

Oklahoma *Safari Trails*

AUG 2011



FUTURE FOR LIONS

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YOU NEED TO KNOW

Endangered Species ... PG 7



First Hunt Ever

See how a couple days in the field
can change a life forever ... Page 3

THE FALL HAS ARRIVED

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Leadership of the Oklahoma Station of Safari Club International

2011-2012 (April 1, 2011)

Directors And Terms (through March 31):

Bereman, Hugh – 2013
Case, Lew – 2012
Crabb, Jed – 2014
Elliott, Dennis – 2014
Jones, Josh – 2013
Gerads, Larry – 2013
Gifford, Greg – 2012
Hall, Miles – 2013
Hansen, Leonard Jr. – 2014
Muse, Dr. Gene – 2012
Noblin, Jerry D. Jr. – 2014

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Dennis Elliott – President
Leonard Hansen, Jr. – Secretary
Judy Rork – Treasurer and
Chapter Liaison

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T. Scott Holmes, Dr. M.W. (Bill) Lockard,
Mike Mistelske, Sam Munhollon,
Leroy Ussery, Jim Waters, Jim White,

Financial Advisors:

William H. Crawford, George Caswell

Committee Assignments and Banquet Duties:

Bereman, Hugh:

Banquet Chairman/Admissions/
Seating/Backwoods Show

Case, Lew:

Education Projects,
Humanitarian Services, Banquet
Lodging

Crabb, Jed:

Major Donations, Veterans'
Programs

Elliott, Dennis:

All Committees as President,
Chairman-Membership,
Banquet Games & Store

Jones, Josh:

Major Donations, Member
Activities

Gerads, Larry:

Chairman-Website,
Editor-Safari Trails Newsletter,
Member Activities, Major-
sponsor Recruitment,
Membership Recruitment,
Banquet Program Book

Gifford, Greg:

Education Projects, Banquet
Silent Auction

Hall, Miles:

Education Projects,
Humanitarian Services

Hansen, Leonard Jr.:

Budget and Finance, Legislative,
Chairman-Problem Resolution,
Chairman-Nominating,
Bylaws, Banquet Admissions

Muse, Gene:

Major-sponsor Recruitment,
Membership Recruitment

Noblin, Jerry D. Jr.:

Membership Recruitment,
Legislative, Education Projects,
Banquet General Contest/Special
Merchandise

Rork, Judy:

Banquet Administration/
Comptroller

Holmes, T. Scott:

Conservation Projects, Education
Projects, Banquet Oversight

Lockard, Bill:

Humanitarian Services

Mistelske, Mike:

Chairman-Budget,
Chairman-Bylaws,
Banquet Oversight

Ussery, Leroy:

Chairman-ODWC Expo,
Bylaws, Education Projects,
Nominating, Humanitarian
Services

White, Jim:

Banquet Oversight

***SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE
BOARD MEMBERS' SPOUSES
AND OTHER CHAPTER MEMBERS
FOR ALL THEY DO!!***



Summer is over and finally the temps even make it feel like it is true. I am not sure who got out in the outdoors much this summer but I will tell you our family as a whole spent more days indoors than all of last year combined ☹️ Well, this hibernation of sorts had us doing some new things to pass the time, like building a bow.

I just had to go by a kit, some parts and build one for myself (well, the teen made me do it actually which makes it the best project ever!! 😊) So, for those about to jump in and start building the kind of bows you see folks on the internet build, here are some words before ya head on out and tackle the deal.

1 - Open your checkbook. I spent about \$1000 building my first bow. A kit will run you \$350, tools and parts and 7 solid days of work shop and you are ready to put a string on. Another task to take on is to figure out all the laminates, fiber glasses and wood products and you are in for a surfing circle and more opinions and youtube videos you could ever dream up (buy a kit for the first one).

2 - Tell the wife your taking a boys only vacation and it's in the garage (kick the cars out now). 16 hrs will get your jigs and cookers and stuff built, another 30 it looks like will get your first bow out the door. Add in that the research time on what you should actually use and how thick and poof, 3 weeks of no showers and you have a bow 😊

3 - If you have less money or a lack of time, have someone build you a bow and smile all the way to the bank when they tell you the price. If you have more time and money get a different hobby. If you just love your kids and what to spend hours talking about the outdoors, want to teach them the skills of woodworking, want to have something to hang on the wall that is just beautiful that will be a 400 year generation story line, then BUILD AWAY! I am LOVING it 😊



With my summer project outlaid above, that opens me into this month's storylines. As you will see we are continuing the migration to a new generation look and opening some new doors on topics. A bowers corner is being added to bring in the exciting hunting style, the taxidermy world is giving us information on what to do once we have our trophy, and as usual we have a good hunt or two, some great offerings for escaping to our out passions with the right tool set, and a good coverage of hot topics around Oklahoma and the world.

Sit back, grab a cup-a and enjoy some solid entertainment and knowledge growth at the same time.

Larry (Network Larry) Gerads
The Editor

H, I, A, F, J, E, C, B, G, D





My First hunt ever!!

Let me just start off with saying if it weren't for my amazing husband I would have never even thought about hunting. So thank you hunny! One night my husband says "Hey lets put in for the Wyoming mule deer draw" so we did along with a few other of his hunting buddies. Well low and behold I am the only one drawn, the only one in the bunch that has never been hunting, and the only girl 😊 So off we go a few months later on my first ever hunt.

After a long flight in a small plane and a few hour drive we finally reach the ranch. It was beautiful scenery and quaint log cabins. Antelope were everywhere around the cabins. (they must have known their season was over) . We got everything ready for the next day and settled in for the night.



Day 1: 5AM alarm clock? This is the one thing I really don't like about hunting. I am not a jump up out of bed get dressed and walk out the door kind of gal,.but, I do it. We were in land we were unfamiliar with and no guide (well I had my husband as my guide) so we go out on a long walk up the mountain. Again, antelope everywhere! Lot's of sign I'm so excited! We see a few does way up on the mountain but nothing attainable. Lunch time we walk back to the cabin eat, talk about a plan and head back out for the evening hunt. Nothing! I'm a little disappointed but tomorrow is a new day!



