

**Central
Wyoming
Chapter**



CENTRAL WYOMING CHAPTER

SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL

September 2008

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Number 5

Next Meeting : When : Thursday, September 4, 2008 at 6:30 PM
Where : Casper Petroleum Club

Presentation : Craig Acres, E. District Supervisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture/APHIS predator control program will give a PowerPoint presentation on predator control in Wyoming.

Agenda :

- 1) Welcome members and visitors.
- 2) President's remarks.
- 3) Chapter business.
- 4) Presentation.

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 2, 2008. Speaker to be announced in the October newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I spent three days last week in Jackson attending various SCI committee meetings. The meetings were attended by chapter presidents from across the country along with SCI staff members, the Executive Committee (EC), and standing committee chairmen. The meetings provided an invaluable insight into the mission of SCI, the progress being made in the fight to preserve our hunting rights, and the dedication of the volunteers who hold positions of responsibility within the organization.



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More importantly, these meetings gave me a chance to see and hear, first-hand, what SCI is doing at both the national and international levels to protect and preserve our hunting heritage, promote wildlife conservation, and provide humanitarian aid to those in need.

On Thursday afternoon, we had a presentation from the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) regarding “The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports”. Nationally, there is a steadily declining trend in hunting participation as measured in absolute numbers as well as a percentage of the overall U.S. population. There are a number of factors at play here, not the least of which is the continuing urbanization of rural America.

The bottom line here is that fewer people are being recruited into the hunting “fraternity” and exposure of our children to the outdoors is declining. Those individuals who develop (grow-up) in an urban setting and are not introduced to the outdoors and hunting often develop misconceptions about wildlife conservation and the sustainable use of our wildlife resource. More often than not, these misconceptions are being taught to urban children in our schools by teachers with anti-hunting sentiments, either through ignorance or by design. In this regard, SCI attempts to educate teachers through the AWLS (American Wilderness Leadership School) program, which conducts a number of educational classes each summer at various AWLS facilities around the country. These classes are generally structured to take teachers who have little or no outdoor experience and give them some basic education on conservation issues and the role of man in our environment - which they take back to the classroom. This past summer, the Central Wyoming Chapter sponsored Meredith Widiker at the Granite Creek AWLS facility - a copy of her letter is attached and makes for very interesting reading.

Another aspect of the meetings which I found quite interesting was a synopsis of the litigation that SCI is currently involved in across the country. I have attached a copy of the “August 2008 Update on Litigation and Regulatory Matters” for your information. This update gives you some idea of the ongoing and potential litigation that SCI is pursuing on behalf of hunters nationwide.

RIFLE RAFFLE

As you know, the Central Wyoming Chapter began our 2007/2008 raffle for the custom 338 Remington Ultra Magnum (RUM) rifle at the September 2007 meeting. The 338 RUM was built by Chapter Member Roger M. Green on a new Winchester Model 70 action donated by Chapter Member James O’Neill and features a Pac-Nor Fluted Barrel and McMillan fiberglass stock. Our thanks go out once again to Roger Green and James O’Neill for their continued support of the Central Wyoming Chapter.

The drawing for the rifle will be held at the meeting on September and we ask that all outstanding tickets and monies be surrendered prior to the meeting so that we may conclude the raffle and draw a winner.

2009 WHITE ELEPHANT BAR-B-QUE

The seventh annual White Elephant Bar-B-Que is schedule for Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Best Western Ramkota Inn. We have already reserved the space, so you should mark your calendars accordingly. Also, if you have an interest in helping with the event in 2009, please contact Bob Anderson at 307-473-1268.

AUCTION OF 2009 CONVENTION REGISTRATIONS

As a reward for our 2008 membership recruiting efforts to date, Safari Club International has awarded the Central Wyoming Chapter with two classic registration packages for the upcoming 2009 SCI Convention, which will be held once again in Reno, Nevada from January 21 through January 24, 2009. These classic registration packages normally cost \$250 each and provide full access to the convention exhibits for all four days (Wednesday through Saturday). We will be auctioning these registration packages to the highest bidder(s) at the September meeting, so you should plan on attending if you are interested in bidding on one or both of these registration packages.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership as of August 16, 2008 stands at 135 active members, with an additional 3 active SCI members whose chapter membership has recently expired recently and 46 members who have allowed both their SCI and Chapter memberships to lapse. If you have any questions concerning the current status of your membership, please contact Bob Anderson at 307-473-1268.

Nationally, membership in SCI increased approximately 3% between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008 from 52,740 to 54,330 members. During this period, 14,494 new members were added and 12,904 members were lost for a net gain of 1,590 members. The current demographics of SCI show a membership that is over the age of 50 and is aging. For whatever reason, SCI generally does not seem to appeal to the younger generation (hunters between 20 and 45 years of age). This may be due to a several factors including a pervasive perception that SCI is predominately composed of wealthy hunters (the wealthy elite) who trek to and from Africa/Asia and for whom cost is no object. SCI recognized this some time ago and subsequently changed the logo from the lion and shield to "First for Hunters"; however, this shift in the logo apparently has not yet had the overall desired effect. This may be due in part to the fact that old opinions die hard; however, I think that the perception may be perpetuated by our publications which advertise high end hunts, high end equipment, etc. - all of which are typically out of reach of the ordinary hunter. Hunters in the age class between 20 and 45 are still in the wealth building phase of their lives (e.g., buying a house, getting settled in their respective professions, raising and educating children, etc.) and they generally don't have either the time or the money to participate in "high end" hunting trips. Nevertheless, we need to find a way to recruit these folks - it's not that they don't have the desire; it's just that they just don't have the time or the money!

