

# KENTUCKIANA

# HUNTER



KENTUCKIANA CHAPTER - SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL

FOURTH QUARTER 2017



Photo by Michael Graham

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# President's Message

By Larry Richards, Chapter President

WOW! Fall is upon us and hunting season is with us once more! I am pleased beyond words to be writing this President's Message as your new Chapter President. I am, as I know you are, looking forward to this hunting season with great expectations. I do have a cow Elk hunt scheduled with my daughter,

Mallory, in December; but, Mallory's college schedule has her pretty well tied up, and I need a hunting partner. I am looking for a young hunter to mentor in Oldham County. I hope all of you have opportunities to go afield with your loved ones; however, I hope that those of you who find yourselves in the same situation will reach out to a youngster and take him or her under your wing. Passing this tradition along is what KYSCI is about!

We are bringing a fantastic crop of new hunters into our fold and I could not be prouder of them! Our chapter now has the honor of having THREE of our young hunters selected as **SCI and Cabela's "Young Hunters" and "Young Huntress" of the Year** by our parent organization. Let's look at this fact for a second. This is a **WORLDWIDE** competition! Young people from all over the world are nominated by their SCI Chapters and compete for this honor and for our chapter to have three honorees in the last 5 years (Tom Monarch in 2013, Clay Monarch in 2015, and Peyton Whitworth in 2018) shouts out to the world that our

efforts to bring quality young hunters and huntresses into our fold are paying off big time! Now, please join me in congratulating our newly selected **"2018 SCI and Cabela's Young Huntress of the Year,"** Peyton Whitworth!!! A young huntress since the age of 8, you have read her stories in past newsletters (with her latest story in this issue), seen her volunteer at our banquet, and visited with her at our Chapter picnics! Bravo and well done, Peyton, you have made all of us proud!

We are well underway with the planning of this year's Chapter Fundraiser to be held once more at the **Audubon Country Club** on Saturday, February 10, 2018. PLEASE mark that date now and plan to meet your friends once more for a great night of catching up and helping finance our efforts to do the many things we've set out to do. There will be something for everyone, either on the Silent Auction tables or in the Live Auction. The Live Auction coordinator, Sam Monarch, has already begun sorting through the heap of hunts and other live auction items to bring you the best auction program possible! Silent Auction leaders, Nancy and Lowell Stevens, are likewise up to their ears in securing those items. Please help these great folks with any sponsorships, donations or hunts you may be able to secure for us. This has become so much a group effort that we are beginning to pick up steam in our fundraising efforts. We hold but ONE event annually to finance our entire scope of projects, so let's make it a good one! Register now using the enclosed insert.

Your Board of Directors has approved funding for a number of National Archery in the Schools Programs. These programs have really taken hold and the young people we have helped are discovering the thrill of shooting the bow. One of our programs, LaGrange Elementary, under the guidance of our Board Member and their NASP Coach, Alyson Stamper, went all the way to the national competition in Orlando, Florida this spring and did us proud (see the stories in this issue)! We find the NASP program an excellent gateway to introducing these and other youngsters to the outdoors and eventually to hunting. Casting bread upon the waters, we are.

Again, I wish you a great hunting season, and I want to thank you for the confidence you have placed in me and in your other Chapter Officers and Directors. We aspire to be worthy of your trust.

See Board Resolution Insert Setting Forth Banquet Exhibit Policy Or Visit [www.kentuckianasci.org](http://www.kentuckianasci.org)



## OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sam Monarch - smonarch@bbtel.com  
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Lowell Stevens - lowellstevens@me.com

## About The Cover



Samson is the newest addition to Chapter Member Michael Graham's family. Samson, a charcoal shade of "silver" lab out of Southern Indiana Holiday Kennels, was born on December 5, 2015. He received his "Started Dog" training from Chapter Supporter Michael Oldfield of Mossy Creek Retrievers. Samson's first Wood Duck hunt was earlier this year in Taylor County, Kentucky. (See "It's Not About the Bands" on the next page.)

# It's Not About The Bands

By Michael Graham

There are few things I look forward to more than early-season Wood Duck hunting in Kentucky. In the few years I have been hunting Woodies in Kentucky, I have had some of the greatest experiences of my hunting life. I have made some amazing friends along the way and have used the experience to bond with my brother. For the last 5 or so years, I have used Kentucky's 5-day early Wood Duck season to invite friends from all over to share in the experience. For me, it's more about the camaraderie than it is the actual hunting, and let me tell you, the Wood Duck hunting is more fun than I can put into words!

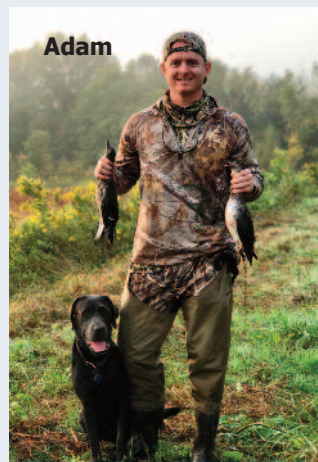
In years past, we have used the time to share with fellow KYSCI members and provide a little insight into our slice of heaven at the Green River Lake WMA. We spend time in our family cabin on Green River Lake, eat great food and tell crazy stories. It's no secret to most everyone reading this that one of my greatest friends, Michael Maddox, is always at the top of the invite list. His mentorship and guidance over the years has helped mold me into a fairly good hunter and pretty decent shot. It's because of Mike that I have continued to learn from his experiences and develop my skills so that I will eventually be able to share what I have learned with my young son.

This year's hunt was especially meaningful for me because it was the first duck hunting trip on which I could take my new charcoal colored Labrador, Samson. More than anything, I was looking forward to sharing the experience with him and working to develop his skills. As a formally trained "started dog", trained by Mossy Creek Retrievers, I had every confidence he would do fine, but I had a few worries primarily because I had not spent enough time continually training him throughout the year. Samson's trainer, Michael Oldfield, expressed concern over Samson's drive because he didn't come from a good developed hunting stock. His training had its ups and downs, but the switch was finally triggered in Samson and everything fell into place.

As opening morning came upon us, we found ourselves sitting at the edge of a small hidden pond near a water refuge area that is heavily hunted. We were a little late getting out that morning and when we arrived at our intended spot, we were not surprised to find it taken. Local hunters take early Wood Duck hunting in Taylor County seriously, so there is serious competition for the "hot spots". It usually means getting up around 4 A.M., driving to your spot, hiking into your location, then waiting a couple hours till shooting time. This morning we were late to the game and had to go to our backup spot: a small pond well located in the refuge area.