Day 2: same thing stupid 5AM alarm!#! I'm thinking, why do we have to do this so early? I just wanna sleep and go out after light! But, I get up get dressed and get out the door. It's a little cooler today so hopefully we will see some moving! We walk up the mountain side, find a spot and sit and wait, and wait, and wait. Did I say a little cooler? Well it was just downright cold!! But we did see some does slowly making their way from one side to the other. Gotta love it when there is something to watch even if your not going shoot it. Yay lunch time! Back to the cabin make a new plan and nap ☺ alarms not so bad in the middle of the day. We get to our spot and wait, and wait, and wait. Nothing! I'm not gonna lie I'm starting to question this whole hunting thing.

Day 3 I really want to throw something at that alarm and hope it breaks!#\$(6\$! But I don't, I get up get dressed and walk out the door. Thank fully this morning we have a 4 wheeler to get up the mountain. It's colder than yesterday and I am realizing I'm not in as good of shape as I thought! This driving thing is the way to go! Driving up a path the loggers had made we see this group of does and fawns maybe 20 feet away. We stop and they just stare at us like no big deal. Kinda neat. Moving on cause I'm looking for a monster buck! No luck. Lunch time! Back to the cabin eat, nap and head back out.

While looking for the perfect spot to sit for the evening it starts to rain. That makes the deer start moving. We saw them on the side of the path we were on and decided we needed to get to a spot quick. So as we are walking to this fallen tree we stir up this massive buck! He got away. So we sit and wait and there are 2 does walking towards us. They get within reach out and touch distance and bust us. So we decided to move for the last few hours. We found these logs all stacked and calling us to sit on them sooo we did. There wasn't a good spot for both of us to sit together so I picked a spot and Larry sat a few logs away. So I'm scoping out the woods and wondering how in the heck hunters see animals in all these trees much less even get a shot between all the branches! I remember Larry telling me you will find a spot so don't worry.

20 minutes or so go by and nothing. It has stopped raining. We have about 45 min till sundown I look over at Larry and he is signaling buck up the mountain coming down towards us. So I look and see nothing. I put my scope up and scan and sure enough I see him! My heart is pounding and I'm praying Lord if I should not be shooting this deer then don't let it come in range cause I will shoot it! I watch this deer slowly come down I lose sight it a few times but thankfully I get my scope back on him. Larry was right, you will find an opening in the trees! I found mine and I clicked the safety off. Loudly I must say. I freeze look up thinking that I'm busted but nope so I get my scope back on him and take a deep breath and pull the trigger. Nothing!!

I look at Larry to tell me what to do, but he can't help as the deer are so close, about 30 yards. I realize my shell is stuck. Like a dummy I didn't get my thang all the way closed so it jammed when I pulled the trigger. What else can you do, I'm thinking, well, let's see how quiet I can be I get the shell out; stick it back in the clip, and close it up for another try (let me tell you, that makes A LOT of noise)! Deer is still there ☺

I get him back in my sights, I can only see a piece at a time of him because of all the trees (it's amazing how well the blend in when you know right where they are) I'm looking for my opening and I'm thinking if he goes any further than this spot up ahead I won't be able to shoot cause the log next to me stuck out to far. So I pick a spot in between two trees where there was a small opening maybe 6-8 inches wide. I see a nose pass through the opening, then the start of a rack, then some more rack, then a neck (I'm trying to remember if the neck was a good shot or not. Can't remember so I don't take it cause I'd rather be safe than sorry) then the begging of the shoulder then the vital area and deep breath and bang!!! It was like slow motion watching the bullet. Holy Mackerel there are 2!? 1 goes left 1 goes right. Larry gets up and I sit there and listen and we hear the thud. I'm sooooo excited!!!!!!

We wait a little bit and then head in to find him. I said he was the one that went to the right so we look and look and look it's dark now and still nothing. My heart is sinking I'm starting to second guess maybe I missed, I hope I didn't just wound him. All kinds of crazy thoughts. We get the 4 wheeler and turn the lights in the area I thought he went and still found nothing. We head back to the ranch talk to the ranch hand about it and decide we will go back out in the morning to look for him. Ironically enough, the outdoor channel was on and it was about a girl who shot and didn't find her deer so she had to wait and go back out in the morning. She found hers so that gave me a little hope.

We go to bed but my mind was racing with all the what if thoughts, so as I drifted off to sleep I prayed that I either missed or he was dead and we will find him in the morning.

Day 4 Alarm goes off and I am up and ready to go! ☺ Not so angry with the alarm this morning. I'm so anxious to get out there and see what the heck happened. We get out there and I sit back in the spot I was in the night before and tell them where I shot so we go looking and nothing, no blood, no hair, just nothing! We comb the area to the right and still nothing. Well now I'm just looking for a hole or shell in a tree. There is nothing to say I shot a deer with the exception of the thud we heard minutes after the shot.

The guys are not ready to give up (thankfully) Larry says Murphy's law says lets look in the other direction. So we do and Andrew finds 1 hair. I'm thinking how in the heck do you see 1 hair in all this!? So we keep looking we find blood and lung!!!! In 1 spot and then nothing!?!\$^7 (This hunting thing can make a gal a wreck) Larry goes up the way the deer came down, Andrew looks towards the road and I head the opposite direction. I stand there looking and praying that we find this deer I look to the left nothing I look in front of me ohhh I think I see something! Nope, just a log... Grrr. I look to the right and cannot believe my eyes, my senses and my heart is pounding, I found him!!!!!! So grateful that I didn't just wound an animal and totally excited that I shot my 1st buck! And it was a good shot and he only went about 30 yards from where I shot him.

I can now say I soooo get the hunting thing. All the time put in for that one moment is worth it for sure! I'm hooked for life. I suppose I should mention that the next time my Hubby left for a week, I rearranged the house. ALL of the racks and mounts came out of the little office room and we now have our mounts all around our living room walls (with my first one right above the TV) and I even painted a wall size Outdoor scene to finish it off ☺ Ladies, if you haven't gone hunting, get on it right now!

