Unfortunately there is very little scientific information on bear dispersal, density, and habitat influences in the southern range that the DNR can use to develop a proactive management strategy for bears in southern Michigan. We propose to outfit as many bears as possible (with a goal of 12 bears total) with GPS tracking collars to characterize the movements and habitat use of bears in southern Michigan (generally south of a line from Muskegon to Bay City). We will trap bears in areas of frequent reports of sightings during summer. Year-

lings denned with their radio-collared mothers will be outfitted with GPS collars programmed to begin collecting fixes upon emergence in the spring. Collars will be programmed to record regular fixes until denning the following winter. Collars (and stored data) will be recovered from bears once they enter hibernation. In addition to GPS electronics, each collar will carry a conventional VHF beacon to assist in the location of winter den sites and to provide verification that the animal is alive and active between collar attachment and retrieval.

Data collected from GPS collars will provide important information for formulating a management strategy for southern Michigan bears including:

1. Quantifying use of the landscape (home ranges, foraging patterns, dispersal distances) by bears
2. An estimate of the distribution of denning dates
3. An estimate of litter sizes and cub survival
4. Identification of key characteristics of travel corridors used by bears
5. Verification of predictive spatial model(s)
6. An estimation of bear distribution.

Partners: Safari Club International-MIC, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Timeline and Budget: This project was initiated in the spring of 2010 by collaring once female (with cubs) and one male in dens in Oceana County. We collared four more bears (1 female, 3 males) in 2011. Both females slipped their collars, yet we continue to receive updates on their locations. Two young males (1 from Whitehall and 1 from Merrill, MI) made long distance movements (>100 miles) north and were legally harvested in September. Trapping efforts will intensify in spring 2012 and we intend to use SCI-MIC funds for refurbishing GPS collars as they are retrieved from bears. This is a multi-state effort in collaboration with Wisconsin; They are also experiencing a southward expansion of the bear population. Total project costs are likely to exceed \$100,000 during the next five years.

Dave Sturtz

SCI Christmas Trophy Gallery



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