After getting to our spot, we settled in and waited until shooting time. As soon as the first flurry of shots sounded nearby in the refuge, we prepared ourselves for the incoming ducks seeking a safe spot to take cover. As the ducks came in Mike called a duck for me to shoot and it was over in 1 second. I pulled up, barely saw the blur of a speeding Wood Duck and took my shot. Instantly, it hit the water and I released Samson into the water to retrieve it. All my fears were laid to rest in that very moment as he locked in on the bird, grabbed hold and delivered it back to my side. As he pulled himself up out of the water and sat at my side under my "heel" command, I relished in the moment and showered him with affection.

I noticed the band on my duck's foot and thought to myself, "Cool," another band and then I told Samson to "drop" so we could focus on the next round of birds, which, unfortunately, did not happen again that morning. Regardless, from that moment on, Samson sat focused on the side of the pond waiting and



Adam



Michael

watching the sky, ready to go to work. It's really hard to explain how special it feels to share in the experience with your dog at your side. Now, I understand why Mike has enjoyed hunting with his dogs so much.

A few days later, we found ourselves hunting a new location and had one of the most exciting Wood Duck hunts in our years of hunting together. Most of our crew had left after a couple of days of hunting, but Mike, Adam Jaynes, Pat Pierce and I continued to try our luck. It was due to Pat that we scouted this new spot. In my years of Wood Duck hunting, I had never experienced the sight of seeing 100's of Wood Ducks returning to the slews to roost. It was so exciting and something I will never forget. We were able to get a few passing shots on those returning birds and took a few home to clean. We decided to return the following morning for our last opportunity to hunt.

As it was the middle of the week, we did not have competition from the locals and were able to own the location that morning. As shooting time approached, I found myself watching the clock and counting down the minutes. When we were about 2 minutes from shooting time, Adam and I noticed a flurry of birds flying over our heads as they were leaving the roost. I could hear the excitement in Adam's voice as he asked me to call out the time to him, "2 more minutes," then, "1 more minute," before the final, "Let 'er rip!!" echoed out! In those agonizing minutes before we could shoot, we must have counted well over 100 birds leaving the roost! As soon as I gave the go ahead, Adam, Pat, Mike and I started shooting and within a matter of 15-20 minutes 3 of us, had our two-bird limits as the flocks of Woodies overhead started to subside.

Now, it was time to let the dogs retrieve the marked birds. It took a little time to get them all located and retrieved as it took more hands-on with Samson to get him to mark the birds and get their scent. I could see his inexperience coming out, but once he was able to smell the bird, he did the rest.

When he returned with one of my birds, I noticed another band. I know waterfowl hunters look at the bands as a trophy of sorts and perhaps it is to me in some small measure, but when I look at the bands that I have collected, I see something much more important: a reminder of the memories made hunting with dear friends and family. It's not about the bands, it about the memories!



Samson



# Only A Life Estate

By Tom Monarch

## 2013 SCI & Cabela's Young Hunter Of The Year

**Editor's Note:** In the latest SAFARI Magazine, SCI President Paul Babaz's article "Communication Is the Key" which focuses on positive communication, brought to mind Tom Monarch's essay (below) when he was named the "2013 Young Hunter". Tom, then 16, emphasized, "I must portray my image as a hunter in a positive way to preserve the right to hunt for future generations..." Tom, now 21, is a Senior at U of L, is headed to Law School, still loves to hunt, and still portrays hunting in a positive way.

We have to look at the big picture . . . the earth has been around for millions of years, but as individuals, we only have life estates in our corner of the world. SCI's Mission Statement, which calls upon each of us to be "a leader in protecting the freedom to hunt and in promoting wildlife conservation", is reflective of our moral duty to safeguard our life estate and pass on our conservation and hunting heritage. By following the SCI Mission Statement and its related goals, the life estate I pass to future generations will include a better hunting place.

As a hunter, I believe it is necessary to cherish and to promote our hunting heritage. By being a frequent writer for our chapter newsletter, I preserve for future generations what hunting was and is like for me. By teaching a "Hunt Preparation" class at our "SCI Youth & Apprentice Hunter Education Weekend", I educate young hunters about wildlife conservation and hunting ethically. By practicing good conservation skills and valuing the gifts of nature, my life estate will be better for me and will create a better hunting place for future generations.

Due to my age, I am unable to make financial contributions; however, I donate my time and work hard to portray a positive image of hunters. I recently surpassed the 200-hour mark of volunteering at Kosair Children's Hospital where many of the patients, doctors, nurses, administrators, and peer volunteers know that I am proud to be a hunter. I also volunteer at every opportunity for our SCI Chapter and participate in wildlife conservation projects. My most rewarding experiences which portrayed

hunters in a favorable light was taking 3 "SCI Blue Bags" filled with treasures to needy children in South Africa and donating 1/2 of each Kentucky deer I have taken to "Hunters for the Hungry". Because of my contributions, when my life estate passes to the next generation, my corner of the world will be enhanced and will include a better hunting place.

I have found that my passion and love for the outdoors is shared by many and is readily adopted by those with whom I have had the opportunity to interact. A sub-part of the SCI Mission Statement says that we should "provide a community for hunters worldwide where camaraderie is enjoyed and expert information is exchanged. . ." I have had many rich hunting experiences; however, I am not yet an expert as I have much to learn. I enjoy sharing my hunting and wildlife conservation experiences with seasoned hunters as well as people who have limited or no hunting knowledge. By sharing positive hunting experiences, when my life estate passes to the next generation my corner of the world will include an upbeat, better hunting place.

On this earth, we own nothing forever... we can temporarily own the land and enjoy the right to hunt. The land and the ability to hunt will last long after I have moved on from this earth. I realized I only have a life estate; therefore, I must pass along my hunting heritage to keep the tradition of hunting alive; I must portray my image as a hunter in a positive way to preserve the right to hunt for future generations; I must connect with other hunters and non-hunters in a positive way to keep hunting in a favorable light. It is my responsibility as a hunter to leave my corner of the world in better condition than it was when I acquired it to include a better hunting place.



Red Stag



Dove Hunting



Steenbok



Tahr

## Habitat Improvement Checklist

By KDFWR

### October - November

- Leave a portion of crops standing all winter for wildlife
- Leave food plots fallow for two years (minimum)
- Plan for next year's projects
- Do not fall-plow crop fields
- Order catalogs for seedlings, shrubs, or seeds for spring
- Flood moist soil management units

### December

- Check for wildlife use of your habitat improvement projects
- Check fences to keep livestock out of woodlands
- Hinge-cut cedars and/or create brush piles
- Plant tree and shrub seedlings
- Conduct timber stands improvements

To speak to a Wildlife Biologist call 1-800-858-1549

**Editor's Note:** Our future is our youth! Youth Instructor Charlie Miller taught the classes on how to load muzzleloaders and mentored other young shooters. Youth Mentors like Charlie are very important to the program's success.

