

*Safari Club International
Central Washington Chapter
Winter 2018*



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Dave Leitch, Dustin Melius & Nate Craig on the Columbia.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The hardest part of writing newsletters, for me, is where to start. Once started, everything seems to flow more easily. We have had a lot taking place since the last newsletter, including the (mostly) successful second Pronghorn transplant from Nevada to Washington, our annual banquet, another hunting season and the SCI Convention. And, to complete the circle, we just received the first quarterly report on the Pronghorn that were brought in last October. So, let's start with the Pronghorn!

On October 26, 2017, the Yakama Nation, assisted by Shikar and Washington State Chapters of SCI, captured and translocated 52 Pronghorn from Nevada to Yakama Tribal Land. This translocation was in addition to the 99 animals that we helped bring back in 2011. Seven years ago, we used VHF collars on some animals to help track them and gather data. Those old-technology collars, while better than nothing, presented issues from the start. This time, 30 adult females were collared, one with a leftover VHF unit and the rest with state of the art GPS collars. From November 1, 2017, until January 18, 2018, those GPS collars delivered 4,906 locations! As we hoped, some of the GPS collared Pronghorn have joined up with animals that were already here and allowed visual counting of 5 herds on just one day in January, with 117 total animals. As GPS collared animals continue to disperse and join up with additional herds, we will finally be able to get a more accurate picture of the movements and numbers of our Pronghorn and I firmly believe that the total numbers will be much higher than our counts in the past. They are still on winter ranges but will be dispersing very shortly as spring approaches. The February 2018 issue of Yakima Valley-Living the Good Life magazine, has an article starting on page 6 concerning reintroductions of Pronghorn, starting back in the 1930's. It's a good article but the numbers shown from both recent counts in 2015 and 2017 are, in my opinion, very much on the low side. I personally participated in both of those counts

and can confidently tell you that there were many animals that we could not find and count due to circumstances, including bad weather. We are hopeful that these new collars will help correct that situation since many of our “prairie ghosts” are now being tracked by satellite. The Colville Tribe also captured 100 Pronghorn last October to supplement the original 52 or so that they translocated to their lands a couple of years ago. In any case, there are now enough Pronghorn on the ground, within the borders of Washington State, to give them a fighting chance for survival after the failed attempts in the 30’s, 50’s and late 60’s. I stated above, that our latest translocation was only “mostly” successful, because we had approval for 100 Pronghorn, but were only able to bring back 52 due to some issues. The Yakamas still have approval at this time for the additional 48, which may or may not happen in the future. We will keep you posted on this great project.

We had a successful annual banquet in December and raised enough money to help us continue working for hunters, wildlife and conservation education throughout the coming year. If you were there, you know that everyone had a great time and feedback thus far shows that our program was well received. If you did not attend, then please plan to join us later this year on December 8, 2018, so you can join in the fun and help support a great cause. Interestingly, we were able to raise more money than in the past few years even though our overall attendance was slightly lower. Also, we saw many new attendees that we had not seen before and we are excited about that new exposure. We will continue to build upon the successful program we presented in December, plus add a few more ideas that will hopefully add to our attendance and also increase the fun quotient once the evening begins. Since we were able to raise our income even with lower attendance, it is obvious that we need to place emphasis on increasing attendance at the next event to make it even more successful. Simply put, we need your support! More advertising and a community awareness of the event will certainly help and your BOD is always open to any ideas that might contribute to your future attendance and willingness to contribute to the cause.

The 2017-18 hunting season is now pretty much behind us. I hope you all had a rewarding season, whether you harvested your quarry or not. I am sorry to report that, after two very successful elk seasons the previous two years, I was unable to fill my coveted special Bull tag in the Bethel area. It was not for lack of time or effort and I suppose I should feel a little better in that I only saw two bulls, both spikes, that were taken in my area, where I normally see several harvested bulls. However, at my age, there is little solace in having to eat a tag that I may never be able to draw or use again. Maybe if I take really good care of myself and my joints hold up, I may get to try it again. Even if the big bulls are safe for now, I should be able to get another spike or three into my freezer before I have to call it a day. This warm winter weather may not have made for the greatest big game season; however the waterfowl season was something else. I think the ponds, sloughs and lakes were frozen over for only about two weeks before thawing out and there were lots of birds, especially geese, in the latter part of the season due to the open waterways. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh, but it’s all good.

