

# KENTUCKIANA

# HUNTER



KENTUCKIANA CHAPTER - SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL

FOURTH QUARTER 2019



Photo by Jim Warren

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# President's Message

By Larry Richards, Chapter President

Phone: (502) 727-7700

Doggone it! It's HOT! I'm keeping busy INSIDE getting ready for hunting season. Reloading, knife sharpening, getting stands ready along with getting ready to head out to Wyoming on an antelope hunt is keeping me hopping! I hope you are enjoying this run up to hunting season as much as I am!



*Between the week Larry wrote this message and publication, he, accompanied by his daughter, Mallory, harvested this fabulous antelope! Congratulations, Larry!*

Your Board of Directors is hard at work planning our 25th Anniversary Fundraiser! We hope it will be our best ever and we are working hard to bring it to you as a special event of which you will be proud. Hopefully, you have saved February 22, 2020 on your calendar for our annual gala. We are already in

communication with some exciting outfitters from around the world as well as others here in North America and we will be offering some prime hunts in fantastic locations during our Chapter's live auction! Add to the hunt lineup the many exciting non-hunt items and there will be something for everyone; so, please plan to come and support your Chapter.

We have submitted our Chapter's awards packages to the international SCI organization for Chapter of the Year, Newsletter of the Year, Best Fundraiser Program and two entries for Best Website so wish us luck in those competitions. Those awards will be presented during the international SCI convention in Reno in early February 2020. Hopefully, we will have some awards to display at our fundraiser on the 22nd of February.

During that February 22<sup>nd</sup> Fundraiser, we will be awarding the second annual **Sam Monarch Memorial Scholarship** to a much deserving high school senior who is getting ready to embark upon his/her college career. If you know a youth who might be eligible, please share with him/her the information about this scholarship program that is on the website. Last year's scholarship winner, Avery Knochels, is working to become an attorney with aspirations to follow Sam's path to a judgeship and she is off to a great start and we wish her well in her endeavors!

The new Chapter website, the Legislative Action website and the Chapter Facebook Page are all up, running and keeping our membership up to date. If you have not had an opportunity to visit these sites, plan to do so soon! I think you will be pleased!



## OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

President - Larry Richards - LRichards@cobaltventures.com  
Vice President - Cheri Miller - montanaelksgirl@aol.com  
Treasurer - Sherry Maddox - explorer111749@aol.com  
Secretary - Alyson Stamper - alysonstamperoutdoors@gmail.com  
Past President - Mike Maddox - mmaddox13@me.com  
Senior Advisor - Mike Ohlmann - mctxdy@gmail.com

### Board of Directors

Bob Edwards - bedwardslouky@insightbb.com  
Alice Monarch - amonarch@bbtel.com  
Ivan Schell - ischell@mcbayerfirm.com  
Marty Stamper - Mstamper6969@gmail.com  
Ivy Stevens - lowell.stevens4@icloud.com  
Lowell Stevens - lowellstevens@me.com  
Youth Director Kris Miller - KrisMiller938@gmail.com

## Officers & Directors Elected

The votes are in and Larry Richards was re-elected as Chapter President, Sherry Maddox was re-elected as Treasurer, and Alyson Stamper was re-elected as Secretary. Returning to the Board of Directors for additional 2-year terms are Bob Edwards, Alice Monarch, and Lowell Stevens. Vice President Cheri Miller, Past President Mike Maddox, Senior Advisor Mike Ohlmann and Directors Ivan Schell, Marty Stamper and Ivy Stevens and Youth Director Kris Miller all have one year remaining on their terms of office.

## About The Cover



The Cover Photo which depicts the synchronized connection between the hunter (Mike Maddox) and his dog (Reece) as the morning sun and misty fog create a picturesque, almost surreal, scene was taken by Jim Warren during "The Ducks of September" hunt, (right) which hunt is described by Mike as the "benchmark of all our past and future hunts..." Mike's benchmark of hunts is also captured by the breathtaking images captured by the morning fog lifting into the rising sun in the photo (above), taken by Michael Graham, which shows a fellow hunter as the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow!

**Renew Your KYSCI, SCI & NRA  
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& [www.kentuckianasci.com](http://www.kentuckianasci.com)

# The Ducks Of September

By Michael Maddox



Typically, as I get older, the seasons all seem to run together and only resemble a blur, but this year's September duck hunt became one to benchmark all of our past and future hunts for Woodies. Early Wood Duck season in Kentucky starts the middle of September on a Saturday and lasts for just five days. While the daily limit is only two Wood Ducks, one can also take three Teal. Our group of duck hunters had planned to meet again at Mike Graham's hunting lodge on Green River to enjoy an early season hunt.

Like previous years, each person arrived and started catching up from last duck season. About seven hunters had confirmed to be there, and it was sure great seeing everyone again. I brought my dog, Reece, and Mike Graham would be hunting with Sampson, his dark grey Lab. Sampson has a college degree while Reece was home schooled. Both dogs are smart and get along well together, so it works great to have both Labs along for the hunt.

We hunt on the Wildlife Management Area that surrounds Green River. This year, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife had banded 400 Woodies and released them back into the wild which added excitement to our hunt. We usually hunt around the holding ponds that are typically full of tall brush and, at times, pockets of water. This year has been so dry, the Fish and Wildlife Department had the ponds bushhogged. Wow, what a difference it made not only for the dogs but it opened up some outstanding spots from which to hunt!

