



# Adirondack-Catskill Chapter Safari Club International News

[www.adirondackcatskillsci.com](http://www.adirondackcatskillsci.com) "United We Stand"

Adirondack - Catskill Chapter SCI News VOLUME 7 | Issue 2; March/April 2014

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The Adirondack - Catskill Chapter SCI Newsletter is published bi-monthly

Submit your photos and articles to:  
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Submissions received by the 10th of an even month will be considered for the next issue. Article and photos submitted become the property of Adirondack-Catskill SCI.

[www.adirondackcatskillsci.com](http://www.adirondackcatskillsci.com)

## Message from Larry Steiner, Chapter President:

The Board of Directors needs your input concerning the future of the ACSCI Newsletter. Currently, we mail a printed version of the newsletter to each member and post the electronic version (PDF) on the Chapter's website. The Board is considering a proposal to eliminate the printed version and only post the electronic version on the website. Making this change would save the Chapter the annual print and postage costs of approximately \$3600.

**YOU** determine whether we should eliminate the printed/mailed version of the newsletter. Please cast your vote for or against the proposal to eliminate the mailing of the newsletter. Send an email to [steinersci@stny.rr.com](mailto:steinersci@stny.rr.com) or send a letter to Larry Steiner, PO Box 466, Otego, NY 13825. **Please vote by April 10.**

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

### March 20, 2014

7pm ACSCI Chapter Meeting at American Legion, Cold Brook, NY

### March 28-30, 2014

Big East Camping & Outdoor Sport Show, Turning Stone Casino, Verona, NY  
Contact George Franke (607-316-8869) to volunteer and help George with the ACSCI booth. Event information can be found at <http://www.bigeastshows.com>

### April 5, 2014

Annual Banquet/Fundraiser at the Holiday Inn, Oneonta , NY

Invitations were mailed to members; \$40 per person. Banquet seating is limited and pre-registration is required; send yours in early to reserve a seat. No banquet reservations at the door. Exhibits open at 11am, Registration opens at 12noon, Live Auction 3-5pm, Dinner at 6:30pm. Arrive by 2pm to be eligible for free door prize drawings. Information about the fundraiser available on the ACSCI website at [adirondackcatskillsci.com](http://adirondackcatskillsci.com) - banquet reservation form, auction items, guns for raffles, and list of participating vendors/outfitters/exhibitors.

### April 17, 2014

7pm ACSCI Chapter Meeting at Christopher's Restaurant, Oneonta, NY

### April 26-27, 2014

Annual Youth Turkey Hunt for eligible youth ages 12-15

Youth who do not have a parent or mentor to take them hunting can apply to participate in the 2nd Annual Youth Turkey Hunt sponsored by the Federated Sportsmen's Clubs of Chenango County, NYS ECO Association and Friends of the NRA. There is a mandatory Safety Day on April 19 from 9am-3pm to prepare youth for the hunt. Hunting dates are April 26 & 27. Deadline for application is April 1st - space is limited. More details on ACSCI website. To obtain an application or more information about the event, contact George Franke (607-316-8869; [george\\_franke@yahoo.com](mailto:george_franke@yahoo.com)) or Brett Armstrong (607-895-6515; [bnarmstr@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:bnarmstr@gw.dec.state.ny.us)).

## This Bear Had Swag

by Bert Scherer

Four years ago at the annual ACSI fund raiser, I met Harry Beninati. Harry, who also guides for Alaska Trophy Adventures, had a special on a last minute spring bear hunt on the Alaska Peninsula. My wife prompted me to go, knowing it had been a lifetime dream. So after checking references, I booked. After arriving at Port Heiden, I met the owners that were guiding me, Dan Montgomery (Master Guide) and his partner Loren Karro (Registered Guide). Our tent camp was right off the shore of the Bearing Sea. The weather was unforgiving especially when I shot an 8½ foot during a blizzard. After harvesting my bear, I decided to stay a few extra days and hunt wolves. Little did I know what happened next would make me decide that I had to come back. While hunting wolves, I saw a 10 foot Brown walking towards us. That's all it took .. somehow, someway, I had to come back again.