Debra Dawn Gerads



A Note from the Editor: Getting your entire family into the outdoors expands every part of your life. You spend more time together, spend far less time in front of the TV and far more time planning, packing and traveling. Ladies, if you're the holdup, start slow, try shooting (it is fun) then step into a little hunting with ugly or acceptable things (like hogs and turkeys). By the time late fall shows up you will understand the hunt and will be scoping out a spot on your living room wall for your first trophy too! ☺



Alligator Gar on the Red River guess it to be 40+ lbs caught by one of our proud members LD Ferguson



First Halibut, taken in Alaske by Scott Holmes – way to go Scott!!



YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Welcome back to the “Need To Know” column...as in, yes, we each really do need to know this information.

As explained when this column was first introduced (call it “Chapter One”), in the May, 2011, issue of *Oklahoma Safari Trails*, I'll try here to present clear and simplified summaries or explanations relating to terms we often hear but may not really clearly understand...and I intend to focus on things we need to know so that all our hunting-related activities are conducted legally.

Mike Mistelske

Chapter Two...What is an “endangered species”, and what is the “*Endangered Species Act*”?

In Chapter One, the topic was, “What is CITES?” In that summary, it was explained that CITES deals with “endangered species”. So what is an endangered species? That question may be best answered in this context by a very brief overview of the *Endangered Species Act (ESA)*, passed by Congress in 1973:

[excerpted from the official U.S. Fish & Wildlife website...<http://www.fws.gov>]

The purpose of the ESA is to protect and recover imperiled species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. The Interior Department’s U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Commerce Department’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administer the ESA. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish such as salmon.

Under the ESA, species may be listed as either endangered or threatened. **“Endangered” means a species is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.** “Threatened” means a species is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future. All species of plants and animals, except pest insects, are eligible for listing as endangered or threatened. For the purposes of the ESA, Congress defined species to include subspecies, varieties, and, for vertebrates, distinct population segments.

As of March 2011, the FWS has listed 1,967 species worldwide as endangered or threatened, of which 1,372 occur in the United States.

How are Species Listed?

Section 4 of the ESA requires species to be listed as endangered or threatened solely on the basis of their biological status and threats to their existence. When evaluating a species for listing, the FWS considers five factors: 1) damage to, or destruction of, a species’ habitat; 2) overutilization of the species for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; 3) disease or predation; 4) inadequacy of existing protection; and 5) other natural or manmade factors that affect the continued existence of the species. When one or more of these factors imperils the survival of a species, the FWS takes action to protect it. The Fish and Wildlife Service is required to base its listing decisions on the best scientific information available.

Recovery

The law's ultimate goal is to "recover" species so they no longer need protection under the ESA. Recovery plans describe the steps needed to restore a species to ecological health. FWS biologists write and implement these plans with the assistance of species experts; other Federal, State, and local agencies; Tribes; nongovernmental organizations; academia; and other stakeholders.

The *Endangered Species Act* also implements U.S. participation in CITES.

It is appropriate here to comment about SCI's current position regarding the ESA...
...As presented to many members of Congress on May 5th, 2011:



Endangered Species Act Reform

SCI Supports Modernizing the Endangered Species Act

Safari Club International requests that Congress work to modernize the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to focus on species recovery and address the Act's numerous failures.

Current Problems with Endangered Species Act

Species Recovery: The primary goal of the ESA has been to recover species at risk of extinction. Unfortunately the ESA has failed in its species recovery efforts. Currently there are over 2000 species listed as "threatened" or "endangered" while only 20 recovered species have been removed from these lists since the ESA was enacted.

Management by Litigation: Presently, the vast majority of the scientific decisions for species conservation are inappropriately being made by the courts and not by the wildlife professionals within the federal agencies tasked to administer the ESA. Litigation is dictating the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) priorities for dealing with species in jeopardy and is depleting the agencies' personnel and financial resources.

Economic Impact: The ESA detrimentally impacts jobs and the economy, particularly in rural communities. There are numerous examples of sustainable human development projects with carefully planned wildlife mitigation measures being blocked and private property rights being infringed by the ESA.

Enhancement Permits: The FWS imposes a burdensome requirement that trade in a species “enhances the survival of that species” before it will issue import permits for threatened and endangered species even if such import would be allowed under the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species. The additional enhancement finding requirement by FWS is a significant burden to international hunting, which has been shown to be the most effective means of funding sustainable wildlife conservation in developing countries.

Climate Change: Radical anti-hunting and protectionist organizations have spent millions of dollars in an effort to manipulate the mandates of the ESA to list animals for the express purpose of regulating greenhouse gases. The ESA is not the correct vehicle for regulating greenhouse gas emissions. These efforts distort the purpose of the ESA and stretch the administrative capacities and scientific expertise of the FWS and NMFS far beyond their limits.

Since the late 1980s, there have been over one hundred Congressional hearings on the ESA, and dozens of public “listening sessions” in all geographic regions of the country. Secretary Salazar has called for the ESA to be reformed, saying the Act is “unmanageable and unproductive.” It is time to update and modernize the Endangered Species Act so that we can do a better job in recovering species.



YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Do you want to know more? See...

... the official CITES website...<http://www.cites.org>

...the USFWS website... <http://www.fws.gov>

...relevant USFWS hunting/fishing information...

<http://www.fws.gov/le/HuntFish/HuntFishInfo.htm>

HOW ABOUT THIS AS ANOTHER SUBJECT FOR YOUR KIDS TO WORK ON FOR A SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT?

2011 Annual Oklahoma Station Safari Club International Banquet

What a year and what a Banquet!! We at OSCSCI had such a great year in 2010...and an even better banquet night to start up the 2011 year. We would like to give the heartiest and deepest-felt "Thank You!" to ALL who made last year such a super year and to those who attended the recent banquet!! This start will allow us to continue to make positive influences in the Oklahoma and international outdoors arenas.