We usually hunt from the berms which are separated by wood lines from the swamps where the Wood Ducks roost. Historically, shooting right next to a tree line while birds come zooming overhead leaves little room for error from a shooting perspective. This year, we were able to sit off the wood line and pick up the birds before they were right on top of us.

Each day, our group would get to the area and take posi-

tions in the bottoms of the holding ponds waiting for daylight as well as legal shooting time. Some days, the birds' watches were synchronized with daylight and shooting times, and other days, we sat there watching birds fly right over our heads and we could not shoot. We had a couple of days like that and I kept hollering, "Is it time yet!" Fortunately, some birds waited to come out after it was legal shooting time!

Our group knew the routine. You had to be ready early because on opening day, some local hunters actually get into the swamp areas and get the birds going all at once. Game on! We had about 10 to 15 minutes before most all the birds had broken roost and flown out of the swamp. The whole event lasted less than a half hour.

By Monday, things started to change. Not many shots came from inside the swamp area so the birds came out of the swamp staggered which made it much easier to hit the birds. Once the shooting was over, we walked back to the truck and went to breakfast. We

traditionally stopped at a small grocery/gas station on the way back to the lodge. We kept two ladies busy making breakfast for our group and thick slicing reward bologna for our Labs who preformed flawlessly!

Each day this year, we averaged seven to eight hunters in the field and practically everyone limited out on all five days. On Tuesday, we were treated by hundreds of teal buzzing us as they were migrating south. Fortunately, we were lucky enough to drop a few teal which boosted our bag limit.

As I stated earlier, there were 400 ducks banded this past summer and a number of us were lucky enough to drop a banded duck. I have hunted ducks all my life and this year, I took the first banded duck I had ever shot! The phrase, we should get some jewelry this year, really came true!

We had great hunting, great food, great lodging and great friendship! Our September duck hunt became the trip of a lifetime!



One Days  
Teal & Woodies



Mike Graham  
& Sampson



Mike Maddox  
& Reece



## POPULATION STATUS

Kentuckians are fortunate to have wild turkeys present throughout the Commonwealth to hunt and enjoy. A precise estimate of Kentucky's turkey population would be very difficult (expensive) to obtain, but a crude estimate is 250,000 to 400,000. Regardless of the actual number, turkeys are plentiful enough to offer hunting opportunities rivaling any state.

## SPRING TURKEY HARVEST

The reported harvest during Kentucky's 2019 spring season was 29,495 bearded birds. This total, which includes harvest during youth weekend (April 7-8) and the regular season (April 13-May 5), was 8% higher than last spring, 3% lower than the 5-year average, and 7% lower than the 10-year average. Youth harvest was up 38%. Better weather boosted harvest during opening weekend, which helped account for the overall increase.

Harvest increased in 80 counties, decreased in 35, and was the same in 5 counties. Harvest ranged from 66-679 per county, with 6 counties topping 500. Logan County led in total harvest while Green County led in harvest per square mile. Harvest increased 5-17% in 7 of 9 Commission Districts and 1-16% in the 5 Wildlife Division Regions. Most of the increase in harvest was in the western two-thirds of the state, where for example, harvests in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Districts were up 15% and 17%, respectively. Ten public areas had harvests of over 26 birds.

## FALL TURKEY HARVEST

Fall turkey hunting last year included an archery season (September 3–January 16), two week-long shotgun seasons (October 22–28 and December 3–11), and 2 crossbow seasons (October 1–16 and November 12–December 31). The total reported fall harvest of 2,369 was up 27% compared to 2017-18, which likely reflected a better hatch in 2018 compared to 2019's record low. Most (1,398) turkeys were harvested by shotgun (59%), although the bow harvest continues to account for a greater proportion of the fall harvest (19% in 2009 to 29% in 2018).

Despite last fall's uptick, fall turkey harvest has declined; for example, 5,700 birds were harvested in 2009. This has been disconcerting to some hunters, and rightfully so given that turkey

biologists in past years cautioned against harvesting too many hens in the fall. However, a closer look at the data indicates that fewer hunters pursue turkeys. Resident and non-resident fall turkey permit sales declined by 66% and 22%, respectively, from 2009-10. Some of the loss



was offset by the 25% increase in the resident Sportsman's license, which includes a fall turkey permit. But harvest data show that over time fewer hunters are accounting for more of the fall-harvested birds, which likely means fewer hunters pursuing turkeys. In 2001 (first statewide fall season) 5% of successful

# Kentucky Wild Turkey Update

Zak Danks, Wild Turkey & Ruffed Grouse Program Coordinator  
Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources

August 15, 2019

hunters harvested more than one turkey. Over the past decade this figure has increased to an average of 17%. Also, less than 2% harvest 3 turkeys and less than 1% harvest the full bag limit of 4. This signals a decline in interest in fall hunting and that fall harvest currently is not excessive. Trends are similar in neighboring Missouri, and recent research there has shown fall harvests of less than 4%. Perhaps hunters are busy chasing Boone and Crockett bucks. With so many deer hunters hunting over bait these days, more areas are technically off-limits to turkey hunting anyway.

## REPRODUCTION

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KD-FWR) has conducted a summer brood survey since 1984. Staff and volunteers record all turkeys seen during routine travels in July and August.

