

Protecting Our Rights  
Preserving Our Heritage  
Promoting Our Future  
Supporting Our Youth



SCI, Leader in defending the  
freedom to hunt and promoting  
wildlife conservation worldwide

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## ***Oct 2023, 4th Quarter Newsletter***



### ***Note from our President:***

Yes Fall as arrived. The daylight hours are getting shorter, starting to see the leaves fall, some cooler weather and the opening of hunting seasons are all signs. Many of you have probably already been waking up early to get out in the field hunting with Archery season underway, early antlerless season and fall turkey season just getting started. Next will be rifle season for Missouri's whitetails. Take time to get your rifles/scopes sighted in and practice before going to the field. Remember safety is first as you embark on your next hunting experience.

***Dave Stokes***

## ***Note from our Membership Director:***

How do we communicate with our Chapter Members?

In the coming months you will be receiving communication from our Chapter in several different ways. The first format is Email messages, the same way we have communicated in the past.

Text messaging will soon be coming to you from the Chapter. We have sent several messages to our members using Calling Post. These text messages have a distinct text number; that number is: **24251**.

It is important when you receive the first message from our Chapter that you choose to accept the text. If you ignore the text within a 24-hour period, you will no longer be able to receive any future texts. Once you accept you may also want to add this number to your contact list giving it a name that you can recognize as coming from the Gateway SCI Chapter.

Voice Mail messaging will also be communicating to you. When you see a call coming from Oklahoma City area code (405), that is a message that we sent specifically for our Chapter members. Please be sure to listen to our important message.

In the future we will be using all 3 forms of communication (Text, Voice and email) to communicate important Upcoming Events, Major Announcements, and Important Information for our Members.

### **Next Chapter Event**

Our next event will be October 21<sup>st</sup> (Saturday) Sporting Clay Shoot at Sandy Valley Clays in Pevely, MO. (See full details below)

We will be taking November off from events as it is always a busy month with hunting season in full force and the Thanksgiving Holiday.

As always, should you have any questions regarding membership or activities, please email [tfwwtfprop@yahoo.com](mailto:tfwwtfprop@yahoo.com)

***Tom Williams***



## Sporting Clays Get Together

**October 21st, 2023**

Come join us for a sporting clays shoot at Sandy Valley Clays in Pevely, MO

Non-members welcome. Learn more about the **Safari Club International Gateway Chapter**.

**\$45 per person** includes 100 clay course, and golf cart access. Course is easily walkable. Shotgun shells can be brought or you can purchase shells for \$10 for 25 shells (\$40 for 100). (cash or check only directly to Sandy Valley)

### Details:

Meet at Sandy Valley Clays course at 8:30 am  
2754 Sandy Creek Rd, Pevely, MO 63070

Shooting starts at 9am  
Attendance Prizes  
Best Shot Award

Groups will be sent out of no more than 6 per group  
So come by yourself or bring your friends.



RSVP by October 15th: Anthony Thebeau 314-603-6259  
Limit to 25 shooters: RSVP  
huntingisfood@gmail.com  
Names/Numbers of Shooters

*Gateway Chapter of Safari Club International – Protecting the freedom to hunt and promoting wildlife conservation from the St Louis area and around the world.*

. Visit : ([gatewaysci.org](http://gatewaysci.org)) for more information or follow us on Facebook

## Upcoming Chapter Activities

October 21, 2023 (Saturday)	Sporting Clay Shoot – Sandy Valley – Pevely, MO
December 5, 2023 (Tuesday)	Holiday Party - Syberg's Dorsett Rd
January 2024 (Date TBD)	Upland Game Hunt – 73 Pointer Ranch, Jonesburg, MO
January 31 – February 3, 2024	SCI National Convention – Nashville, TN
February 2024 (Date TBD)	Upland Game Hunt – Wilnor Outdoors
March 16, 2024 (Saturday)	19 <sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet/Auction – Doubletree - Chesterfield

## Chapter Events – Recap

**“Night at the Range”** – on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> our chapter hosted our second shoot event at the Range on Manchester. Our event started at 5:30 PM with our members and their guests getting an update on upcoming events, improvements we are making to our social media platform, enjoying pizza and refreshments prior to shooting firearms in the bay reserved for our chapter event. The chapter covered the cost of shooting, targets and light dinner. We had 16 people participate.



## **“Measuring Workshop”**

On Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> our chapter conducted its first trophy measurement event. This was held at the Moolah Shriner’s Sheiks Club. Fifteen (15) people attended in total and we measured:

- 15 Whitetail
- 12 African heads
- 8 Skulls
- 1 Elk

Pizza and refreshments were served during the event and positive feedback was received from attendees.

We signed up three (3) new SCI Chapter members during this event. We want to thank all the people who participated and a special “Thank You” to Jim Marz who did an outstanding job performing all of the measuring.