## Helping At This Year's KYSCI Youth Event

By Charlie Miller

Over the last 7 years, I have had the magnificent chance to work and volunteer at the KYSCI Youth & Apprentice Hunter Education event. For the past 4 years of volunteering, I have found myself alongside Alice & Sam Monarch cleaning and loading muzzleloaders for all our shooters, and this year wasn't any different!

I arrived at Fern Creek Sportsman's Club early eager to help anybody working toward his/her orange card and to learn new things myself. The first job I was awarded was to sight in a .22 that was going to be used for the day. Afterward, I did little jobs here and there waiting for the arrival of the Monarchs. Once they arrived, we got moving to prepare the station for the groups of kids. It was a hard task because we had so much to do and only an hour to do it.

Once everything was together and



a few test shots were taken, the hour didn't seem to last long as the first group started walking down the stairs to us. As Sam started to tell the group about how black powder rifles and our great country came to be, Alice and I rushed to get him everything he needed for teaching the class.

Once Sam was finished teaching the history lesson, I was given the opportunity to teach. I showed the students how to tell if muzzleloaders are loaded and also how to load them. After I showed them how to load one, under our supervision, each kid had the chance to load his or her own shot if they wanted. We kept this pattern going until we were done for the day.

Once done for the day, I helped pack up, said my goodbyes and left. As I drove away exhausted, I was glad to have been there to help bring joy to everyone's faces. Knowing that Sam and Alice had already claimed me for the next youth event excited me to know I would get the chance to do it all over again!



## 23rd Annual KYSCI Fundraising Banquet

Saturday, February 10, 2017 • Audubon Country Club

**Posting Soon:** Details about Hunts on 5 Continents and many more items.

Visit [www.kentuckianasci.org](http://www.kentuckianasci.org)

See insert to register & for more information

Silent Auction  
Live Auction



It's Fall!  
Time for soup!

### Joyce's Spanish Bean Soup

By Joyce Cook

2 cans Garbanzo Beans (drained)  
1 Chorizo Sausage  
1 large onion (diced)  
1 envelope **Sazon** with saffron (Spanish seasoning)

1-quart chicken broth  
3 quartered, thinly sliced potatoes  
1 T Olive Oil  
Salt to taste



Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium-high heat; add Chorizo sausage and onions; cook onions till soft and translucent. Add potatoes, Garbanzo beans, chicken stock, and envelope of **Sazon con Azafran**. Stir. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat; simmer 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Serve hot with Cuban Bread.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TBA, 2018 - **KYSCI Military Pheasant Hunt**

- Lost River Game Farm - Orleans, Indiana
- To Volunteer, Contact: Mike Maddox  
[mmaddox13@me.com](mailto:mmaddox13@me.com) or Call 502-253-9679

January 31 – February 3, 2018

**SCI Annual Hunter's Convention**

- Las Vegas, NV
- Contact: [www.scifirstforhunters.org](http://www.scifirstforhunters.org)

February 1, 2018 - **Peyton Whitworth Honored by SCI**

- Las Vegas, NV – "Night of the Hunter" Awards Night
- Contact: [www.scifirstforhunters.org](http://www.scifirstforhunters.org)

February 10, 2018 - **KYSCI Fundraiser Banquet**

- Audubon Country Club, Louisville, KY
- For Info Contact: Larry Richards  
[lw577nitro@twc.com](mailto:lw577nitro@twc.com)
- For Reservations Contact:  
Sherry Maddox 501-253-9679

**To Find Other Outdoor Friends Events Contact:**

- Friends of NRA Events  
Contact: John LaRowe at [jarowe@nrahq.org](mailto:jarowe@nrahq.org)
- League of Kentucky Sportsmen Events  
Contact: Bob Edwards at  
[bedwardslouky@insightbb.com](mailto:bedwardslouky@insightbb.com)
- QDMA Events  
Contact: Pete Blandford at  
[pete\\_blandford@yahoo.com](mailto:pete_blandford@yahoo.com)
- RMEF Events  
Contact: Bill Carman at 859-489-1593  
or [Bcarman@rmef.org](mailto:Bcarman@rmef.org)
- Quail Forever  
Contact: Jack Dahl at [j.dahljr@att.net](mailto:j.dahljr@att.net)

**Renew Your KYSCI, SCI & NRA Memberships Today!**

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[www.kentuckianasci.org](http://www.kentuckianasci.org)

# Discovering Real Africa

By Peyton Whitworth



When Dad (Jared) asked if I wanted to go hunting in Africa, I enthusiastically said, "Yes!" not because I knew anything about Africa but because I loved to hunt and wanted to travel. Dad had been on safari and I'd seen his photos, but when I thought of Africa, I still envisioned a big open grassy place with a bunch of animals and not many people. I had thought Africa was poor because school gave me the impression that Africa meant slavery, so I thought all of Africa was poor. There was massive poverty, but I never knew that when I visited South Africa, I would be visiting the home of the first heart transplant and that Kentucky Fried Chicken's were everywhere!

Arrival in Johannesburg was exciting! Anne Gaines Burrill of Hunter's Support's people literally met us at the airplane door, helped us through Customs and escorted us to our surprisingly modern hotel where we had great meals and a great stay. The only problem was Johannesburg is 7 hours ahead of us and our sleep clocks were really messed up; consequently, we were still tired but excited the next morning when Anne's people helped us get on the plane to Kimberly where we met our outfitter and friend, Vlam Myberg of Madubula Safaris.

At the Kimberly Airport, Vlam and one of Madubula's trackers, Vincent, were waiting for us as promised. Dad had hunted with Vlam and we had dinner with him in Louisville; so, we greeted one another warmly like best friends getting back together. We were soon headed to camp! I'd thought I would see wild animals everywhere: that wild animals would be on the road! In movies about Africa, animals run free everywhere! It wasn't that way in real life! As we drove across the country, I saw one small group of springbok behind a huge high-fenced hunting area and a few sables behind another, but if there were no high-fences, there were only cows or sheep. I didn't know hunting areas would be fenced, and I didn't realize how big those areas would be! The fence around historic Rooipoort where we did much of our hunting surrounded an area about 1/2 the size of Breckinridge County and there was wildlife everywhere!