We calculate a poult per hen (PPH) ratio to indicate overall productivity, the percentage of hens with poults to indicate nesting success, and a poults per brood (PPB) ratio to index poult survival. In 2018 we made available a mobile phone app and website to report turkey observations along with traditional paper forms.

For the 2018 survey we received 789 observations of turkeys, 64% of which were collected via the app. Encouragingly, indices for overall productivity, nesting success, and poult survival increased compared to 2017. The statewide PPH ratio of 2.0 was 66% higher than in 2017 and 17% higher than the 5-year average (1.7). The percentage of hens with a brood (69%) was 35% higher than in 2017. The statewide PPB of 3.7 was 11% higher than in 2017. Based on past trends, the better reproduction observed over most of the state in summer 2018 (see below) could lead to an even higher spring harvest in 2020.

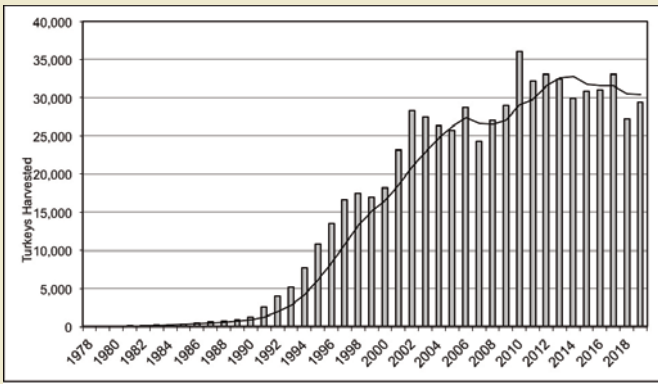
The 2019 brood survey season began on July 1<sup>st</sup> and will conclude on August 31<sup>st</sup>. So far, data logged by participants using the mobile phone app indicate a PPH ratio overall 2.0, which is encouraging in light of heavy rain during early June over much of the state. Time and further analysis will tell, but so far news is encouraging.

## EMERGING OR EVOLVING ISSUES

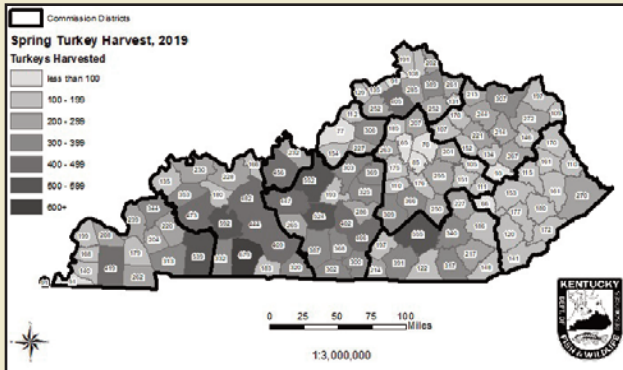
In 2018 we collected 36 male turkeys from hunters in Crittenden and Livingston Counties. Our hope was to gather baseline information on the health of these birds. Carcasses sent to the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease laboratory at the University of Georgia for necropsies did not reveal any significant conditions, which was certainly encouraging. Lymphoproliferative disease virus (LPDV) was detected in 39% of the turkeys, which is consistent with recent findings in other states. Although LPDV can cause tumors in organs of wild turkeys, none were observed in our turkeys. Also, internal and external parasites found were expected based on previous investigations outside of Kentucky. A full report of findings can be found on the KDFWR website. We encourage hunters to report turkeys found dead or appearing strange.



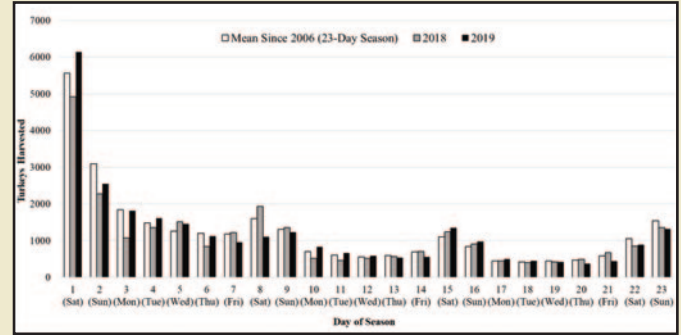
**Figure 1.** Spring turkey harvest in Kentucky, 1978–2019.



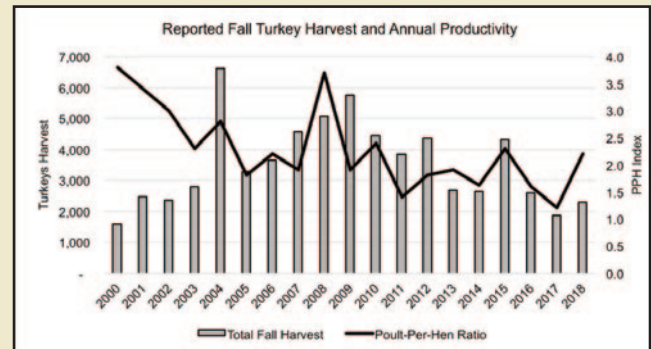
**Figure 2.** Spring turkey harvest totals by county, 2019. KDFWR Commission Districts shown.



**Figure 3.** Spring turkey harvest by day of regular season. Daily totals for 2019, 2018, and the average since the regular season has been 23 days (2006).