The mission of the Oklahoma Station Chapter SCI is to promote the freedom to hunt and to promote wildlife conservation in the state of Oklahoma and worldwide. We hope you saw and agree that the annual banquet was a spectacular start to this. We use 100% of the funds from the banquet to support the projects and initiatives that help us fulfill or even surpass our mission goals. OSCSCI is 100% volunteer based with no paid staff members; this too we believe shows the amazing job that we as a group can do and have done.

You, as a member of the outdoor world...and hopefully of OSCSCI (see our website** for signup information), help us tremendously in ensuring the future of outdoor activities for us, for our children, and hopefully for many generations of grand children to enjoy! Once again we will point to our website** for the specifics of the amazing things OSCSCI has done. Historically, OSCSCI has already been written in for major impact in our current & future outdoor world in Oklahoma...but we still have many more projects to undertake.

The continuation of last year's projects, as well as establishment of new ones for this year is going to keep all of us very, very busy. With that, here is our plug for you to get more involved . This group DOES make an impact. We do influence wildlife conservation and our hunting and fishing world, and we DO need you as not just a financial supporter but as an active member too. We think 2011 is going to be yet another spectacular year, and we would love for you to come along and help us any way you can. Oh, and don't forget that there are often tax benefits for your contributions to a charity such as OSCSCI!!

One last time so you're sure to understand how deeply we all mean it – THANK YOU for your past, current and future support...and for making the 2011 Banquet such a smashing success!!



MJMistelske

Mike Mistelske—President, OSCSCI

Dennis Elliott

Dennis Elliott—President-elect, OSCSCI

**<http://www.oklahomastationsci.org>

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June 17, 2011

Safari Club International Continues Fight to Keep Wolves Delisted

Washington, D.C. – Safari Club International (SCI) moved forward today in its fight to represent hunters in the constitutional challenge to wolf delisting legislation. The motion filed today by SCI, together with the National Rifle Association (NRA), asks Judge Donald Molloy of the U.S. District Court for Montana to reconsider his decision to exclude SCI and NRA from the latest lawsuit over the status of the wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountains.

After Congress passed a law directing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reissue the 2009 rule delisting the wolves of Montana, Idaho and portions of Oregon, Utah and Washington, two groups of plaintiffs brought suit, challenging the constitutionality of the new legislation. Judge Molloy denied intervention to the suit to all applicants, including the states of Idaho and Montana as well as non-governmental groups such as SCI and NRA. The judge decided that the federal government would adequately represent the interests of all.

Today, SCI and NRA asked the court to reconsider its intervention ruling. SCI and NRA presented the court with evidence that the government could not sufficiently represent their interests, in the form of unique and essential arguments that were absent from the government's own briefing. SCI and NRA intend to use these arguments in defense of the constitutionality of the wolf delisting law.

"SCI is committed to representing our members and the hunting community generally in this latest challenge to wolf delisting," said SCI President Kevin Anderson. "With our long and consistent history in wolf litigation and our knowledge of federal and environmental law, we deserve a seat at the table to help defend Congress' efforts to end the prolonged and unnecessary battle to recognize wolf recovery and return the species to state management."

Safari Club International – First For Hunters is the leader in protecting the freedom to hunt and in promoting wildlife conservation worldwide. SCI's approximately 200 Chapters represent all 50 of the United States as well as 106 other countries. SCI's proactive leadership in a host of cooperative wildlife conservation, outdoor education and humanitarian programs, with the SCI Foundation and other conservation groups, research institutions and government agencies, empowers sportsmen to be contributing community members and participants in sound wildlife management and conservation. Visit the home page www.safariclub.org or call (520) 620-1220 for more information.

If you would rather not receive future communications from Safari Club International PAC, let us know by clicking [here](#).
Safari Club International PAC, 501 2nd Street NE, Washington, DC 20002 United States



News from the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Researchers Track Black Bears in Northeast Oklahoma

"The Oklahoma Station of the Safari Club International continued their commitment to conservation by providing important funding for this bear research project. The Oklahoma Station Chapter Safari Club International has partnered with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation on a number of important research projects including, Hunters Against Hunger, Operation Game Thief, hunter education and other wildlife conservation efforts. The mission of the Oklahoma Station Chapter Safari Club International is to protect the freedom to hunt and promote wildlife conservation in the state of Oklahoma and worldwide...."

THE BLACK BEAR IN OKLAHOMA...

Length 4-6 feet. Height at shoulder 2-3 feet. Weight 150-400 pounds. Color varies from blackish to chocolate brown to pale cinnamon. Preferred habitat is inaccessible forests, swamps, brushy areas. Diet consists of nuts, berries, grasses, insects, eggs, honey, small mammals and carrion. Not active predators. Hibernates in winter but can arouse quickly. Dens in caves, hollow logs, large trees or beneath boulders. Mates in late June and July. Gestation period of 7-8 months. One to 3 cubs are born in January to March in the winter den. Young are weaned in August. Family breaks up at end of second winter. Range: extreme southeast Oklahoma and tier of eastern counties.



While black bears in southeast Oklahoma have been studied extensively by biologists and are even pursued by hunters each fall, less is known about bears inhabiting the northeast portion of the state. But a research project by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in partnership with the Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Oklahoma State University is helping to change that.

Caption: Wildlife Department personnel and Researchers examine a northeast Oklahoma black bear as part of an effort to establish the status and distribution of the species in that region of the state. The project is being conducted by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in partnership with the Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Oklahoma State University. Pictured clockwise from left: Curt Allen, northeast region wildlife biologist for the Wildlife Department; Sara Lyda, OSU research associate; Colby Farquhar, wildlife technician for the Wildlife Department; and Craig Endicott, northeast region wildlife supervisor for the Wildlife Department.



“The goal of the project is to establish the status and distribution of black bears in the northeast region of the state,” said Craig Endicott, northeast region wildlife supervisor for the Wildlife Department and the project leader.

Still in its first year, the three-year research effort involves trapping bears for tagging and collection of biological data such as measurements, age estimates and DNA samples.

With more than two years of studying still ahead, researchers have already trapped and examined six bears, primarily in and around Sequoyah, Cherokee and Adair counties on both public and private lands.