The next surprise was camp itself! When Dad said we would be staying in a tent, visions of pop-up or teepee style tents came to mind. The tents at Rooipoort were like small houses with pretty furniture and electric blankets and heated floors in really nice bathrooms with glass-enclosed showers! The dining room was warm and welcoming; however, I would have to wait to enjoy my first night meal until Night 2. It had been a super long flight (21 hours from Louisville to Johannesburg) and a long trip to camp (an early flight and long drive). Shortly after we arrived at camp, we headed hunting. Two animals later, I was so tired from the adventure filled day and the 7 hour time difference that I literally slept through the first night's dinner; however, during the middle of the night (and almost every night), Dad and I woke up and looked for the jackals we could hear outside our tent.

July is winter in South Africa and the weather was really cold. We took our regular winter hunting clothes including bibs like we wear for early spring turkey season. If we went on a stalk, we would leave the coveralls behind and peel off the outer jackets/vests/shirts to accommodate the rising temperatures, but early morning rides on the back of the truck were brutal. Dad, Fanafute and the other trackers braved the weather on the back but Dad put me up front till it warmed up. By 9

AM it was usually pretty warm and I moved to the back.

My first African animal was a Blue Wildebeest taken at 411 yards over the tall shooting sticks. There were so many thoughts running through

my mind! I was really nervous when I set up to shoot because this was going to be my first animal. I was so scared my legs were shaking! Dad and I have hunted together since I was 8 and he has always been right by my side but this time Dad was being my arm rest so I didn't have him talking in my ear telling me what to do next.

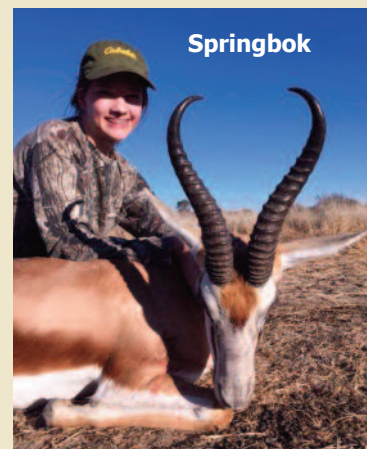
I didn't want to shoot the wrong animal and I didn't know what Vlam's reaction would be if I missed, but I felt I was ready. I had practiced shooting many times with my best friend, Sam. Sam Monarch is like no one else I know! He jokes a lot, and I joke right back at him. Sam encourages me to always be perfect when shooting, not for me but for the animal! As I got ready to shoot, I could hear Sam saying, "Don't shoot unless you are perfect... take a deep breath... let half of it out... then squeezzzzeee the trigger, squeezzzzeee the trigger." Seconds later, I was excited but relieved as my first animal was down. I was so afraid we might have to chase it. The Madubula Team set to work, photos were taken and my wonderful Wildebeest was headed for the skinning shed.

During this excitement, Dad made a misstep getting out of the truck and hurt his leg. He told us he would be okay but he wouldn't be able to walk over the thousands of big rounded rocks and he needed to stay off it! This was a game changer! I was going to have to hunt without Dad which made me really nervous!

The main animal we were hunting was one of "Africa's Dangerous Five", a Cape Buffalo, but Vlam said we needed to take other animals before we went after the Cape Buffalo so that I would get used to the way they hunt in Africa and he wanted to be sure I could take a Cape Buffalo. With us was Fanafute, our tracker, who became an important part of our hunt. We soon became best friends! I had expected the native people to be friendly and happy but they were very quiet and reserved. Fanafute was with me on every stalk and soon opened up. We played this game where every time we saw one another, we tried to be the first to shoot the other with a pretend blow dart.

Still on our day of arrival, we saw some hartebeest and the stalk was on. As we moved through the brush, Fanafute spotted a lone Springbok with an impressive set of horns at 90 yards lying in the tall grass. All I could see were the tips of his horns so I didn't know what it was! Vlam immediately said to get ready. The tall shooting sticks went up and I rested my elbow on Vlam's back. Still unsure of what they were so excited about, I finally recognized the animal that was chilling in the grass when Fanafute whistled. A beautiful Springbok stood, the scope fell steady, and I squeezed the trigger! We had animal #2! What a day!

Vlam got really excited when we took an animal. I was fascinated at how, after taking so many animals over so many years, he could show so much excitement for me. Vlam was very impressive. From long distances,



Springbok



Wildebeest

he could tell how big an animal was to within a 1/4 inch and how old it was! I felt lucky to even see the animals.

Hunt Day 1 found us chasing a huge Waterbuck that was silhouetted on top of a nearby mountain but he didn't want anything to do with us and disappeared into the tall brush.

We didn't see anything exciting on Day 2 until right before dark and we all almost had a heart attack over this one! We were driving along hunting for whatever when Vlam spotted a really great animal! Quickly, we rolled out of the truck and Fanafute grabbed my gun. Vlam whispered, "He's huge!" and we moved closer. I still hadn't found the animal and didn't know what we were hunting but knew if Vlam said, "Shoot!" that was what I was to do. We had the gun but no shooting sticks! Vlam rested the gun over his shoulder and whispered excitedly as he closed his eyes and plugged his ears, "Shoot! It's really old! Shoot! It's really good! Shoot! Shoot!" but I was still looking for the animal that had faded into the brush. When nothing happened, Vlam looked at me and realized that I was clueless! I hadn't found the gigantic kudu that was now walking off into the brush and daylight was fading fast! Suddenly, the Grey Ghost stopped between two bushes. It was now or never! One shot later, he was down, and he was spectacular! He truly was a grey ghost as he didn't have the white markings like Dad's kudu!



Kudu

After photos, we headed for camp. I was anxious to get back as Vlam had told us that his wife and two young boys would be joining us. I instantly knew that my trip was going to get even better! It was going to be fun to have little kids in camp to be a kid with! Vlam was greeted wildly and lovingly by Ross (age 7) and Luke (age 5). Leslie waited her turn to greet her husband who had been in the bush 4 weeks. Soon, Vlam and his family turned their attention to us. Both boys were remarkably well mannered and polite but they soon warmed up and we grew close.

Day 3 was an amazing day but a real eye opener. Ross, Luke and Leslie joined us on our hunting adventure and this was the day we delivered our SCI Blue Bag gifts to local farm children. I had expected the children to react excitedly as American children would but they were very quiet, reserved and polite but the experience was very rewarding.