**Figure 4.** Fall turkey harvest and reproduction (Poult Per Hen index) in Kentucky, 2000-2018.



Turkeys Harvested 2019	% Change from :				
	2018	5-year Avg. (2015-2019)	10-year Avg. (2010-2019)	Avg. Since 23-Day Season (2006-2019)	
<b>Total Spring Harvest</b>	<b>29,495</b>	<b>+8%</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>-2.8%</b>
1st District	3,525	+15%	+0%	+0%	+0.1%
2nd District	5,206	+17%	+2%	-4%	-0.8%
3rd District	1,564	+9%	-5%	-11%	-2.8%
4th District	5,489	+13%	+5%	+0%	-0.9%
5th District	2,831	+7%	-7%	-9%	-2.4%
6th District	3,124	+8%	-4%	-8%	-1.6%
7th District	2,210	-3%	-13%	-17%	-3.1%
8th District	2,846	+5%	-4%	-2%	-1.6%
9th District	2,700	-2%	-12%	-14%	-2%
Bluegrass Region	6,251	+7%	-4%	-7%	-3.3%
Green River Region	8,932	+16%	+2%	-5%	-1%
Northeast Region	4,025	+6%	-5%	-4%	-1.7%
Purchase Region	3,525	+15%	+0%	+0%	+6.3%
Southeast Region	6,762	+1%	-9%	-13%	-7.5%

**Table 1.** 2019 Kentucky spring turkey harvest compared to last season, averages for periodic intervals, and the rate of change in harvest annualized over the past 10 years.

Public Hunting Area	Harvest	% Jakes	Acreage	Acres per Turkey
Daniel Boone National Forest	371	8.9%	638,529	1,721
Peabody WMA	178	13.5%	45,679	257
Fort Knox Military Reservation	125	13.6%	109,000	872
Land Between The Lakes	89	6.7%	107,594	1,209
Green River Lake WMA	67	11.9%	21,037	314
Taylorville Lake WMA	41	24.4%	9,417	230
Clay WMA	39	33.3%	8,953	230
Clarks River NWR	31	9.7%	9,500	306
West Kentucky WMA	30	13.3%	6,425	214
Big Rivers WMA & State Forest	27	22.2%	7,574	281

**Table 3.** Top 10 Kentucky public hunting areas for 2019 spring turkey harvest.

Ranked by Harvest				Ranked by Harvest Density			
County	Harvest	Harvest / Mile <sup>2</sup>	% Change from Last Spring	County	Harvest	Harvest / Mile <sup>2</sup>	% Change from Last Spring
Logan	679	1.22	+28%	Green	402	1.39	+17%
Muhlenberg	592	1.23	+16%	Pendleton	389	1.38	0%
Pulaski	555	0.82	+9%	Robertson	131	1.31	+32%
Hardin	552	0.88	+10%	Anderson	263	1.29	+12%
Christian	539	0.74	+35%	Campbell	202	1.27	+21%
Hart	524	1.25	+24%	Metcalfe	368	1.26	+11%
Ohio	482	0.81	+9%	Hart	524	1.25	+24%
Hopkins	473	0.85	+14%	Bracken	261	1.25	-5%
Adair	466	1.13	+20%	Muhlenberg	592	1.23	+16%
Breckinridge	456	0.78	+11%	Washington	369	1.23	+6%

**Table 2.** Top 10 Kentucky counties for 2019 spring turkey harvest (total reported kill) and harvest density (reported kill per square mile of county land area).

## 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**

# 2019 Annual Membership Picnic Report

By Larry Richards

On August 17, the Kentuckiana Chapter of Safari Club International held its annual member Picnic at the Audubon County Club in Louisville. This event is a mainstay of the Chapter and allows the membership to meet, swap stories, share pictures and enjoy a bit of camaraderie followed by a good meal and more storytelling. This is the second year the event, historically held at the Monarch Farm in Breckinridge County, has been held in Louisville and it has been very well received by the members at that location. We look forward to continuing the tradition next year.

Some 40 members attended and the meeting was called to order at 5 PM. A short look at the last board meeting minutes, coupled with a brief statement about our great financial standing led us to the motion previously mailed out to the membership to allow the changing of our Chapter By-Laws to provide for the addition of an extra one year term for the President should a majority of the Board of Directors feel it in the best interests of the Chapter. The Secretary was already in receipt of 23 mailed in "yea" ballots and one "nay" ballot. A show of hands from those members who had not replied to the secretary's mailing provided another 27 yea votes and no nays. The motion to amend the By-Laws was passed and a ballot for the election of officers was sent to the membership. The president (me) then proceeded with some brief remarks about the effectiveness of our new Legal Action website and our new Chapter website, both very up to date and very user friendly. They are a good professional representation of our mission and our activities. We are

very proud of them and Kudo's to Grace Nonamaker, our de facto webmaster and expert in all things web related and SCI Life Member Mike Abell for his untiring efforts in keeping the KYSCI-LAC website up to date and current with all the goings-on in Frankfort that effect all sportsmen and women in the Commonwealth. BRAVO!!