You might have read that the Director of WDFW, Jim Unsworth, has retired and an interim Director, Joe Stohr has been appointed along with a Deputy Director, Amy Windrope. Unlike the outgoing Director, Joe Stohr’s background is not in wildlife but, rather, in the Health Dept. and Dept. of Ecology. He is just an interim Director thus far, so we will see who gets the nod for the permanent position. The new Deputy Director, Amy Windrope, is not a friend of hunters from what I have read. She seems much more involved in fishery issues and is currently involved in a very controversial project at the Shillapoo Wildlife Area where an area developed for migrating waterfowl is possibly going to be destroyed in order to restore salmon habitat. There is much more to this issue than meets the eye, since the area is heavily used by waterfowl hunters and was developed using Pittman-Robertson funds and the issue is further clouded by the fact that Bonneville Power (BPA) is involved and may get salmon mitigation credits for converting the area from its current profile to one that

favors fish. We are represented in this issue by our participation in WWC and HHC. Repurposing an area that was developed by Pittman- Robertson funds is a very dangerous precedent for hunters and should not be allowed to happen.

As you read this, another SCI Convention in Las Vegas will have come and gone. Next year, the Convention moves back to Reno for three years until returning to Las Vegas for the big anniversary event in 2022. If you are not a Las Vegas fan, here is your chance to attend an SCI Convention that is actually within reasonable driving distance from this area. And please, once again, put December 8, 2018 on your calendars right now and plan to attend our local SCI CWC banquet in Yakima.



Best Wishes,

Doug Barrett, President, SCI CWC

Douglas H. Barrett



Pictured is CWC member Deb Barrett hunting with her 14 year old grandson, Wiley, during the 2017 Washington elk season. Carrying on the legacy and walking the talk.



CWC President Doug Barrett hunting elk with his 15-year-old grandson, Joshua, during the 2017 Washington elk season. Hunting out of a traditional tent camp. Take those kids hunting and fishing!



The early bird gets the worm... ..or some extra room in your closets and cupboards!

It's not too early to think about what you may like to donate to the SCI-CWC Annual Fundraiser & Banquet, Saturday, December 8th at the Yakima Convention Center. Gift certificates, hunts, fishing trips, silent auction items, homemade items, etc. are always greatly appreciated. Be creative! As you are beginning your spring cleaning and discover those quality items you have never used, set them aside for our Fundraiser. If you have something to donate please fill out the form below and email it to centralwachaptersci@gmail.com or call 509-877-3260.



SCI Central Washington Chapter Donation

Non-Hunt Donor Form

Description of Item:

Value: \$

Name:

Company Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip Code:

Phone:

Email Address:

Signature:

Date:

Received By:

Date:

Phone:

Please mail your form to SCI-CWC, P.O. Box 159, Wapato, WA 98951 or email it to centralwachaptersci@gmail.com.

Sportsmen vs. Sportsmen



In my travels as your SCI Regional Representative, I meet and talk with a lot of people throughout the hunting, fishing and shooting communities, as well as legislators and various state agency personnel. Seemingly everyone has their own unique preferences for how they pursue their favorite outdoor activities and interests.

Some fishermen prefer carefully casting a hand-made dry-fly over rising trout in crystal clear streams and rivers, while others prefer chucking weighted bait or hard-tackle into the murky abyss of rivers, lakes and oceans for whatever might strike.

Then, there are hunters that make use of everything from traditional bows and arrows they've handcrafted from local materials in their back yards to stalk as close as possible to their intended prey, while others employ the most technologically advanced rifle systems on the planet to take game at extreme ranges.

Not only are sportsmen's interests and tools widely divergent, so too are their opinions on how it should be done and what constitutes the ethical pursuit and harvest of fish and game. Most politely keep their opinions to themselves, but others engage in outwardly hostile and antagonistic behavior towards other others that don't share their own arbitrary and narrowly defined viewpoints.