Some bears have been fitted with satellite-based GPS tracking collars that researchers use to monitor range and breeding success. Collared female bears will be tracked to den sites where they give birth to cubs in winter. The adult female can be temporarily sedated to collect data on her overall condition and to mark and gather information on cubs. The high-tech collars do not inhibit the bears’ normal activities, and they provide researchers with location readings at four key times each day, providing details about individual ranges and habits. Trends and other important information can be revealed in their findings.

“The GPS collars give us a fantastic look at the daily travels of the collared bears,” said Sara Lyda, an OSU research associate working with the Wildlife Department to study bears in the region. “We have already recorded that these females often travel seven to 10 miles per day within their home ranges.”

In addition to trapping and tracking, hair samples are being collected with wire devices designed to pluck strands of fur from bears’ hides as they travel to and from bait sites. Collecting DNA from hair samples helps researchers identify individual bears and understand the genetic diversity of bear populations in an area.

OSU also is working with Wildlife Department biologists, technicians and game wardens to monitor bait stations placed throughout counties in northeast Oklahoma. This effort will indicate the geographic range of black bears in the northeast region.

By studying range distributions, breeding success, body conditions, genetic diversity, feeding habits and other data collected during the project, biologists will learn important information about the health and stability of black bear populations in the northeast region.

The Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit is a program of the U.S. Geological Survey. Since 1948, it has been an integral part of OSU and wildlife and fish research in Oklahoma, helping cooperators like the Wildlife Department collect useful information on a variety of resource issues.

Oklahoma black bears were put in the spotlight in 2009, when the first official hunting season took place in a four-county region of southeast Oklahoma. The season came after years of research and nuisance bear control, but prior to that, many Oklahomans may not have even been aware of the existence of bears in the state.

Black bears once ranged over the entire area of what is now Oklahoma, but by the early 1900s, sightings had become rare. Factors like land use changes, unregulated hunting and habitat fragmentation caused black bear numbers to eventually decline drastically. In the late 1900s, however, black bears began making a comeback in Oklahoma after their successful reintroduction in the Ozark and Ouachita mountains of Arkansas. That initial relocation of about 250 bears from northern Minnesota and Manitoba, Canada, turned into thousands of bears in the mountains of Arkansas, which then expanded into southwestern Missouri and eastern Oklahoma.

This successful reestablishment of black bears led to a renewed bear hunting season in Arkansas in 1980 and in Oklahoma in 2009.

Today, the species represents an important part of the state's wildlife diversity. The presence of black bears in an area can indicate good wildlife habitat, because the habitat requirements for black bears are often more demanding than for other species.

To learn more about the Wildlife Department, the state agency charged with conserving the state's wildlife, log on to wildlifedepartment.com.



<http://www.eregulations.com/oklahoma/hunting/bear-archery-muzzleloader/>

<http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/huntregs.htm>

<http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/index.htm>



GLOBAL RESCUE, ALREADY A SUPPORTER OF OUR SCI CHAPTER, HAS OFFERED TO RETURN A PORTION OF THEIR SALES BACK TO US.

The Oklahoma Station Chapter of SCI is pleased to announce that Global Rescue, the premier provider of medical, security and evacuation services to SCI members worldwide is increasing their support to us.

Because of their dedication to our organization and the well-being of their members, we strongly urge you to consider Global Rescue.

Global Rescue will donate a portion of sales directly back to our chapter. Please be sure to mention code "SCI Oklahoma Station" when you call.

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Future for Lions, Future for Hunting

By: Joshua Jones

Safari Club International (SCI) has been a long-time supporter of all of us who call ourselves hunters and our right to continue this heritage. Not only does SCI stand up for us hunters, they also work to defend the



wildlife we all love. But recently the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) along with several other anti-hunting groups have banned together to attack the legal hunting of lions in Africa by using false information to manipulate the emotions of an unknowing public. If these groups win they will effectively eliminate lion hunting thus taking away the value of lions to

the native peoples of Africa, which will likely end in the eradication of lions from Africa. This is why SCI has teamed up with other foundations such as the Mozambican Conservation Organization (MCO) to defend lions as a species and as a valued hunting trophy.

Recently the HSUS and its partners have moved to list the African Lion as endangered through the U.S. endangered species act. They have also approached the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to ban the importation of legally harvested lion parts into the United States. As 90% of all lions are hunted by American sportsmen this would effectively eliminate the sport hunting of lions. These groups hope that they can mislead the public with false information about how sport hunters have almost pushed lions to the brink of extinction and will in fact do so if the sport hunting of lions is not stopped. However the real threat to lions in Africa is not legal hunters but instead the real threat to lions is from illegal killing by the local people and from poachers.

If the hunting of lions is halted these lions would lose their dollar value to the local people and would consequently be considered vermin due to their cattle killing and reputations as man-eaters. This would lead the native people to once again begin poisoning the lions in an effort to defend themselves and their cattle. In actuality relatively few people are killed by lions each year but it only takes one or two deaths to make the locals believe they need to protect themselves through this illegal slaughter of lions. On top of this illegal revenge killing lions are targets for poachers who kill them for their “medicinal” value on the Asian markets.

What the opponents of lion hunting don’t want the public to know is that properly managed sport hunting does not pose any threat to the sustainability of lion populations in Africa. In fact recent studies have shown that properly managed hunting may be beneficial to lions as the older males, which hunters are after, are no longer useful to the pride for breeding purposes. This was discussed by Dr. Karen Whitman from the University of Minnesota. After gathering data on lion sociology and reproduction she determined that if hunters only take lions that are at least six years old then there was a slight increase in the population size. It is vital to the future of lions and lion hunting that this scientific data is made available to the public. Without it there is a grave chance that the HSUS may win.

Luckily for those of us who love to hunt and especially those of us that love Africa there is a light of hope. SCI maintains a full time staff in Washington D.C. lobbying on behalf of hunters and wildlife. These men and women constantly man the frontlines in defense our sport and our heritage. But while SCI is hard at work in Washington, MCO is on the ground in Africa working to collect the most current data on this magnificent animal. They have already determined that in Mozambique’s Niassa Reserve alone there are roughly 1,000 lions at this point in time. That may not sound like much but it is a tremendous number of lions given the size of the area. MCO employs 30 full time game rangers which make up an anti-poaching effort as well as 10 more rangers who focus all their efforts on studying lions and educating the locals to ease human animal conflicts.