## “Shoot for the Vets”

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual “Shoot for the Vets” was held September 30, 2023 at Nilo Farms in Brighton, Illinois. We look forward to this event each year as we get to give back to our Veterans who have given so much to us and enjoy their company. We are happy to report this year’s participation was the best in our five years of hosting this event. Attendance of 150 shooters, 100 which were veterans, enjoyed the day. Weather was a little warm but otherwise very nice. Lunch was provided and lots of attendance prizes were handed out. The overall best shooter was Hunter Alvers, a 16-year old high school student, with a score of 89.



We want to give a special **“THANK YOU”** to our sponsors who helped make this happen, as well as Nilo Farms for providing the venue and the Jared Burke Foundation for providing lunch for everyone to enjoy.

Enjoy some of the pictures captured during our event.

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# ***SPONSORS***

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It is never too early to start planning for the 2024 SCI Annual Convention which will be held in Nashville, Tennessee on January 31<sup>st</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Since Nashville is an approximate 5-hour drive from St. Louis, you may want to share travel costs with another chapter member and start planning NOW!

Preferred Hotels can now be booked for the Convention. Visit [www.safariclub.org](http://www.safariclub.org)

This past year's convention held in February 2023, had record attendance and received extremely encouraging feedback for the location and the venue. Nashville is a hunter-friendly destination that is within driving distance of 50% of the U.S. population.

Nashville is a family town providing other venues for the entire family such as trendy restaurants, hockey games and museums. If you are a country music fan there are plenty of venues throughout the city that can provide hours of enjoyment in addition to the convention, such as the Country Music Hall of Fame, The Grand Ole Opry, and tours of the Ryman to name a few.

## ***Fall Turkey Feather Submission***

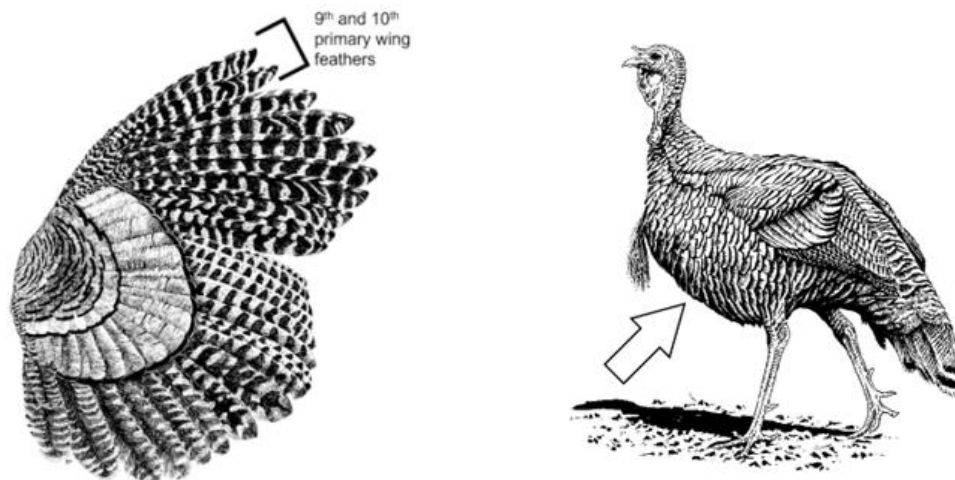
**Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)** is asking Missouri turkey hunters to save and share feathers from the wild turkeys they harvest. These feathers will help improve models used to monitor turkey population trends and estimate turkey abundance across the state.

Hunters who successfully harvest a turkey during either the Archery Deer and Turkey season or Fall Firearms Turkey Season, can voluntarily submit feathers from their turkey, at no cost to them.

If you are interested in submitting feathers from your fall turkey, please enter your name, mailing address, and Conservation ID into the contact submission form below.

After you telecheck your turkey, please retain the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> primary wing feathers and 3-5 breast feathers (see diagram below). Once you have signed up for the program and telechecked a turkey, MDC's will mail you a feather submission packet containing additional instruction and a postage-paid envelope for the feathers to be placed inside and mailed back to MDC. You will receive one packet for each turkey you harvest during the fall seasons, so please be sure to keep each turkey's feathers separate and labeled with the correct telecheck ID.

If you have any questions, please email MDC's Wild Turkey Management Program at [wildturkey@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:wildturkey@mdc.mo.gov).



Retain a wing and 3-5 feathers from the breast until you receive the packet of feather submission materials.



Friend,

Outdoor and sportsman education in schools don't just help inspire the next generation of hunters - they create youth who know how to be safe around firearms and hunting gear.

For years, these programs helped create generations of safe hunters. *But now, the Biden Administration wants to destroy them.*

The Department of Education is twisting the law to BAN federal funding for archery, hunter education, and outdoor education programs in schools.

Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act last year to increase school security and mental health resources.

**But instead of implementing the legislation as Congress intended, the Biden Administration is using it to gut the next generation of hunters.**

*We're not about to let them get away with it.*

**Safari Club International is SUING the Department of Education for this gross misuse of the law to SAVE outdoor and sportsman programs in school, and we need your help.**

**Will you stand with Safari Club International today to defend education for the next generation of hunters?**

Thank you,

Safari Club International

## Membership Activity

### ***Scott Nelson – Long Range Shooting***

#### **Barbour Creek Level 1 - Long Range Shooting and Hunting Course Review**

In late June Susan and I attended a two-day long range shooting course at Barbour Creek Long Range Shooting School in Eufaula, AL. I had set an objective for 2023 to attend formal shooting training of some type, and when an opening appeared in the class schedule, we jumped on it.