Mike Maddox then brought us up to speed on the Chapter dove field. The extremely wet spring has hurt the field to the point that we had to cancel our traditional Opening Day Dove Shoot, but he and Jim Warren were planning a late September (Now September 28th) effort to get some birds using the field and some shooting on them. Questions were solicited from the membership and there being no further Chapter business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned. The microphone was given to Mike Abell for his rendition of his Boone and Crockett Mountain Goat Hunt with Fundraiser Donor Ultimate Alaskan Adventures owner, Steve Johnson. We were, to put it mildly, well entertained by his telling of the adventure that has put a Huge Booner Mountain Goat in his trophy room! Any member with a good story of game taken or not is welcome to share his/her story with us at this annual event! We welcome your sharing the adventure with us!

The membership then moved on to a splendid fried chicken and BBQ dinner put on by the staff at Audubon and enjoyed our meal together as comrades would. Alice Monarch, as usual, did double duty as photographer and Board Member. Please make it a point to attend the next meeting and help us celebrate our sport and the love we have for it!



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
KYSCI FUNDRAISING  
BANQUET GALA  
&  
SILVER ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**

**February 22, 2020**  
**Audubon Country Club**  
Louisville, Kentucky

**SAVE THE DATE**    *Join Old Friends & Make New Ones*    **JOIN THE FUN**


*Social Hour ~ Dinner ~ Silent & Live Auctions*  
Updates on [www.kentuckianasci.com](http://www.kentuckianasci.com)

**MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND**

## 2020 SCI CONVENTION

*EVERY YEAR SCI HOSTS  
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**THE 2020 SCI CONVENTION  
WILL BE HELD IN RENO, NEVADA  
FEBRUARY 5 - 8, 2020!**

Updates on [www.safariclub.org](http://www.safariclub.org)

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

February 5-8, 2020 – **SCI Convention**

- Reno, Nevada
- Contact: [www.safariclub.org](http://www.safariclub.org)

February 22, 2020 - **SCI Chapter Fundraising Banquet**

- Audubon Country Club, Louisville, KY
- Contact: Sherry Maddox [explorer111749@aol.com](mailto:explorer111749@aol.com)

February 2020 - **Military Appreciation Pheasant Hunt**

- Lost River Game Farm, Paoli, Indiana
- Contact: Mike Maddox [mmaddox13@me.com](mailto:mmaddox13@me.com)

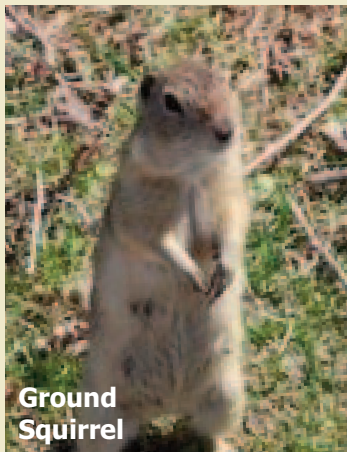
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**To Join or Find Other Outdoor Friends Events Contact:**

- **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@rmeff.org](mailto:Bcarman@rmeff.org)
- **Quail Forever**  
Contact: Jack Dahl at [j.dahljr@att.net](mailto:j.dahljr@att.net)

# SUMMERTIME VARMINTS

By Ivan Schell



Ground Squirrel

Unless you fork over significant dollars to hunt exotics in Texas or black bears in Canada, your only summertime hunting option is likely to be varmints. Decades ago, I was an avid varmint hunter, searching out green pastures where groundhogs built massive den systems, with my .222 Remington 721 in tow. Other favorite venues included farmers' corn and bean fields where the whistle pigs could pilfer an endless supply of groceries. Unfortunately with the

return of coyotes to the eastern US about the only place to find a groundhog these days is an interstate highway median.

Of course, our SCI chapter has sponsored trips to South Dakota and Oklahoma in search of prairie dogs, but even the pasture poodle has fallen on hard times with the plague wiping out entire towns. So what else is out there? Fortunately, past president Bob Horrar, who now lives in Nashville, also has a home



Bob & Ivan

in Big Sky Montana. Bob invited me to travel to Montana to meet the Richardson ground squirrel, often misidentified by locals as "gophers." True gophers in Montana are actually pocket gophers, which spend 99 percent of their time underground and look like rats. Ground squirrels on the other hand are gregarious, living in

tunnels and look more like eastern squirrels. Each year they are allegedly responsible for more than \$7 million of loss to Montana's alfalfa growers alone. This means that Montana farmers will often welcome hunters to come onto their ranches and take out as many of the pests as possible.

Typically, these rodents grow to about 12 inches long and weigh less than a pound. They are dark brown on the upper side but light tan on their stomachs. When they stand erect at the tops of their dens they create a profile which is about 8 to 9" tall, and about 2" wide. They are most visible in the mornings or evenings when the sun reflects off their bellies. As you might

imagine, they create a challenging target at any significant distance.

In planning for the trip, I decided to take a Remington in .225 Winchester and a Savage bolt gun in .17 HMR. As it turned out I

could have left the .225 at home. The diminutive Richardson was the perfect prey for the .17 HMR. The Savage rifle was able to put 20 grain CCI bullets and .17 grain Hornady V-max bullets into the desired minute of angle. However, with a target two inches wide, there is still not much room for error at 100 yards.