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, I headed back to Alaska for the October 1<sup>st</sup> opener. On arrival in Port Heiden, the weather changed from my last hunt. Rain instead of snow and of course the never ending wind. Dan flew us out of Port Heiden about 45 minutes south and inland of the Bearing Sea, about 5 miles landing on a lake, where my guide, Hank Flatow, a veteran bear guide known for big bear, and the other hunter, Mark, were already there setting up tents. That evening we spotted two different bears walking around the lake looking for salmon. We saw several bears during the hunt, but the wind can make or break you. On the sixth day, while glassing on a high spot, we spotted a bear coming towards us. Mark set up and as luck would have it, the wind was in our favor. Mark harvested a 9½ foot bear at 150 yards. What a great bear with great coloring.

The rain and wind were a challenge, especially with 70 mph winds that made me wonder if my tent would stay up. On the 10<sup>th</sup> day, about 11:00am while glassing I was scanning an area when I noticed a suspicious black spot ¾ mile away. With the wind I couldn't hold my glass steady to watch and the rain made me constantly wipe them. It was hard to tell if that black spot was moving, so I marked a bush to see if this suspicious spot passed by it. To my surprise, it eventually did. I knew then it was a very large bear. I told my guide that we had a bear. Hank looked in the bear's direction and said, "That's a big bear! It's the size of a Volkswagen!" As the bear walked, he was going side to side. This bear had SWAG! We watched the bear for ten minutes to see what direction he was headed. Hank said he was the slowest moving bear he had ever seen. The bear was headed in our direction but the wind was not in our favor. We figured if we could get in front of him we would have the wind to our advantage. We quickly grabbed our gear and rifles and headed east at a fast pace.

We came to a creek and decided to wait there for him. After a half hour had passed I was starting to worry that he had gone another direction. Hank told me not to worry, he would be coming, he was just walking slowly. About ten minutes later Hank said, "There he is!" The bear was at the end of the lake, about 200 yards away. He then disappeared in the high grass and headed down the other side of the creek towards us. Hank said let's move up toward him. We moved up about 75 yards and waited. Within a couple of minutes you could see his back swaying through the four foot marsh grass. At 50 yards, his head peered out and then he stepped out. He was huge! My heart was pounding and I just kept running over and over again in my head to make the first shot count and squeeze the trigger. He then turned toward us at an angle. I put the crosshairs on the right side of his chest, angling to the left side and squeezed. My 338 shooting Barnes 225 grain TTSX bullet smacked his chest. He spun around instantly taking off and I made another quick shot into him as soon as I got hair in my scope.



The bear didn't go 20 yards and was out of sight, dead in the tall grass. The first shot did him in, he just didn't know it. Hank and I high fived and anticipation overtook us. We needed to get to him, on the other side of the creek. Hank, being 6'6", started to lower himself into the water but the creek was too deep. He told me that we may be able to cross where the creek met the lake because grass was growing out of the water. When we arrived there Hank started wading across the 20 yard width and I followed. As we got close to the bank the bottom was muddy and you could feel your wader boots sinking in about six inches. As we reached the bank the water was almost over our chest waders. The bank, however, was straight up. I'm not sure how but Hank was able to pull himself up, after taking his rifle and pack frame off. Once on top, he pulled me up and we cautiously went to the bear that we still couldn't see in the tall grass. As we approached there was the huge Trophy Alaskan Brown Bear that had showed us swag. Tears of joy rolled down my face as I was on my knees thanking the bear for his sacrifice. My longtime dream had come true. After taking photos we began skinning. Half way through skinning, I asked Hank how much would the hide weigh. He estimated it at 170 pounds, if we skinned him close. We then realized that there was no way to reenter the water with that much weight on our backs. It would be way too dangerous. Hank pulled out the satellite phone from his pack frame and called base camp. As we were almost done skinning, a plane was buzzing the area. It was Dan. After spotting us, he landed on the lake and motored over to us. After congratulating us, we loaded the hide and skull in the plane. Dan then motored us over to our spike camp. My bear had 4½ inch claws, a beautiful hide and was 11 feet claw to claw, 9' 8" nose to tail making it square 10' 4" I couldn't have hunted with a better outfitter. They also honored me by naming the lake, "Bert's Lake".