Unfortunately, all too often these petty differences of opinion obnoxiously spill over into the public domain and fragment our common bonds. Opportunistic anti-hunters observe them and go into a piranha-like feeding frenzy whenever they get a chance. The anti's love nothing more than helping drive divisive wedges between us. Simply put...we can be our own worst enemies.

Fortunately, we can also be our own best friends!

There isn't a more powerful body of constituents when sportsmen (and sportswomen!) set aside our relatively minor differences and unify around common pro-gun, pro-hunting and pro-fish-and-wildlife conservation efforts. There's a lot of us and we contribute significantly to local, state and national economies. Furthermore, it helps that we have Constitutionally protected rights, indisputable science and common sense on our side.

When we are unified and organized, legislators and agencies take notice...and usually fall in line.

Many hands make light work. The next time you receive an e-mail to volunteer for a local conservation effort, put it on your calendar and show up and donate some sweat equity. If an e-mail asks you to reach out and encourage (*or hammer!*) a legislator about a particular piece of legislation, take a moment out of your day to help exercise our unified influence by calling or writing them. When asked for some financial help for conservation, humanitarian, education or legislative efforts, please open your checkbook and contribute what you can as often as you can.

And finally...invite others into our way of life and circle of influence. There is strength in numbers!

Best regards,

Allen R. Ernst
Region 1 Representative

Recipes

KaLora's Recipe Corner

Taco Meat

- 1 pound ground meat (your choice)
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced or pressed
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- ½ teaspoon oregano leaves
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- ¼ teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon pepper



Brown ground meat with onion and garlic over medium high heat. Stir in chili powder, oregano, paprika, cumin, and pepper. Add 1 small can tomato sauce and 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce. Cook until sauce thickens and begins to crisp onto meat.

Serve with soft tortilla shells and your favorite taco fixings.

Oopsie! Eddie the Elk has done it again! Lost somewhere within the Newsletter is Eddie's missing shed. Quick, help him find it before the other one falls off!!!



Antelope Update

Hello all,

Just an quick update on the happenings in Nevada.

We were able to bring back 52 pronghorn on Wednesday, October 25th. Unfortunately, as plans changed in Nevada, the drug used to sedate the antelope was left in short supply and we were unable to continue on to 100. However, the first day's capture was a success and we were able to put 29 of the 32 GPS collars on adult female pronghorn. The NDOW and quicksilver staff were very complimentary of our efforts, including our SCI volunteers and their ability to fill in as needed. They are eager to get us back at the earliest opportunity to catch more in the future, although it is still unclear how soon that will be.

The release of the pronghorn went smoothly, although we did loose one fawn out of the 52. All other pronghorn left the trailers in stride and were looking good. We will be completing a brief report to NDOW Biologist Matt Jeffress and Veterinarian Dr. Peregrine Wolfe regarding the release and another regarding the 2 weeks following the release, as this is a critical time period for the survival of the animals. Please stay tuned for those updates.

We will be working with WDFW staff to monitor these animals on and off the reservation and hope to use the new information to get a more accurate estimation of the number of pronghorn in WA before this time next year.

We at the Yakama Nation Wildlife Program have enjoyed the cooperation and funding support of the various SCI chapters and are very thankful for this partnership. We will be in contact with you soon to coordinate future needs and translocations. Thanks again!

David Blodgett III
Wildlife Biologist

Yakama Nation Wildlife Resource Management



The Hunt is On!

SCI-CWC member Jake Fife's Archery harvest from this year in Central WA. He harvested it on September 10th after hunting him for 10 days. He had been scouting him for 3 weeks prior to when his hunt started. It was a 40 yard broadside shot, and his gross score is 233" and net score is 229". It is currently the New Archery Non-Typical state record! (100% fair chase, harvested on public land)

My girlfriend got her first buck ever on October 20th in Central Washington with a general rifle tag on public land! She got it with a 125 yard shot broadside. It scores 170".



Youth Outdoors Unlimited

By Shelly Monson

Youth Outdoors Unlimited, Y.O.U., is a Washington State based (founded in Moses Lake in 2011) non-profit corporation organized to take youth diagnosed with life threatening illnesses or physical disabilities on the hunting or fishing adventure of their dreams!