On the way in for lunch on Day 4, we saw tons of animals and had a great time as the boys joined Dad and me on the back of the truck. Vlam still wanted me to take another animal before going after the Cape Buffalo and we chased a nice impala off the road and decided to take a closer

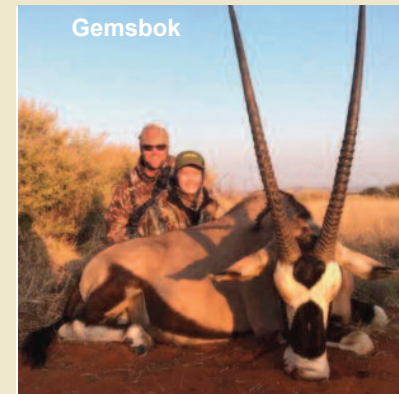


Impala

look. Vlam thought he was a good one, so the hunt was on. When this stunning impala stopped at 132 yards, he was mine. This was the first animal I had taken with the boys and the excitement that followed was so much fun!

The next day, we all headed out to look for Cape Buffalo but 15 minutes out of camp, we saw a gemsbok that Vlam thought was good and off we went! This was the first time I'd used the bi-pod on my rifle and it worked like a charm as the gemsbok went down at 120 yards. Again, the boys' excitement was contagious!

Later that morning, we spotted a herd of huge Cape Buffalo meandering through the brush way out in front of us! After glassing the herd,



Gemsbok

Vlam grew very serious and the atmosphere changed. My anticipation grew as I knew what a deer would do after I shot, but I didn't know what this beast would do. If I wounded him, I wondered if he would turn and try to kill me.

The plan was to get in front and intercept them. Crawling through the grass and around bushes, playing hide and seek with these monsters, I now understood why Vlam had me take the other animals. Hunting buffalo was serious business. A wrong move and danger would be upon us! After an eternity, our position and the wind were right, and I eased up behind the tall shooting sticks and faced what the natives call "Black Death". At 102 yards, Vlam's borrowed 375 H&H blasted and the herd erupted! My buffalo bellowed and fell on his back! I was ecstatic but it was too early to celebrate! A couple minutes later, my bull suddenly stood and ran toward the herd. A couple of running shots brought him back down near the herd. The other buffalo were now the ones that were scary! One big brute raised his head as if to challenge us but soon left with the others as the driver approached with the truck. My bull was down again but still bellowing. The tall sticks went back up, I shot one more time and he was history.

As Ross had "finished off" a Cape Buffalo a couple years earlier, it was Luke's turn. Once we were sure the old "dagga" bull was down for good, we let Luke make sure it wasn't going anywhere! Luke took careful aim with his BB gun and shot the beast two more times. It was fun to watch this little hunter jump up and down with excitement!

I had seen and walked up on several giraffe and was fascinated by them. Later that afternoon, we spotted a lone giraffe that acted different from the others. Vlam said it was very old: so old it would not survive the winter. Dad and I decided that it should be mine and he joined



Giraffe

me on one of the hardest stalks of our hunt as hiding from something that tall was impossible. We finally connected at 124 yards! Careful examination proved Vlam to be correct as my beautiful giraffe had almost no teeth! Moving such a large animal was a challenge and a winch was used to position it

for photos! What an awesome day! The two animals I wanted most in one day!

The rest of my hunt was spent chasing silly baboons while having the time of my life! I had made new friends from another part of the world! I loved being with Vlam's boys and my Dad. There were other young hunters (boy and girl age 16) from Idaho and a young apprentice hunter (age 17) from Arkansas in camp during the week who are now my texting friends. It truly was the trip of a lifetime! Thanks, Dad!

# KYSCI Sponsored LaGrange NASP Goes To World Championships

By Alyson Stamper, NASP Coach



What a wild ride this past year has been! I just finished my 4th year coaching the LaGrange Elementary Archery Team and during my first 2 years of coaching, we did not compete in tournaments. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, we only competed in 4 tournaments but this past year, we competed in 12! This year, our first serious year of competing, we made it all the way to the World Championships!! This was a huge accomplishment. We are the first elementary school in our county to have an archery team and to go to the Worlds!

Our success is reflected in our team's motto: "We AIM for Excellence". As their coach, I believe there is much more to archery than shooting bows and arrows. My team is taught and demonstrates respect, manners, discipline, integrity, self-confidence, and focus. With NASP, the archers' grades have improved as well as their school attendance and more. I am grateful for the opportunity to reach so many children with this wonderful program.

I am also very proud of this young group of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders who practice 3 ½ to 4 ½ hours a week from October through July and of the accomplishments they have achieved. I am at a loss for words, which is not very often for me. As a team, we have received the following competition recognition: four 3<sup>rd</sup> places; one 4<sup>th</sup> place; three 5<sup>th</sup> places; 45<sup>th</sup> place in State, 109<sup>th</sup> place at Nationals, 20<sup>th</sup> place in Worlds. Amazingly, our young team improved over 900 points throughout the season. Our team's individual accomplishments include: 10 archers (42%) shot their personal best at State; 14 archers (58%) shot their personal best at Nationals; 6 archers (34%) shot their personal best at Worlds!

I am so thankful to the **Kentuckiana SCI Chapter, P.L. Lyons Architectural Builders**, and the **Middletown Lions Club** for supporting us in our passion. These 3 organizations have supported my archers for 4 years now

and without their moral support and financial assistance, our program would not have been as successful. I especially want to thank my NASP BAI Trainer, Lisa Frye, who is now our Kentucky State NASP Archery Coordinator. Back in 2013, I went to her certification class and I was taught by the best. Because of her teaching, my desire to teach my children the sport of archery has been very rewarding.

19 archers from my team of 31 accompanied me to Worlds. 10 traveled with me as their chaperone with no parents. The other 9 archers went with their families. This trip had many "firsts" for those who traveled with me: it was their "first time" flying on a plane, eating at a Japanese Restaurant, going to Disney World, shooting in a World Championship and being that far away from their parents. This was an amazing trip and it touched my heart to see how well they did.

Since we have been on this journey, we have hit the "Big Screen". The **Oldham County Board of Education** came to school and interviewed us and posted the video on social media. That led a local TV station to contact me and do a



story that aired on **WHAS 11 News**. The local newspaper, **The Oldham Era**, did 4 articles on our team. They did articles about the 1st tournament hosted at our school, our going to State, our trip to Worlds, and then a follow up after Worlds.

The entire experience has been a magnificent trip and we say, "Thank You!" KYSCI.