*Congratulations Bert!*



### 2014 Safari Club International Convention

The 2014 SCI Convention February 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> in Vegas was another success this year. The Ultimate Hunters Market is where a hunter can find most anything he or she might desire. You can find clothing, footwear, home furnishings, jewelry, firearms, gifts, taxidermy, travel and especially hunting and fishing trips in the USA and international. Guides and outfitters come from all over the world to attend and set up booths with their goods and services. Besides attending the Board of Directors meetings and other meetings, I make it a point to visit the guides and outfitters who support our Chapter with donations to our fundraisers and I meet with new prospective supporters. It is always a pleasure meeting up with fellow Chapter members and friends as well as meeting new people having the same interest, "Protecting the Freedom to Hunt and in Promoting Wildlife Conservation Worldwide". I invite you to join me for the next SCI Convention in Las Vegas next February 4-7, 2015.

On another note, the 2014 ACSCI banquet/fundraiser committee is in full swing getting things ready for our April 5<sup>th</sup> event at the Holiday Inn, Oneonta. We are always looking for volunteers and donations to make this fundraiser the biggest and the best ever ... this year is our 16<sup>th</sup>! Please contact me with any ideas you may have or assistance you can offer. Thanks and have a great time outdoors.

Larry Steiner, President  
Adirondack Catskill Chapter Safari Club International  
PO Box 466, 28 Church Street, Otego, N.Y. 13825  
steinersci@stny.rr.com; 607-988-6334

## Alberta Triple Play

by James Tomaski

Last fall, I traveled to Canada for a 10 day combination deer and moose hunt I purchased from Alberta Native Guide Services, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Ken Steinhauer (780-289-6346) is the owner/operator of the service. I drove from Glens Falls, NY to Edmonton, Alberta to meet Ken at the Holiday Inn Express in Edmonton. I followed Ken to Westlock, Alberta and was bunked at the Southerner Motel for the two week hunt. I met head guide Henry Giles of Westlock, who took me to the woods for the hunt. Henry set me up in a pop-up blind in hopes of my getting a big Whitetail Deer. Henry assured me that he had trail pictures of a 180-190" buck on that same trail. On day 3, I saw four cow moose and a nice bull moose but couldn't shoot him because I hadn't bought a moose tag yet! On day 5, we moved the blind to the back side of a large hayfield that was bordered on one side by a drop off bank to a frozen stream. At 3pm, I got out of the blind and moved into a brushy area looking out to the field. The end of the field was at least 600 yards away, ending in a brushy woodlot. About an hour later I was glancing left and right and then left again when I saw a nice buck running across the field. He was fast! I put the scope on his head and saw 4 or 5 points on the left side. So I decided to shoot. I doe-called to the buck using my best imitation style – a "mee-attt" out loud and drawn so he would hear me. He turned his head left, away from me and the sound. I found that baffling but it slowed him down to about half speed and I aimed for his shoulder. The 230 grain bullet slapped into him as I could hear it but he kept running away. I reloaded and "mee-attt" again. He slowed down and looked left. As I was aiming the Savage .338 Win Mag for a second shot he plowed into the ground ... plowing up the snow. The range was 180-200 yards for the first shot. Walking up to the buck, I remembered what guide Henry Giles had told me to size up a buck. First, you look for the width of the horns wider than the out-stretched ears – the buck had that aspect. Second, length of points from the main beams – yes, he had that too. Third, the size of or mass of points and beams – he had that up to a point. The buck had 5 points on the left side, 3 points on the right side with a split brow tine. He was a big fat deer about 250 pounds. A very nice trophy indeed! I was very satisfied with my hunt, so far.

After the Whitetail, we hunted moose for several days. We would move from area to area, spending several hours glassing the open fields, woodlots and wet spots for moose. We saw 2-3 moose per woodlot but no bulls around. It's now Friday, the second to the last day of my hunt. We were driving the back roads and woodlots of North Alberta when we spot a large deer by itself crossing a hayfield. We stopped and glassed, it was a large Mule Deer with a coyote trailing him. Henry says he is big enough to shoot – a nice 4x4 Mule Deer buck. But, alas, I inform him that I don't have a Mule Deer tag. Bad luck right? Wrong! We high-tailed it to a local grocery store to buy the deer tag.