On March 7th, 2016, Chris and I were invited by our friends, Mike and Wendy Sandmann, to attend a banquet with them in Moses Lake benefiting a local organization called Youth Outdoors Unlimited, or Y.O.U. We knew that Mike was on the board and helped to guide disabled kids on hunting trips that this organization supported. We drove to Moses Lake that afternoon with our friends Ken & Shelly Borello who were also attending. We were all excited for the event and to find out more about Y.O.U. Little did we all know how much attending the banquet this night would change our lives!

When we walked into the venue, we saw games, raffles and auction tables that were being run by the youth who had been or were going on an adventure sponsored by Y.O.U. It was so refreshing to see them in action and to get a better grasp of their illness/disability.

Also on display, were a rifle and a wheelchair, both outfitted with adaptive equipment for use on adventures. The wheelchair was outfitted with tracks to cover more rugged terrain and the rifle was outfitted with a bite tube for firing the gun with the bite and a monitor to see the target enlarged through the scope.



By the
end of



the evening and after meeting and spending time with the Martin Family from Zillah, I befriended TJ (mom) and we made a pact to start a fundraiser banquet in Yakima. Drake Martin (son), life of the party and one of the youth participating with Y.O.U., stole our hearts. Drake has successfully hunted and fished with Y.O.U. and today now accompanies hunters and fishers on trips donated for auction at the banquets and is instrumental in helping encourage banquet attendees to bid on, or purchase, that special item to raise money for the kids!



Chris and Shelly Monson with Drake Martin to the sponsors, donors and attendees who all contributed so much!

Y.O.U. provides children and teens with physical disabilities, life-threatening or debilitating illnesses with a hunting or fishing adventure. Each adventure is fully funded, guided and videotaped. Before their adventure, the kids go shopping to purchase the proper clothing and equipment, which is all provided by Y.O.U. Landowners donate the use of their property, guides donate their services, outfitters and businesses donate items and taxidermists donate their time to mount the trophy. Each youth is presented with their taxidermy at a fundraiser banquet. Banquets are now held in 5 cities in Washington; Moses Lake, Tri-Cities, Spokane, Olympia and Yakima.

Yakima held their first successful banquet on March 5th, 2017, with many thanks

Yakima's 2nd annual Y.O.U. fundraiser banquet will be held on Saturday, April 28th, 2018 at the Yakima Red





Lion Hotel. If you would like to be a sponsor, donate to the event, or for tickets and more information, please contact Shelly Monson at [509-941-9000/](tel:509-941-9000)shellym@monsonfruit.com -or- TJ Martin at [509-952-8418/kidsndogs11@gmail.com](tel:509-952-8418).

Visit www.youthoutdoorsu.org for more information and to keep current with their events.



SCI CWC member Marco Yolo with his bull moose taken on October, 2, 2017 in Northeast Washington. After almost 20 years of applying for the permit, Marco drew a coveted "Any Moose" permit for the Selkirk Unit, with a season of Oct 1-Nov 30. In two days of hunting he saw 9 moose, consisting of 2 bulls, 1 bull calf, and 6 cows. On day two he decided to take the big bull he had also seen from a distance on day one, which measured over 40".

Congratulations on a great hunt!



Jason Rainer's son, Jacob and nephew Trent, bass fishing in Priest Lake, ID.



Brian Lund trying to keep up with his dad, Loren.
(Below) Loren enjoying a warm lunch during a storm.



Steve Simon's 4x4, Near Ford, WA
Steve hunted with Steve Hanning,
Guide/Owner of Birds, Bucks & Ducks



Mitch Rholf's deer he shot in November in Bickleton with his muzzleloader.
(Right)
Mitch Rholf's grandson Nick Brulotte on a recent chukar hunt. (Left)



Here are a few shots from Hammond Ranch which shares a boundary with Save Valley Conservancy in East central Zimbabwe. I would highly recommend this location and plan to return in 2019. Great buff' and plains game. Plenty of leopard and lion. Pieter was my PH and good friend. I



hunted with my son John.
Contact Jack Atcheson and Sons or Nyerezi Safaris. Request Pieter or Courtney as PH.
Regards,
Randel S Bunch, MD



Allen R. Ernst President, Wealth Manager



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