## NASP & 4-H Shooting Sports Both Benefit From One KYSCI Donation

By Alyson Stamper, NASP Coach



Tyler



Izzy

KYSCI's donation to LaGrange Elementary's NASP Team came with added benefits! On September 9, 2017, the Oldham County 4-H archery team competed in the Kentucky 4-H State Shooting Sports Competition. Two of my former NASP archers competed in this competition. Izzy Perez (7th grade) came in

1st place and Tyler Zahradnicek (6th grade) came in 2nd place in the 9-11 age group out of 130 archers. They both came in 3rd place overall meaning they placed 3rd among 400 shooters ages 9-18.

As their coach for two years, this was such an "Ah-Ha" moment!! I congratulate them on their success! I take pride in teaching my archers to focus on the "11 Steps" to archery success. Knowing the foundations of archery is very important and I tell my students that their scores will come if they focus on the 11

Steps: not the target.

I had conversations with both Izzy & Tyler and asked why they chose the sport of archery. Izzy, a member of my 2nd and 3rd teams, stated, "I chose archery because when I was 8, I thought it would be cool. Now that I am older, I enjoy being able to focus on nothing but the target and my score. It's something that everyone should try. It's one of those sports that takes a lot of time and effort."

Tyler, who was on my most recent two teams, said, "I chose to shoot archery because it builds self-esteem, it helps me to be stronger, and it is really fun. It's fun to compete with other people. Archery helps build my confidence; it's really fun to practice; it can help me get a scholarship; it will help me throughout life and it gives me benefits." Tyler, whose highest score as a 5th grader was 271, was the 1st place male in the elementary division of Region 6 NASP at regional tournaments.

Izzy's & Tyler's mothers commented about their children and archery. Paula Perez remarked, "Archery is helping Izzy to be patient and focus. She is learning that practicing hard is giving her results. She has always been very competitive but

**Continued on page 9**

# “LEGAL BRIEFS”

By Ivan Schell, Esquire



## INDIANA

Indiana’s deer rifle regulations are continuing to evolve. In 2016, the Indiana General Assembly approved the use of high-powered rifles in .24 and .30 caliber for use on private land. That regulation was upgraded to now permit the use of .24 caliber and larger rifles for private land. The rifle barrel must be at least 16 inches long, the minimum length of the case must be 1.16 inches and no longer than 3 inches. Public land rifle rules remain the same. That is, the rifle cartridge case must be no shorter than 1.16 inches and no longer than 1.8 inches. The caliber of the rifle must be at least .35 caliber.

In addition Indiana modified the requirement for retrieving wild animals that are killed or crippled. If a hunter encounters a wild animal that is killed or crippled, he or she must retrieve and take it into possession, even if the hunter has no remaining bag limit for the animal. If there is a bag limit, the animal must be included in the bag limit. In other words if the hunter finds a puny buck literally on its last legs, he must kill the animal and lose out on his potential opportunity for taking a larger buck.

## KENTUCKY

Increasingly it seems that residents of Louisville neighborhoods are crossing swords with hunters over the taking of animals within the city limits. Last week the *Courier Journal* reporter, Thomas Novelly, reported that a deer was “shot” in the backyard of a Riverwood neighborhood, “sparking outrage from residents and city officials.” Riverwood is a satellite city within the Jefferson County limits and as far as I could find on the internet has no rules about hunting. The resident who reported the incident said she heard a shot and thereafter saw the limping doe behind her home. The Mayor of this neighborhood stated that the shooter used extreme and reckless judgment and “they most likely violated state and local laws as it relates to poaching and discharging a firearm within the city limits”. Of course the Mayor did not investigate whether the deer was taken on a depredation tag (which allows firearm use), with permission of the landowner where it was shot, or by a licensed hunter, etc. Although the Mayor did not use the term wanton endangerment, the implication was clear. (However, no specific person was identified as being endangered, which is a requirement to support the violation). And there is no law in Jefferson County prohibiting the discharge of a firearm in the county. Notwithstanding the Mayor’s failures in this case the take away for hunters is clear: follow the rules! Hunt only where you have written permission, following all game laws regarding licensing, seasons, permissible weapons. And finally, add a dose of common sense regarding the direction of shots, range of your weapon, use of sound suppression, backstop for the shot and an understanding that wounded deer don’t always die on the property where they are shot.

## NATIONAL

The war over the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem population of Grizzly Bears is heating up. Previously I reported that HSUS had sued the *Montana Department of Fish and Wildlife* to challenge the delisting of the bears under ESA. Now Indian tribes and other anti-hunting groups have piled on in four suits challenging the delisting based on alleged inadequate consideration of impact relating to the bears’ main food sources. As also previously reported, these same folks have already lost a fight over hunters leaving elk gut-piles in grizzly habitat. Now they are bringing the kitchen sink: (failure to follow best science, failure to consult Indian tribes and most importantly – turning management over to the states). If there is good news here it is that the suit is in the *Montana US District Court*, but don’t get out your Grizzly rifle just yet. There will be further hearings in 2018.

Continued from page 8

### **NASP & 4-H Shooting Sports Both Benefit...**

with archery she has learned to enjoy the sport and always looks forward to her “team scores”!

Lisa Zahradineck spoke of the benefits of the program, “I’ve seen Tyler grow as a person taking interest in a sport in which he strives for improvement and to excel. Tyler had a hard time focusing but with archery his attention to detail grew not only in archery but his schoolwork also improved. He is improving his attention, which is helping him in the classroom resulting in better grades. We are very proud of Tyler: we have seen Tyler’s growth as a person and his dedication

to archery. Thanks to Mrs. Stamper for bringing this sport to LaGrange Elementary School; otherwise, I do not think I would have thought about starting Tyler with archery. He loves the sport and he is pretty good at it.”

My passion is teaching young children about the sport of archery! I am proud to have coached these two young archers and am excited to share with KYSCI the news of these added benefits of your support of our youth. Thank you, KYSCI!



# My Fig Tree Safari

By Greg Brunzman

I recently returned from my 12-day hunting safari with *Fig Tree Safaris* owned by Johann Gey Van Pittius in the Limpopo Region of South Africa. I travelled from Louisville, Kentucky to Atlanta and then to Johannesburg, RSA where Professional Hunter Gert Brits met me at the *OR Tambo Airport*. We then traveled by van 3 ½ hours to the Fig Tree Farm. I arrived at 10:30 PM their time which is 4:30 PM EDT, took a quick shower and went to bed. I awoke the next morning at 6:00 AM to be ready for a wonderful breakfast of eggs, sausages, toast and juice at 7:00 AM with Johann, his wife, Robyn, PH Gert and PH Steven. Impala filets were later added to the breakfast menus after I shot one.