But why should that matter to all of us here in Oklahoma? Many of us may never hunt in Africa or have any desire to do so. I can think of two reasons why all of us should care. The first reason is to protect this majestic species. If we stand by and let them close lion hunting we could be passing a death sentence on this amazing creature and an Africa without lions is one I do not wish to imagine. But probably the scariest reason of all is that if we let them win here how long will it be before they launch a full scale assault on us here? The momentum they could gain from this may lead them to stop Oklahoma's recently started black bear season or maybe even carry them to victory in the ongoing battle over wolves. As members of the hunting community is our responsibility to fight for conservation on all battle fronts, not just those that affect us directly. In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing... and the worst thing you can do is nothing."





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If a grizzly is on your dream-hunt list, plan ahead now for the March 3rd, 2012, SCI Oklahoma Station Chapter banquet and auction; our Alaska hunt will include grizzly and black bear! Once again, we'll be at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City!

The last 3 months have been very busy for the members of Oklahoma Station Safari Club International. We have help our neighbors in time of need, had fun swinging shotguns on a blistering hot summer day, and sat in cool comfort while discussing topics with our Oklahoma Department of Wildlife. We are not you standard hunting club, we are Safari Club International which means we are doers! I doubt I could cover everything we do between every publication but I will try and cover a few of them each time. Come join THE club and have some fun and help us maintain the outdoor kingdom for the future of our children.

Mundel Family Yard Makeover – Jun 5th 2011

May in Oklahoma was not nice to many of our friends and neighbors. One of the families that took major damage from the rash of tornadoes that came through the Oklahoma City area reached out to OKSCI and asked for little help. I am proud to say that SCI stood up proud and spent the day helping this family get a little sanity back into their life.

SCI members showed up with trucks and chainsaws and helped down many dangerous trees, remove even more damaging trees from their roof and walking areas and made it possible to simply get into the house without having to be part monkey. It was a terribly hot day but much was achieved and when the energy's got low, Hugh Bereman cracked open the cooler and fired up the grill, cooking burgers and dos for everyone involved.



Here are a few of the pictures of the damage this family was trying to deal with and SCI's help made a major impact on their recovery process!



The Mundell Family sends a HUGH THANK YOU and GOD BLESS to every member of Safari Club International!!

Member Wing-Shooting Workshop – Jun 4th 2011

The Oklahoma Division of Wildlife Conservation brought out the Shotgun Training and Education Program (STEP) trailers to the Oklahoma City Gun Club for a day of learning and fun. The ODWC set-up a 5 station trap field and provided shotguns and shells as needed. Through the day there were shooters from world class champions to the very first time ever trying the wing shooting sports. Everyone had a great time and we surely pulled in a few new youngsters who will be bothering their parents to do it again soon ☺ All of this as a cost of \$0 for anyone who wished to come out. At the end of the day we fired up the grill and had some serious burgers and dogs and there was even a drawing for a beautiful Browning BPS Shotgun.





Chapter Member Dinner with Guest Speaker Lance Meek from ODWC – Aug 30th 2011

Lance Meek from the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife and Conservation (ODWC) joined us at a member's dinner and gave us a great presentation on the current highlights of the Oklahoma Wildlife and Conservation world. Many topics were covered and some of the high points were:

- With the lack of water in Oklahoma this year the best hunting place will probably be anywhere near a feeder. The lack of other feed surviving the heat waves of the summer, nutrients provided by a well-stocked feeder will be well appreciated by the whitetail population. As for rack growth and herd strength, this year will deliver some very large trophies. The primary time line for antler growth was during the spring and we had plenty of water and nutrients at that time. Add in the lack of food around and the bigger bucks which are normally very nocturnal will probably be tempted out in the daylight by the above mentioned feeders.
- OKSCI has, and continues to, donate on many fine projects to the ODWC. Some of those are well known, others are a little smaller in scale but have very large impacts. The Essay Contents are always a great thing, and the continued support of the AWLS program by OKSCI is making big headways into the schooling system. There are numerous schools which have now expanded past after school outdoor activities (like Archery in the Schools) to full curriculum classes covering the entire range of Outdoor activities and conservation.

Of course the dinner was great too and another drawing was held to give away a beautiful #####. The next few months will be very busy with the impending hunting seasons but we will be having a few other events through this qtr. If you're not a member yet, it is surely time to become one, heck, our upcoming Christmas party at one of the elite ranches in Oklahoma with bow shoots, shotgun shoot, hay rides and a dinner I am sure will remind us all of Christmases of past will be worth more than the annual membership costs ☺

27th Annual Convention Banquet and Fundraiser – Mar 3rd, 2012

At the, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. It is NEVER too early to start planning for the event of the year. We will have a few more events between now and then but put this one in big red stars on your calendar ☺

BOWERS CORNER

How it all began

I started building bows a few years ago when I was in the Army. I started because I couldn't afford to buy the bows I really wanted raising my large family on a military salary. I bought the typical how to type books and joined some really awesome traditional archery forums. After watching these guys create some real master pieces I had a fellow bowyer on one of the sites tell to just quit messing around with the idea of building a bow and just build it. So that's where it all begins.



I started out building longbows made of red oak, which was cheap and easy to get my hands on. These were your typical flat bows as most would call them. I quickly learned a phrase that I would never forget "If you ain't breakin then you ain't makin". This phrase stands true to this day. One little mess up when picking out the wood to use and snap, all your hard work becomes fire wood. I made these red oak bows for a while until I felt comfortable with doing more types of bows and exotic wood bows.

This all started out as a hobby for me but quickly turned into a full on business. Of course becoming a disabled Veteran kind of pushed me into doing something different as well. I was getting guys ordering the bows I was making and having fun with it at the same time. I kept building and advancing into more tools, more types of bows and even glass bows.