In the final analysis, the strength of any organization lies in it's members and we need to get the word out to our hunting friends and neighbors that they need to join SCI. The loss of our hunting rights affects ALL hunters, not just members of SCI, and the non-member needs to understand who we are and what we are really all about. Passion just doesn't always spring up over night - it takes an understanding of the issues and the realization that there is a very real threat to our hunting heritage out there. So, if you have a friend or neighbor that is not currently a member of SCI, bring them to the meeting on September 4th and introduce them to the Central Wyoming Chapter - we're really not all that bad!

SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER

Chapter Member Bill Spicer has generously agreed to chair the Sportsmen Against Hunger Committee and has already started working on getting the program organized for the rapidly approaching hunting season. If you are interested in serving on the committee and helping Bill with the program, feel free to give him a call at 307-472-2125.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to take over routine responsibilities such as editing the monthly newsletter as well as chairpersons for various committees including entertainment, fund-raising, hunter education, and membership among others. Volunteers are the backbone of any organization such as ours and we need your help to maintain our momentum. If you are interested in serving on a particular committee, please feel free to contact us.

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ADVERTISING

The Central Wyoming Chapter continues to accept paid advertising in the monthly newsletter. Whether you wish to advertise your business or have a personal item for sale, your advertisement will reach our entire membership and will help support the monthly production and mailing costs associated with the newsletter. Rates for personal advertising will be \$5.00 per item up to three lines. For business advertising, we have agreed to charge \$10.00 for a business card, \$50.00 for a full page insert, and \$10.00/column inch for any other ads. If you need additional information concerning advertising in our monthly newsletter, please contact Bob Anderson at 473-1268 or send an email to biologist@prodigy.net.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

A cash bar will be open and available during the evening for refreshments. For those of you who would like to come early and have dinner, you may order from either the bar menu (lighter fare) or from the regular dinner menu at your discretion - cash or check please for non-club members. Spouses are always welcome - be sure to bring your better half and introduce them to our chapter, some fantastic presentations, and the adventure of the great outdoors! Likewise, children are also welcome and are the future of hunting both in North America and elsewhere. We encourage you to bring your kids, introduce them to SCI and the Central Wyoming Chapter and promote our sport. As the SCI bumper sticker says: "Hunt with your kids, not for them". We encourage you to bring a friend, introduce them to Safari Club International, and help our new club continue to grow.

Annual Safari Club International dues are \$55.00 and annual Chapter Dues are \$20.00. Come join us to promote hunting, a great time and some tall tales! Bring your hunting friends - they need to be members of SCI. Pursuant to our bylaws and the bylaws of SCI, you **MUST** be a member in good standing of Safari Club International in order to be a member of the Central Wyoming Chapter. Any questions regarding the current status of your membership, please contact Bob Anderson at 473-1268.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions or require information regarding SCI, the Central Wyoming Chapter, or the contents of this newsletter, please feel free to contact one of the officers listed below:

Name	Title	Telephone
Bob Anderson	President	307-473-1268
Roger Green	Vice-President	307-473-1112
Elaine King	Secretary	307-262-3220
Gail Zimmerman	Treasurer	307-235-1173

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Safari Club Member,

I have a unique opportunity for you to help the poor and homeless in Central Wyoming AND win an incredible Buffalo Hunt and rifle!

Several local donors have provided a Buffalo Hunt Raffle to support the men, women and children in need at Central Wyoming Rescue Mission. The package valued at over \$7,000 includes:

- **An all Inclusive Guided Buffalo Hunt at Q Creek Ranch** *donated by Joe Scott Enterprises*
- **Pre-64 Winchester Model 70 338 Win. Mag. Rifle** *donated by Joe Scott Enterprises*
- **3-9 Zeiss Scope** *donated by Charlie and Jamie Shopp/ReMax The Group*
- **Winchester Gun Case, Montana Sling and Ammo** *Donated by Mark Petrie/Merrill Lynch*
- **Scope Mounting** *donated by Sportsman's Warehouse*
- **Meat Processing** *donated by Dan's Meat Processing*

I personally had the opportunity to hunt a buffalo at the Q Creek Ranch. The experience was outstanding! The sponsored buffalo is approximately two years old weighing up to 500 pounds. Looking for a trophy? Should you win you can choose to pay \$2.00 per pound over the 500 pounds for a more mature buffalo!

I encourage you to help a great cause, and have the opportunity to win this incredible hunt and rifle. Tickets are \$100 each and are available at City Service Electric, Bar-D Signs, Central Wyoming Rescue Mission, and Rescued Treasures. Or send your check payable to CWRM, P.O. Box 2030, Casper, WY 82602. Only 250 tickets will be sold and the drawing will held once all tickets are sold.

Respectfully,

Kelly Boyle
City Service Electric

NOTICE

If you have email capabilities and wish to receive the newsletter electronically, please send an email message to biologist@prodigy.net expressing your desire to be added to the electronic newsletter mailing list. Likewise, if your email address has changed recently OR if you are no longer receiving your newsletter electronically as expected, you need to advise us of your new/revised email address. If you have changed your ISP (Internet Service Provider) and have not notified us of your change of address, you will no longer receive the newsletter. In most cases, we normally do not duplicate our mailings and those members who are receiving the newsletter electronically WILL NOT receive hard copies via regular mail UNLESS we have been instructed to send a hard copy as well.

Just so you know, the mailed version of the newsletter is in black and white, while the electronic version is in color. As time goes by, we intend to start including photographs of recent members' trophies in the electronic version of the newsletter - which will generally not be available via snail mail. So you need to upgrade to the electronic version if you wish to receive the full benefits of each edition.

 **SCI FIRST FOR HUNTERS**