As for the rest of the food, lunches were usually sandwiches or casseroles. Suppers included meats from the animals I had taken grilled over coals taken from the nightly campfires with sides of salads and vegetables. They served my three favorite desserts of chocolate pudding, Malva pudding, and peppermint crisps: always served with generous helpings of custard, cream or ice cream. Robyn and Johann are great cooks and I gained nine pounds.

After breakfast, we discussed plans for the start of my hunt. We loaded onto the Land Cruiser (bakkie) to confirm the point of impact of my rifle, a Remington 700 in .338 Winchester Mag, hand-loaded with Nosler 250 grain Partition bullets. After site-in, we started hunting.

My hunt was during the peak of the full moon, so the animals were not moving much during the day. We drove, then stalked a Blue Wildebeest which I shot. My favorite animal to hunt is the Blue Wildebeest because they are so tough. There is more than one reason they call them the poor man's Cape Buffalo. I told Gert that Blue Wildebeest are born sick and when you hit them, they get better. We loaded him in the bakkie which was winch equipped with pulleys that ran over the cab.

We then took my Wildebeest to the butchery that is located on the farm where the animals were skinned and cut up and put into 1 of 2 big walk-in coolers. The hide was then "put in the salt" as they say. They have a meat store in Ellisras which is about 30 miles from the farm. They use all the meat as steaks, burgers, sausages, biltong, heart, liver, and kidneys: they even saw-up the bones to sell in their store. I have a *Keeton Knife* that I always take with me, and this year I did some skinning and cutting with it. I usually let the skinners use my knife and they remark about how sharp it is. When they see it, they want it but I can't let it go because of all the hunts it has been on.

Friday, I harvested an Impala and another Wildebeest. Saturday, I took a Zebra and a Warthog. Sunday, the weather turned cold and the animals were laying low. We tried several stalks but the wind was not cooperating. South Africa is below the equator so it was winter there. The temperatures were in the 40's early morning requiring a jacket till about 9:00 AM, and then rising into the 80's, and then right before dark, a jacket was required again.

Monday, I took a Gemsbok. Tuesday, I shot a Kudu at 156 yards that was standing behind a bush. All I could see was one horn! Gert asked if I could see the inside curl and I could. He said come straight down two feet and shoot. The Kudu was directly behind the bush and Gert said the branches would not knock the bullet off line. I shot but not seeing anything, I asked Gert if I had gotten it. He said it dropped where it stood.

My main goal on this trip was to take an Eland. Each morning we looked, drove and stalked Eland. Johann knew I wanted to shoot something big and he said he had one in mind that had a big ruff on his forehead and a large dulap and was big body wise. All week these animals had been some skittish buggers. We would get close but I could not get a shot. Trying to get a specific animal took quite awhile as we would get on several and then when a shot presented itself, it would not be the right animal.

We had stalked several times during the day and then toward evening, we went to a high rock out-cropping and sat till about a ½ hour before sunset. Gert suggested we stalk down into the bushveld to see if we could come up on him. After walking about 20 minutes, Gert saw the Eland they wanted me to take. Gert sat the sticks up and I shot it at 86 yards. I couldn't believe how big the bull was! As the African sun was setting, we hurried to get photos. When going back to the butchery, Gert said, "When the skinners hear us coming, they will be saying, "Hope it's not an Eland!" They have a one-ton winch to hoist the animals up to skin and quarter them and the skinners could not get him off the ground as the hoist kept slipping. They said it probably weighed 2200 pounds. He was the biggest animal I had shot: even bigger than the Cape Buffalo I took on a previous trip to Africa!

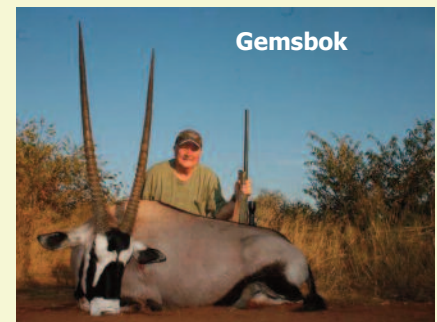
Thursday, I took an Impala and Wildebeest. Friday, I shot another Impala. Sunday, I shot the last 2 animals on my list: a Gemsbok and Zebra. After I shot my Gemsbok when we



Blue Wildebeest



Impala



Gemsbok



Kudu



Eland



Blue Wildebeest

Continued on page 11

# KYSCI Hosts Opening Weekend Dove Hunt

By Mike Maddox

Back in the spring, our Board decided to lease a field for our Chapter members and guests to have a good place to dove hunt this year. We set to work and Jim Warren secured a piece of property just north of Madison, Indiana at the old Jefferson proving ground property. This site had never been planted for doves before but lots of birds had been in the area on previous trips to the property.

Jim Warren and the Lessor did all the plowing, planting and spreading of fertilizer on all of the fields. We planted Brown Millet and sunflowers, and the seeds were in the ground just in time for the rains to help get everything growing. The millet came up great, but the deer ate the sunflowers as soon as they came up. Deer is the main species hunted on this property.

We set the first dove hunt up for the first Saturday in September, opening weekend. As dove season grew closer, everything was coming together as the millet matured and the seedpods dried out. We started cutting patches through the millet to get seeds on the ground for the birds a couple weeks prior to opening day; however, the Thursday and Friday prior to opening weekend turned into a rain deluge from Hurricane Irma with the temperatures dropping down to the fifty-degree mark the night before. The high for the day was in the low seventies.

When I opened the property at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday morning, I did not see many signs of birds: only a few were setting on phone lines around the site. We had thirty reservations for the day, so I sure was hoping people would show up as we had purchased enough BBQ and potato salad to feed all thirty. Members soon started showing up and I got everyone signed up. To keep things fair, everyone drew for designated hunt locations throughout the property.

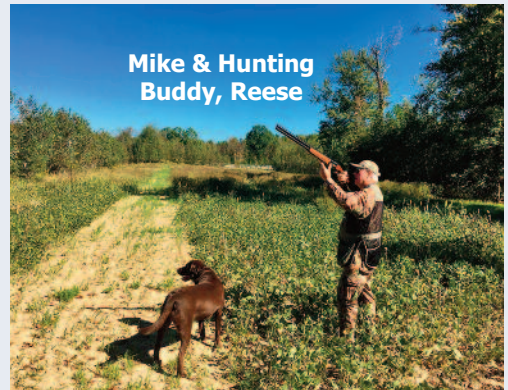
I stayed at the sign-in canopy until around 1:30 P.M., and eighteen people had signed up. I had started hearing a few shots after shooting started at 1:00 P.M. and, frankly, I was happy to hear shots since Hurricane Irma had made conditions

so questionable as to whether we would see any birds at all.