We scramble back to the field hoping the buck is still there. Well, yes he is ... and with his coyote friend too! I jumped out of the truck into knee-deep snow to get a clean shot. The buck was slowly trotting away from us with his friend at 250 yards. Henry hollered at the deer to get him to stop so I can shoot. He slowed down a bit and I took the shot. It sounds like a solid hit but he keeps running. I shoot two more times hitting him once in the hind quarter. Now he runs out of sight and my gun is empty. It's now dark and we search for an hour but can't find him. We're tired and cold, past hunting light so we call it a day. The following morning we follow a trail made by the wounded animal. We find his carcass devoured by the coyotes of Canada. My trophy is reduced to the bony spine, head, one eye, and horns ... a nice set of 4x4 horns with brow tines 2-3 inches in length.

Now I'm on the last day of the hunt looking for a bull moose. We're now cruising the back roads and farm lots on the other side of the county, a different area from the last couple of days. We spot a large dark object all by itself in a large clearing near a thick woodlot. Henry says it's a bull with points on both sides of his head. So I load my rifle with ammo and side-step up to a row of trees to steady my shot. I put one bullet in the base of his neck at about 150 yards and he drops like a rock. I must be lucky because I'm certainly not that good. I just got a triple in Canada with that last shot. I took a fine Whitetail buck, a Mule Deer buck, and on my last day a 6x7 Bull Moose.



**Great Hunt  
Jim!**

**BSA/SCI Foundation 2014 Benefit Shoot, Las Vegas**  
by Robin Jerauld



Kim, Veronica, Martin, Robin and Larry



Robin, Cory Cogdell and Veronica

February 4<sup>th</sup>, the day before the opening of the 2014 SCI Convention, two buses loaded with SCI/Sables members rolled out of the Mandalay Bay parking lot headed for the Clark County Shooting Complex. The day's event was the Boys Scouts of America/SCI Foundation Sporting Clays Shoot. Eighty shooters, of varying degrees of skill, headed out in teams of four to a twelve station course. Krieghoff graciously sponsored the event by supplying new 12 and 20 gauge shot guns to those participants who hadn't brought their own. Adirondack-Catskill Chapter was represented by Martin & Veronica Kosich, Kim Arch, Larry Steiner and Robin Jerauld. The five AC members were part of the Sables Education teams. Cory Cogdell, a hunter from Alaska and USA Olympian Bronze Medalist in Trap, was on the course as well. A beautiful day, great shooting course, like minded participants, and a first class lunch made the event a success and the bus ride back pretty quiet.

As Larry Steiner says, "Any day you can hold a gun and shoot it is a great day!"

## Doing Our Part - SCI Youth Day

by Ron Meek

As I sit here thinking "WHAT ARE WE DOING?" to insure that our way of life continues, it strikes me that our Adirondack-Catskill SCI Youth Days SURE CAN'T HURT! If you have never been to one -- you are missing a GREAT TIME! February 15<sup>th</sup> was our 11<sup>th</sup> youth day at the Rockdale Rod and Gun Club. It's sometimes HARD to tell who has the most fun! Of course, the kids enjoy getting to partake in all the events. But the adults have just as much fun watching!



We had a variety of events this year. Fly Tying - the Trout Unlimited demonstrator just about ran out of supplies while having the kids tie flies with him! The ACSI Sables again offered a display with games and plenty of interaction; the scarves and knowledge the participants came away with was PRICELESS! We have a Turkey Call Maker that has the kids work any calls that he has! This really gets under some of the people's skin! HEE! HEE! HEE!



A Taxidermist was in attendance along with her husband ... Ruth does the taxidermy while Warren does the art touches and such on the mounts. To see Ruth explain her work to the kids is very special!



Of course shooting was available. The kids shoot about 1000 pellets every year. Our qualified range officers do a great job pumping the guns!



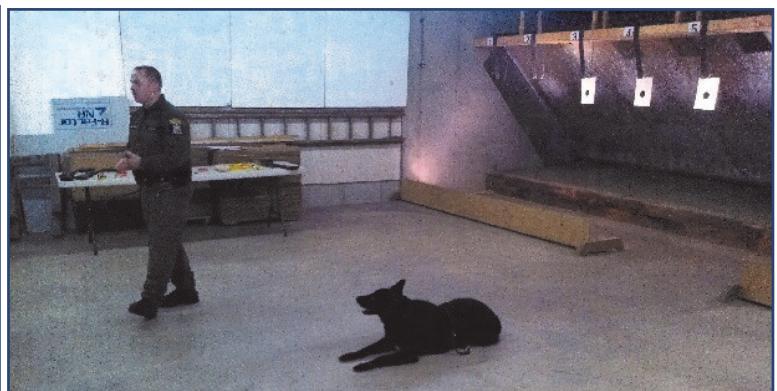
Weather is NOT a deterrent to outdoor Archery and use of the Cross-Bows. The kids are lined up all day for this activity.