I heard it said best by the editor of this magazine Larry. If you are interested in making a glass take down re-curve bow, the first thing you want to do is open your wallet and take out all your cash. This is true to many folks out there. Once you build the bow ovens, the forms, and get all the materials to make your first bow you have invested hundreds of dollars on a project that you may not even see success at. That's terrifying to most people. Then there are the rest of us who grab the bull by the horns and take off. I have found that making a glass bow takes time, money and patience.

For all of you out there who want to try traditional archery but don't know where to start or maybe you just want to learn to build traditional bows, don't be afraid to try. The most successful bowyers out there today break a bow and they keep on trucking with a new one. Come on over and join the traditional archery family and get into building bows with us.

There is nothing to be feared. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions at www.stonepointarcheryandknives.com. Enjoy the outdoors this year with a traditional bow and some wood arrows. Shoot Straight and God Bless.

Lester Harper



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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Weekly Wildlife News --- September 9, 2011

A service of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Wildlife Expo to feature hands-on outdoor learning and free giveaways

A stop by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation headquarters in Oklahoma City can give sportsmen a glimpse of the John Deere Gator utility vehicle that will be given away at the 2011 Oklahoma Wildlife Expo Sept. 24-25. Even better, they can attend the Expo and register to win it. They also can get behind the wheel of a Gator at the Expo and drive it down an off-road trail as part of a weekend of hands-on outdoor learning opportunities.

The Gator that will be given away as well as the free off-road test driving course is being provided by P&K Equipment, a major Expo sponsor who has partnered with the Wildlife Department on the Expo for seven years running. Offered as the grand prize at the Wildlife Expo, visitors need only sign up for the drawing at the prize registration booth at the event, held at the Lazy E Arena just north of Oklahoma City.

The Wildlife Expo is a weekend event designed to draw interest in the state's wildlife and outdoors. Along with test driving and winning a Gator, visitors also can win a lifetime hunting or fishing license or even a lifetime combination hunting and fishing license. Other giveaways include a kayak from OKC Kayaks, four kids' bows from Heartland Outdoors, and much more. A full listing of giveaway at the Expo can be viewed online at wildlifedepartment.com.

In addition to numerous giveaways visitors can try over 100 hands-on outdoor activities like shooting a shotgun or bow and arrow, catching a fish in a stocked pond, riding a mountain bike or even kayaking. Events and seminars are scheduled throughout the weekend to give visitors a glimpse of everything Oklahoma's outdoors have to offer, from hunting dog training and mule packing to wildlife identification, wild game meat sampling and camp cooking.

"The entire event is free, but the experiences visitors can take home are priceless," said Rhonda Hurst, Expo coordinator for the Wildlife Department. "It's not every day you can try more than 100 hands-on outdoor activities in one trip. There's something for everyone at the Expo, regardless of age or skill level."

The Expo is hosted by the Wildlife Department in partnership with a wide range of other state agencies, private individuals and outdoor-related companies to promote and perpetuate appreciation of Oklahoma's wildlife and natural resources.



Expo hours will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 24-25. Admission and parking are free. For more information about the Wildlife Expo or the Wildlife Department, log on to wildlifedepartment.com.

<http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/wildlifeexpo/wildlifeexpo.htm>

Come see **Oklahoma Stations Safari Club International** members at our booth. We will have some fun for the kids and as always be open for discussion on any of our favorite Outdoors topics ... I'll start it with, I am leaving tomorrow for my first hunt of the fall, Bull Elk hunting with my new handmade bow in the mountains of Wyoming ☺

Let's see who is paying attention to our OKSCI Website with a little game ☺ Below are the images from each area of our website and the new organization of our Safari Trails too. Can you match each picture with the correct topic it represents for us? The answers are on the last page but why not go to our website and figure them all out ☺

<http://www.oklahomastationsci.org>

A		____ HOME PAGE
B		____ TROPHY ROOM
C		____ ABOUT US
D		____ ESSAY CONTESTS
E		____ SAFARI TRAILS
F		____ IN THE CROSS HAIRS
G		____ CONSERVATION
H		____ OUR BOARD
I		____ EVENTS
J		____ CONTACT US

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From the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation August 4th *Weekly Wildlife News*...

USSA unveils new program to defend sportsmen's rights...

Oklahoma sportsmen interested in staying abreast of national and local legislation and initiatives that could affect hunting, fishing and trapping rights can now sign up for all the latest news. The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance (USSA) recently unveiled a new initiative aimed at building a coalition of sportsmen from coast to coast to protect America's outdoor heritage for future generations.

The USSA's Sentry Program is free to join and represents the most intense effort ever focused on attracting sportsmen to become active players in the fight to preserve hunting, fishing and trapping rights whenever they are threatened.

By becoming a Sentry, sportsmen gain access to instant email communications about local and national threats to their outdoor rights as they happen. They will also be given specific instructions on which public officials to contact and when as these threats emerge. This communication network will enable sportsmen to mobilize quicker and more effectively than ever before.

In addition to getting sportsmen engaged in advocacy, the Sentry Program offers additional benefits, giving sportsmen a "one stop" website for key information including state hunting regulations, information on where one can find a shooting range and other hunting and fishing tips from recognized leaders in the outdoor community.

"There are many anti-hunting organizations seeking to do away with what we love," said Bud Pidgeon, USSA president and CEO. "By coming together under the Sentry Program, sportsmen will enhance our ranks and collectively stand tall against those groups."

There is no cost to join the Sentry Program and only a minimal amount of information from those interested is required. For more information, call (614) 888-4868, visit the USSA's website at ussportsmen.org/BeASentry, or e-mail info@ussportsmen.org <<mailto:info@ussportsmen.org>> .

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance is a national association of sportsmen and sportsmen's organizations that protects the rights of hunters, anglers and trappers in the courts, legislatures, at the ballot, in Congress and through public education programs. For more information about the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and its work, call (614) 888-4868 or visit its website at ussportsmen.org.