I finally made it to the field and set up in my spot. A few birds started flying in around 2:30 P.M. and shooting continued to improve through the end of the day. By 6:00 P.M., I had eight birds in my pouch. We had planned to shoot until 6:00 P.M. so we could have time to eat the BBQ and potato salad after the shoot. The food was really good and everyone was hungry after shooting most of the afternoon.

For the first time setting up the field, we had a fair to good shoot for all of our effort. Another good thing about our lease was we could shoot the field the whole month of September. I did shoot the field the following Saturday and the weather was much warmer. The birds were flying much better and the last hour looked like a flurry of doves in Argentina. I did shoot my limit along with a few other members and guest.

At the Board meeting last week, I reported on our Chapter's Dove Hunt and recommended that we secure the field for our Chapter again next year. After hearing very positive comments from other members who attended the hunt and me, the Board voted unanimously to lease the property again next year for another great KYSCI Chapter Dove Hunt. Mark your calendars now and watch your newsletters for more information about next year! Also, please join me in saying a special thanks to Board Member Jim Warren for doing most of the work planting and securing the property for the lease.



Mike & Hunting Buddy, Reese



Marty In A Great Spot



Happy Hunters, Marty & Alyson

Continued from page 10

## My Fig Tree Safari

went after him, he had disappeared in the bush, Gert pointed, "Look, he is standing there!"

I said, "I can't see him," and then Gert told me to kneel down and I would be able to see it. When I knelt down, I again said, "I can't see him," but then I felt something swishing against my leg. I hadn't noticed that the Gemsbok was right beside me and Gert was swishing its tail against my leg! Gert and Steven got a big laugh!

Monday, my last day of hunting, we went to a farm to shoot doves on the Limpopo River which is the boundary between South Africa and Botswana. Gert said if I wanted to go to Botswana, I could swim across the river but to watch out for the crocs and hippos! I declined.

Later, Gert took me back to *OR Tambo Airport* where I returned home with great memories of my safari and the animals I had taken: Eland, Kudu, 3 Wildebeest, 3 Impala, 2 Zebra, 2 Gemsbok, and a Warthog. I also took with me vivid memories of the Cape Buffalo, Red Hartebeest, Waterbuck, Bush Pig, Steenbok, Sable, Giraffe, Nyala, Blesbok, Bat Eared Fox and Ostrich that I saw during my incredible safari.

I had an excellent time at *Fig Tree Safaris*: my only regret was that I could not stay longer. I was treated as a friend and felt a friendship with all there, from the owners, Johann and Robyn, and PH's, Gert and Steven, to the workers. I know I'll be counting the days until I can go back again.

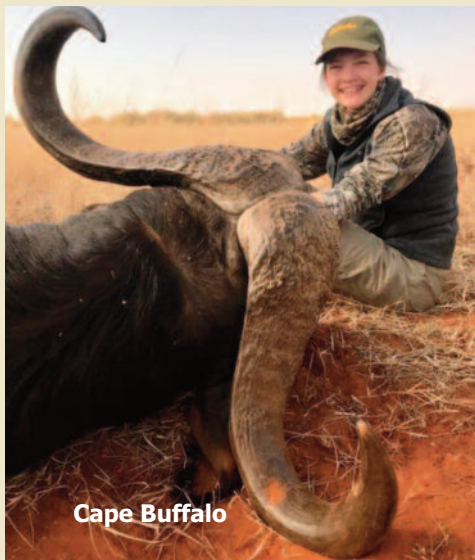
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# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## KYSCI Youth Receives International Award Peyton Jewell Whitworth Honored As “SCI & Cabela’s Young Huntress Of The Year”

By Sam Monarch



Cape Buffalo

Each year, Safari Club International (SCI) and Cabela’s select from around the world one young lady and one young man as the Young Huntress and Young Hunter of the year. The youth selected are intended to serve as role models for all other young ladies and other young men throughout the world.

To be considered for this prestigious honor, the young persons must be nominated by their local

SCI Chapters then they are selected based upon their scholastic excellence, community service, dedication to ethical principles, hunting accomplishments, and essay on how he/she can be a role model for other young hunters.



Soaring High

Safari Club International recently notified Peyton Jewell Whitworth, 15-year-old daughter of Stefanie and Jared Whitworth of Hardinsburg, Kentucky, that she has been selected as the “2018 SCI & Cabela’s Young Huntress of the Year”!

A sophomore at Breckinridge County High School, Peyton is an honor student and a member of the BCHS Varsity Volleyball Team and is active in SADD, HOSA, FBLA, Y Club, PEP Club and serves on the “Principal’s Council”. In addition to her varied school activities, Peyton has been Captain of her KIVA (Kentucky/Indiana Volleyball Academy) Team and a member of multiple conservation organizations. In addition to volunteering for

her local church and community service projects, Peyton is a volunteer participant in the “SCI Blue Bag Humanitarian Services” and “Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry” Programs. She is a banquet volunteer and author for the *Kentuckiana Hunter* (Read her latest article in this issue).

Among Peyton’s many hunting accomplishments are the harvesting of an “SCI Top Ten” Whitetail Buck, an African Cape Buffalo and a Canadian Black Bear. Peyton’s compelling essay, titled “An Honorable Name”, centers around her wanting to leave hunting an honorable name and her



SCI Top Ten Whitetail Buck



Peyton Giving Food, Clothing And School Supplies To Needy Children In Africa



Hugs Of Thanks

love of being reared on her family farm in rural Kentucky.

In her essay, Peyton ties her first hunting experience to leaving hunting an honorable name, “My first experience hunting was when I was eight years old. My father (Jared) and grandfather (Kenny Whitworth), both very experi-



Peyton, age 8 Wild Turkey

enced hunters, took me turkey hunting... As the sun began to rise, I was fascinated by the early morning sounds and then hens began to yelp! Soon several gobblers thundered out their presence, and I became wide-eyed with a racing heart! All of a sudden my world had changed! At that moment, I was transformed into a huntress! Dad and Papaw had set the standard for good ethical hunting: they had given hunting an honorable name”.



Canadian Black Bear

This coveted award will be formally bestowed upon Peyton at SCI’s International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada on February 1, 2018 at SCI’s Annual Award’s Dinner where more than 2,000 people will be in attendance.

KYSCI extends our heartfelt congratulations to Peyton!