Bob made contact with an outfitter to take us out for a morning ground squirrel shoot in central Montana for \$200 a head. (Yes, there are ground squirrel outfitters). The method of hunting involved driving a 4X4 around the fields of alfalfa looking for dens. Generally the squirrels preferred steeply sloping hillsides which bordered creeks. Once we were able to find these locations, the shooting could be intense. Other favorite locations were fencerows. By traveling about 50 yards out from a fence line, we were able to locate curious squirrels which would make the error of standing tall to spot the looming threat. As you can see from the accompanying photos, having a solid rest was critical and frankly

shooting sticks would not do it for me. Draping my frame over the back of the vehicle proved to be much more effective. Check the accompanying photos to get an idea of terrain and targets.

If this sounds like something you would like to use as a hunting diversion next summer, there are numerous YouTube videos which feature the reactions of ground squirrels being nailed with the .17 HMR, as well as evaluations of rifles like the Savage which are chambered in the .17. Our guide was Phillip Bowers who can be reached at 406-223-1108. He resides in Livingston, Montana and operates the Lone Wolf Guide Service, [www.lonewolfguides.com](http://www.lonewolfguides.com).

Ground Squirrel Den



A Solid Rest



## It's Apple Season, "Let's Make Baked Apples"

By Joyce Cook

6 apples, like Macintosh	2 c brown sugar
1-1/2 t ground cinnamon	1/2 c chopped pecans
3 T butter	2 c water

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Remove cores from each apple, leaving the bottom of the apple intact to create a hollow bowl-like interior. Stir together brown sugar, cinnamon and pecans. Spoon mixture into the center of each apple and fill to the top. Place 1/2 tablespoon of butter on top of each apple center. Pour water into bottom of the baking dish so apples sit in water to steam. Bake in a preheated oven for 45 minutes or until apples are soft. Serve warm with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.



# Kentucky Conservation Officer Of The Year

By Bob Edwards



On Tuesday July 25, 2019, The Kentuckiana Chapter Safari Club International was pleased to host an enjoyable luncheon meeting for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and Dallas Shikar Safari at Audubon Country Club to present the annual Conservation Officer of the Year award to 7<sup>th</sup> District Officer Glenn Griffie.

Presenting the award for Dallas Shikar Safari was Janis Bohner who was accompanied by her husband, Chris. Shikar Safari advances wildlife conservation with grants and scholarships and recognizes outstanding officers who protect our wildlife.

Third District Commissioner Ralph Swallows, Colonel Eric Gibson, Law Enforcement Director for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Major Shane Carrier, Assistant Director of Law Enforcement, 7<sup>th</sup> District Lieutenant Greg Watts representing the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources along with Officer Griffie's wife and two sons were all present to honor Officer Griffie.

KYSCI Chapter President Larry Richards and his wife, Janette, and chapter members Mike Abell, Alice Monarch, and Bob Edwards represented the Kentuckiana Chapter Safari Club

International at this prestigious event.

The Conservation Officer of the Year award is a peer chosen award that the Department takes quite seriously. Award winners are selected based on a variety of factors including job knowledge; skills and judgment; dedication and professionalism in investigation and follow-through on cases; and cooperation with other officers, agencies and constituency groups. The vetting process to receive this award is quite lengthy and difficult with one officer from each of the nine conservation districts being nominated by their peers. A panel of the captains from each district then selects one of the nine and the Director of the Department verifies the winner. The winning officer's name is added to a plaque at the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife building in Frankfort, Kentucky. The honored officer also receives an award plaque and a pin that becomes a part of the officer's permanent uniform. The officer is also awarded an immediately payable life insurance policy.



**Officer Griffie & His Family**

Officer Griffie covers 13 counties over 5000 square miles featuring 6 major lakes with over 7000 surface acres. The WMA's and other public hunting areas Officer Griffie patrols covers over 95,000 acres.

Our chapter strongly supports Kentucky's Conservation Officers in the difficult and often dangerous work that they do protecting our state's natural resources and us, the sportsmen and sportswomen of the state. We were honored to be a part of this event.

## KYSCI Sam Monarch Memorial \$2500 Youth Scholarship



Each year an outstanding KYSCI affiliated student entering college shall be awarded a scholarship valued at \$2500 which shall be distributed pro rata beginning each semester over a four-year period of time.

Sam Monarch worked tirelessly within our organization for many years and always had opportunities for youth in the forefront of his efforts. We seek to

honor Sam's legacy with this award and we will present it to our scholarship winner at our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraising Gala on February 22, 2020 at the Audubon Country Club in Louisville.



**APPLY NOW**

Visit [www.kentuckianasci.com](http://www.kentuckianasci.com) for Application

Application Due Date 12/31/19

**Spend a Great Day Afield Honoring Our Military**

**2020 Kentuckiana SCI Military Reserves Pheasant Hunt**

**Lost River Hunting Preserve Orleans, Indiana**

**Date To Be Announced**

**Join Other Kentuckiana SCI Volunteers**

**Contact: Mike Maddox at 502-235-0924**



# “LEGAL BRIEFS”

By Ivan Schell, Esquire



## NATIONAL NEWS

**Federally Protected Species.** In the case of *Wild Earth Guardians v. Department of Justice* in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit, which includes Arizona, Wild Earth Guardians and the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance sued the U.S. Department of Justice because they chose not to pursue criminal prosecutions of individuals who accidentally shoot federally protected species. Although the District Court ruled that the policy violated the Endangered Species Act, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals has now concluded that the plaintiffs, Wild Earth Guardians and New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, did not have standing to bring the suit because they were not affected parties, and accordingly vacated the District Court’s opinion.