-----The Oklahoma Station Chapter of SCI supports USSA-----

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The Oklahoma Taxidermists Association is a non-profit organization striving to better the art of taxidermy and to further educate our members. Membership normally ranges from 100 to 150 members yearly. Members meet quarterly for informative seminars, workshops and competitions. Each summer the association hosts its annual convention and competition where taxidermy competitors come from Oklahoma and surrounding states to compete, learn and enjoy fellowship. It is truly one of the best state conventions currently being held. Each spring the association offers its members an all-day workshop with one of the industry's leading taxidermists in specific fields. The OKTA offers a certification program in 8 different categories. Annual membership is \$25.00 for an individual and \$30.00 for a family. Lifetime membership is \$300.00. The members of the Oklahoma Taxidermists Association welcome you to join our great association. Please take time to check out our events and click your way through our website.

<http://www.oklahomataxidermistsassociation.com/>

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Edmond, OK 73012
Phone (405) 820-1260
Email <mailto:jdfeinberg@pldi.net>

Terry's Taxidermy
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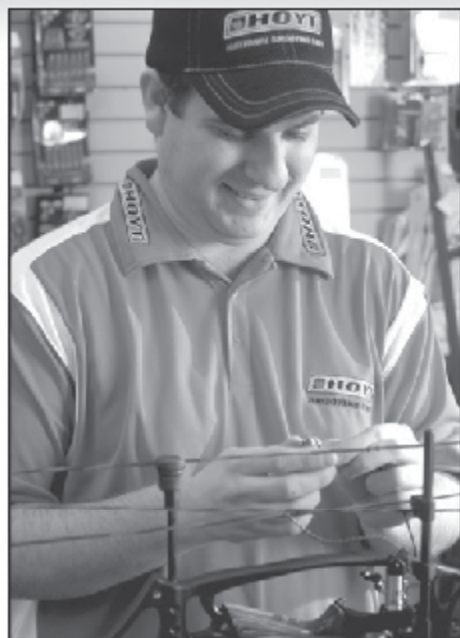


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Membership Application

Safari Club International - Oklahoma Station Chapter

[see separate form for Lifetime Chapter Membership]



Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____ @ _____

Day/Office Phone: (_____) _____ FAX: (_____) _____ Pager: (_____) _____

Other Phone: (_____) _____ Web Site: _____

Other Mailing Address, if preferred...Name, City, State, ZIP: (circle one) Business or Home or specify _____:

Signature: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____ Sponsor's Member #: _____

Check One:

_____ Yes, I support the Safari Club International's and the Oklahoma Station Chapter's goals of conserving wildlife and protecting the hunter. Please enroll me as a chapter and national member for **\$95.00**. I realize that my membership fees include a **\$30 chapter membership**. The **national membership fee of \$65** includes an annual subscription to the monthly *Safari Times* newspaper and bimonthly magazine, *The Journal of Safari Big Game Hunting*.

_____ Yes, I support the Safari Club International's and the Oklahoma Station Chapter's goals of conserving wildlife and protecting the hunter. Please enroll me as a **chapter member for \$30.00** I understand that to enroll as a chapter member, I first must be a member in good standing of Safari Club International. My **SCI Membership number is:** _____

OTHER SCI MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS (Check One)

Annual	_____ \$ 65 (USA, Canada, Mexico)	_____ \$ 90 (all other countries)
Three-year	_____ \$ 150 (USA, Canada, Mexico)	_____ \$ 225 (all other countries)
Life Member	_____ \$1,500 (USA, Canada, Mexico)	_____ \$2,000 (all other countries)
Senior Life (60 Years old +)	_____ \$1,250 (USA, Canada, Mexico)	_____ \$1,750 (all other countries)
Spousal Life	_____ \$ 750 (USA, Canada, Mexico, all other countries) [no publications]	

PAYMENT OPTIONS: Authorized Amount: _____ Check (Make check payable to SCI)

_____ Visa _____ MC Card Account #: _____ 3 Digit # on Reverse side of card _____
(Absolutely necessary)

Expires: _____ Cardholder signature _____

Reminder: We cannot process your credit-card order without the expiration date & 3-Digit #

Please return this form with the appropriate fees to:

Dennis Elliott, Membership Chairman

9642 S. Quebec Ave., Tulsa, Ok. 74137

*Email dellott59@aol.com * Phone 918-298-8299 * Fax 918-298-3013*





Membership Application -- Lifetime
Safari Club International - Oklahoma Station Chapter
Application for Lifetime CHAPTER Membership



(You must maintain an active membership in Safari Club International for Lifetime Chapter Membership in the Oklahoma Station Chapter to be in effect.)

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____ @ _____

Day/Office Phone: (_____) _____ FAX: (_____) _____ Pager: (_____) _____

Other Phone: (_____) _____ Web Site: _____

Other Mailing Address, if preferred...Name, City, State, ZIP: (circle one) Business or Home or specify _____:

Signature: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____ Sponsor's Member #: _____

Check One:

_____ Yes, I support the Oklahoma Station Chapter's and Safari Club International's goals of conserving wildlife and protecting the hunter. Please enroll me as a ***Lifetime Chapter Member***. I understand that this enrollment will entitle me to a permanent subscription to the chapter newsletter, ***The Oklahoma Safari Trails***, and all other publications and/or notices that are sent to active chapter members. ***I am under the age of 65 and am enclosing the lifetime chapter membership fee of \$750.***

_____ Yes, I support the Oklahoma Station Chapter's and Safari Club International's goals of conserving wildlife and protecting the hunter. Please enroll me as a ***Lifetime Chapter Member***. I understand that this enrollment will entitle me to a permanent subscription to the chapter newsletter, ***The Oklahoma Safari Trails***, and all other publications and/or notices that are sent to active chapter members. ***I am at least 65 years of age and am enclosing the lifetime chapter membership fee of \$500.***

PAYMENT OPTIONS: Authorized Amount: _____ Check (Make check payable to SCI-Oklahoma Station)

_____ Visa _____ MC Card Account #: _____ 3 Digit # on Reverse side of card _____
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Reminder: We cannot process your credit-card order without the expiration date & 3-Digit #



Please return this form with the appropriate fees to:

Dennis Elliott, Membership Chairman

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