Eight inches of slush on top of the ice slowed down the ice fishing -- but they still went out!

Laser Shot is always a BIG DRAW and the Rockdale Members have to test the system BEFORE and AFTER the kids use the system.

The NRA participates to inform all of the importance of keeping up with our Rights.

Our ECO, Brett Armstrong's participation along with his dog, Nitro, is always a good show. This year was Nitro's final official appearance as he will be retired with Brett training a new dog. Nitro will live out his retirement with Brett and Family.



BEST of LUCK to NITRO!  
Thank you for 10+ years of service!

THEN WE COME TO THE FOOD! OMG -- 7 gallons of chili, 97 Hamburgers, 58 Hotdogs and about 15 Pounds of Macaroni 'n Cheese! BOY CAN THEY EAT!!! The food is provided by Steiner Meat Packing and the Rockdale and ACSCI members.



As always we have free Door Prizes for ALL the kids along with a Youth Gun drawing for one lucky winner.

There is also a small added raffle with another gun that is popular with the adults attending the event.



The day goes by FAST and the kids are GREAT. We get a lot of "Thank You's" from both the kids and their parents.

Without all the help of the ACSCI and Rockdale members, it would be hard to do these Youth Days. All their work makes me look good!

BTW -- I THINK I GET JUST AS MUCH FUN out of these days as the kids do!



Adirondack - Catskill Chapter of Safari Club International  
Membership Application

New Member     Renewal for Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a new member application, please enter the name and membership number of the sponsor.  
The Cabela's Membership Drive Campaign begins July 1, 2013:

- A current member will be awarded a \$25 Cabela's Gift Certificate for sponsoring a new member.
- For any new 3 year membership purchased, the new member will receive a \$50 Cabela's Gift Certificate.

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

SCI Dues

- 1 Year Membership: \$85.00 (includes \$65.00 National 1yr & \$20.00 Chapter 1 yr)
- 3 Year Membership: \$210.00 (includes \$150 National 3yr & \$60.00 Chapter 3yr)
- 1 year Chapter Dues for National Members Only: \$20.00
- Chapter Life Membership for National Life Members Only: \$200.00

Payment Method

Check Enclosed (Make check payable to: Adirondack-Catskill SCI)

Credit Card     VISA     MC     AMEX

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ US Dollars

Mail completed form with payment to: Vincent Migliori, Membership Director  
10076 Beartown Road N.  
Ave, NY 13303-2104

Revised 5/29/2013



S A B L E S TM

*Don't miss out! Join Adirondack-Catskill's  
SABLES EDUCATION Committee and be  
a part of the education legacy!*

A-C SABLES are active in

- Sponsoring Youth and Teachers to the American Wilderness School
- Fund Raising Events and A-C Chapter Support
- Hands-On-Wildlife Box Promotion
- Youth Day Educational Games

Contact Robin Jerauld at  
[rjerauld@toast.net](mailto:rjerauld@toast.net) or 607-643-1978

**Guests are always welcome at the monthly chapter meetings.**

We encourage members to bring hunting partners and potential new members to our meetings and events. Bring your son, daughter or other youth to a meeting or event.

Keep informed about chapter activities and the guest speaker schedule for meetings by visiting the ACSCI website at <http://www.AdirondackCatskillSCI.com>

**2014 ACSCI Meeting Schedule - Meetings begin at 7pm**

**Location: Christopher's Restaurant, Oneonta, NY**

**February 20**

**April 17**

**June 19**

**September 18**

**November 20**

**Location: American Legion, Cold Brook, NY**

**March 20**

**May 15**

**July 17**

**October 16**

**December 18**

**No chapter meeting in January and August**

We are seeking guest speakers for chapter meetings. The membership is interested in hearing about your hunting trip or projects related to conservation and hunting. If you would like to present at a meeting or recommend a guest speaker, contact Larry Steiner at [steinersci@stny.rr.com](mailto:steinersci@stny.rr.com) or 607-988-6334 to schedule the date.

**ACSCI Website: <http://www.adirondackcatskillsci.com>**