**Elephant Importation.** In 2014, the Safari Club challenged the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s (“USFWS”) suspension of the importation of sport-hunted elephants from Zimbabwe and Tanzania (this case is called *SCI v. Zinke*). The case has been to the U.S. Court of Appeals where the Court ruled that the USFWS should have conducted rule-making on its enhanced findings for limitation of importation of elephants harvested in Zimbabwe during the years of 2014 and 2015. In response, the USFWS withdrew its finding regarding the importation of elephants and in its place instituted a permit application process for each individual importation. That process is now ongoing and the lawsuit against USFWS by SCI has ended.

**Wolves.** SCI, NRA and other organizations intervened in the case of *H.S.U.S. v. Zinke* which challenged the legality of the USFWS’s decision to de-list the Western Great Lakes population of wolves. The District Court vacated the de-listing and placed the wolves back on the endangered species list. The decision was appealed to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals which affirmed the lower Court’s re-listing of the wolves on the ESA list. However, in March of 2019, USFWS posted a proposed rule to de-list grey wolves nationwide which, of course, is favorable to those who believe that hunting is a viable conservation tool to use in managing wolves. Currently there is a public comment period ongoing during which USFWS will decide whether to finalize the de-listing rule. SCI anticipates that litigation will follow if the de-listing is affirmed by the Department.

## KENTUCKY NEWS

**Orange Cards.** It is now common knowledge that the Department of Fish & Wildlife has eliminated the field participation component of the process to obtain a Kentucky hunter education card. Specifically, a person can now qualify for such a card without ever firing a gun by taking online education courses and passing an online test which requires that at least 80% of the questions be correctly answered. A person who is at least 9 years old may take the Department-sanctioned exam.

**Deer Disposal Regulations.** The Department has also approved its regulations, applying to taxidermists, requiring that deer carcasses that are disposed of by the taxidermist be buried in a lined (“contained”) landfill at least four feet deep or with two inches of quick lime and at least three feet of earth.

**Bear Zones.** For the second time in two years the Kentucky Department has totally rewritten the rules for bear hunting in Eastern Kentucky. They have eliminated bear Zones #1 and #2 and have replaced them with bear Zone #3, consisting of Adair, Bath, Boyd, Carter, Casey, Clark, Cumberland, Elliott, Estill, Fleming, Garrard, Greenup, Lee, Lewis, Lincoln, Madison, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Powell, Rowan and Wolfe Counties, plus a Bell Zone which means Bell County, East Zone #2, which includes Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Lawrence, Leslie, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry and Pike Counties, as well as a Harlan Zone, being Harlan County, a Letcher Zone, meaning Letcher County, a McCreary Zone, meaning McCreary County, and West Zone #2, which means Clinton, Jackson, Laurel, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Wayne and Whitley Counties.

**Bear Harvest Limits.** The biggest change relating to all of these bear zones is that there are now quotas in various zones which typically involve a limit of two female bears but there is now no limit with respect to male bears. What this means, practically speaking, is that during a bear season for archery or modern gun or a quota hunt with dogs, the season will close for that particular zone after two female bears have been killed, but any number of male bears could be killed prior to the reaching of the two female bear limit. Given the fact that most female bears are in hibernation during the modern gun season, this arguably would mean that there is virtually no limit on the number of bears that can be taken during the modern gun season which runs for seven consecutive days beginning on the second Saturday in December. One bizarre new requirement is that the regulations now spell out what breeds of dogs must be used to chase a bear during the chase season. They include

Airedale, American black and tan coon hound, black mouth cur, blue tick coon hound, English coon hound, leopard cur, majestic tree hound, Mathis mountain cur, plot hound, red bone coon hound or tree walker coon hound.

**Waterfowl Blinds.** Another new hunting regulation relates to waterfowl hunting on public lands. Hunters will now have to take a measuring tape into their duck blinds because a person hunting waterfowl shall “hunt in close proximity to other hunt party members so that each member of the party is within 25 feet of another party member and no two party members are more than 100 feet apart.”

**Guide Helpers.** For those who are interested in being a “guide helper” to a commercial guide licensed under the State of Kentucky Fish & Wildlife regulations, you have now been put out of business. 301 KAR 2:030 now effectively prohibits the use of a hunting guide helper who was previously allowed to act on behalf of a commercial guide license holder to assist in the taking of game animals. Fishing guides can still use guide helpers, but hunting guides cannot. In short, the hunting guide and the client will now have to haul out a deceased elk without any assistance.

**Special Elk Permits.** The KDFWR commission extensively discussed but took no action to change the method of allocating 501(c)(3) elk tags among 501(c)(3) charity applicants, at its September 13, 2019 meeting. Accordingly, as reported in the prior quarter *Legal Briefs*, the Kentuckiana SCI Board has approved at its September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the pursuit of a direct legislative effort to reform the process.

## That's Hunting! KYSCI 2019 Dove Hunt

By Michael Maddox

This year proved to be a big challenge for growing a field of

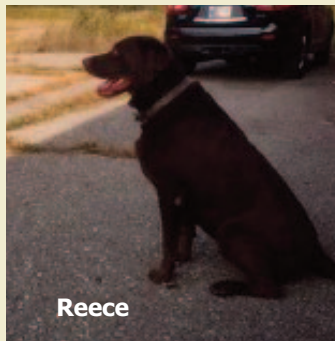


Jerry Johnson, Paul Best,  
Jim Warren

food to attract doves. Jim Warren and I started early in the spring with big hopes of growing large fields of grain sorghum in the fields of the Jefferson Proving Grounds in Indiana for our annual KYSCI Chapter

Dove Shoot. We took soil samples in February and the results had come back showing that we needed to change the PH in the soil a bunch! We were already behind the curve in that lots of lime was required to get the PH up to where we needed it to be. It was not only a problem to get lime applied with all the spring rains, it takes six months to a year for the lime to actually change the PH in the soil to the point where it needed to be.

Given our time constraints, we did the best we could by spraying liquid calcium, a lime substitute, on the plots in hopes of making a temporary difference in the PH so something would grow. I then sprayed Cornerstone to kill all the weeds and we drilled the Sorghum hoping to get better results. We fertilized just like the soil sample report suggested and the sorghum came right up and was soon six inches tall in distinct



Reece

rows. We thought we were on our way to a good stand of food! Two weeks went by and it had grown maybe two more inches. Still excited, we kept watching the plots. By June, the plots had not changed much and by July, it became apparent that the abundance of rain we had in the spring and the low PH did not produce the Sorghum seed heads we had hoped for. By August, the seed heads were very small and still very green, and that is why I cancelled opening day for the dove shoot. There just weren't enough mature seed heads for us to bushhog and little seed upon which the doves could feed.

What now? We decided to push the shooting date until the end of September hoping the seed heads that did make would brown out and allow us to bushhog and put some food on the ground for the doves. Jim and I had only been at the fields early in the mornings working the plots so we didn't have a chance to see if any birds were coming into the fields in the evenings.

Skeptical yet hopeful, we held the hunt on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. As the members showed up to check in, I could not offer much encouragement about seeing birds. As avid hunters, these guys were ready to give it a try, even if the birds did not cooperate. I stayed at the check in spot waiting for stragglers to show up. To my amazement, shots starting firing in the distance and I was reassured knowing some birds must have been flying into the fields. Ivan Schell soon pulled up to check in and I was sharing my thoughts about whether we might see any birds or not. Optimist as he is, his answer was, “That's hunting!”

I have heard that phrase many times before, however, this time it really did bring home how dedicated hunters are knowing there might not be anything to shoot, but just being out in the field with the like minded hunters is what hunting is all about! Fortunately, there were a number of birds and for those who did come out, they had a great time!



Andy Endris  
& Titus

## VISIT THE NEW WEBSITES

Chapter Website  
[www.kentuckianasci.com](http://www.kentuckianasci.com)

Legislative Action Committee Website  
[www.kysci-lac.com](http://www.kysci-lac.com)

# Taking Curriculum & Educators Outside

## KYSCI Proudly Sponsors Scott Cronin To Attend AWLS

Introduction By SCIF  
Reflections By Scott Cronin

### Introduction:

Outdoor adventure and classroom curriculum intersect at the American Wilderness Leadership School (AWLS). Led by Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF), AWLS teaches educators like Scott Cronin how to use the outdoors as a classroom and incorporate ecological lessons into all aspects of curriculum. During the workshop held just south of Jackson, Wyoming, Scott learned about the science of conservation and the positive role hunting plays in it. Participants shot firearms, studied stream ecology, got involved in class discussions, went on conservation hikes, and learned outdoors and survival skills. They networked with their fellow educators throughout the country.

The training was packed with outdoor opportunities that can easily be incorporated into current classroom curriculums. Everything in nature is interconnected; now for the educators, so are the state standards and lessons about conservation in subjects like math, science, physical education, language arts, social studies and art.

Scott also became certified as an instructor in the National Archery in the Schools Program. Scott can teach archery in a physical education class or as an after-school activity or club. Archery can be used as a teaching tool within subjects like physics to explain how an arrow flies or the world-wide history of the bow.

### Personal Reflections By Scott Cronin

Thanks to KYSCI, I was able to attend a workshop to become a better teacher that felt more like I was on vacation! How often can you say that about professional development programs you have attended? Electing to drive to AWLS verse flying, I was able to make some stops along the



way to some pretty significant locations such as Mount Rushmore, Devils Tower, Big Horn National Forest, Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons.

My main goals for attending AWLS were to learn new curriculum, improve my teaching methods, broaden my horizons, and learn about SCI. I was able to accomplish much more than just my main goals during this epic journey.

The location of the AWLS facility located just outside of Jackson, Wyoming in Granite Canyon is breathtaking. Teachers from all across the United States travel to this wonderful facility each year to take part in the American Wilderness Leadership School. Interestingly, the majority of the participants were non-hunters and many had never used a firearm. One thing we did have in common, though, was we were all mentors for youth as educators. SCI did a great job establishing that AWLS was not to turn participants into hunters but for them to learn how hunting is used as a tool regarding conservation. The entire program was filled with wonderful activities and the accommodations were great. Besides all the fun engaging activities, we were involved in learning the *North American Wildlife Conservation Model*.

SCI has worked diligently to established collaborative relationships with outdoorsmen throughout the world to keep conservation a primary focus of the organization. If you are an educator or if you know an educator, reach out to the Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI and submit his/her name for this fantastic program. If you have any questions or interest in how you or someone you know could possibly take part in such a unique opportunity, I will be happy to talk with you about my experience. It truly is an outstanding opportunity for anyone involved in education.