The lead instructor at Barbour Creek is James Eagleman, who's "been there and done that" as they say, with a substantial military shooting resume. In particular, he's most known for his innovative wind reading technique. James really has a passion for training and teaching, and it shows in his ability to patiently explain the most technical aspects of long-range shooting in an easy to absorb manner. Class sizes are limited to ensure that all students receive all the individual attention they can use.

The two days were jam packed with information, divided into class room sessions in the morning covering all aspects of long-range shooting, and hands on trigger time in the shoot house in the afternoon. While the class room was certainly comfortable and well thought out, the shooting facilities were off the charts. The shoot house is comprised of an indoor air-conditioned multi-shooter benchrest, shooting out the windows down a 1000-yard range with life-size steel big game targets with swinger vital areas. These and some traditional rectangular steel plates are set at various distances, with the closest at 400 yards. At the 1000-yard line, clay pigeons and golf balls suspended on strings were added targets.



Shooting school-supplied very accurate 6.5 Creedmore rifles, built by Barbour Creek and shooting Hornady factory ammunition, as a shooter/spotter pair we were able to practice the techniques James expounded on in the class room. Breath control, grip, parallax adjustment, trigger control, follow-through, reading the level, and, of course, range and wind reading were all patiently coached by James. Variable wind conditions forced the spotter to practice James's mirage reading techniques with his confirmation or correction, and advise the shooter on their hold accordingly. We were able to land hits on the swinging vital area targets at all ranges with confidence-inspiring consistency, including multiple hits on those clay pigeons at 1000 yards.

The culmination of the shooting exercise on the second day was trying to pop a golf ball suspended at 1000 yards. While neither Susan nor I made contact, we did scare the little guy pretty bad. Had it been a racquet ball we would have nailed it repeatedly. That's approximately .2 MOA shooting at 1000 yards in the wind, over a bipod! After class we were able to shoot our own rifles/ammo and dial them in.

I can't say enough good about James, the shooting facilities, and the level and quality of instruction we received. We elected to stay at the onsite lodging facilities which is an option. I would love to go back for the Level 2 course, shooting from 375 to 1776 yards across valleys and ridges, from multiple real-world positions, not a bench rest.

If you get a chance, look up [barbourcreek.com](http://barbourcreek.com) and check them out.

## ***Susan Nelson – September Oregon Cow Elk hunt***

When attending last year's SCI Convention in Nashville I met up with my friend Jan whom I met when attending the She Hunts Skilled Camp in 2019. We roomed together during that time and have remained friends since. Jan lives in Washington State and also serves as Secretary on the Northwest Chapter of SCI. When out to dinner one night she was telling me about an upcoming cow elk hunt she was going on in Oregon. During the conversation she mentioned that if I was interested, she would see if there might be an additional slot available. Next day she made the call and sure enough if interested I could go. This would be fun as it would be just us girls hunting. The planning started at that point! I knew I had one major obstacle I had to face. . . surgery on my knee at the end of April. Still, I was determined to go. Surgery happened, then I ended up being in a leg brace for six additional weeks that kept my knee straight. This meant sleeping with the brace and having it on at all times. I was one unhappy camper. Once the six weeks were up and my brace was coming off, I thought I would run like Forest Gump. Think again! With my knee not having been bent during that time it took a while to even get it to work again. In a few more weeks I started physical therapy and tried to get back to a somewhat normal condition. By the time September 10<sup>th</sup> rolled around I was in the car and ready to go. I knew I was not 100% but the car was headed to Oregon and I was in it. My husband and I drove to Oregon making a couple of extra stops along the way. Going thru Sidney, Wyoming we had to stop at the original Cabela's store. Then we also made a detour and went north to drive thru the Grand Tetons and then through Twin Falls, Idaho, visiting the famous Perrine Bridge before continuing on to Oregon.

We arrived at our hunting camp near Pilot Rock, Oregon on Thursday evening as my hunt was to begin Friday afternoon. Jan and her husband arrived early afternoon Friday. We were hunting with "Hunt Oregon, LLC".

When I think of elk hunting, I normally picture it to be in cool fall weather. Not this time; during the day it was in the low 90's. The terrain where we were hunting was also not like anything I had hunted in; the hills were steep and rocky with low dry grass and very little tree vegetation. You could see for miles.

Since Jan and I were going out together with one guide we decided that she would get the first opportunity to shoot. After all, it was her hunt to begin with. Late that afternoon Jan and I, our husbands and the guide Max drove to the area we would be hunting in. From there all but my husband got in the 4 X 4 to head out to do some glassing. Since the 4 X 4 only held 4 people and Jan was shooting first, my husband stayed at the truck. Off we went to do some glassing. The guide was able to glass some elk at what seemed like an impossible trek to get to before dark. Off we went in the 4 X 4 driving down sheer steep hills and then straight up others. Then it was time to get out and walk. I knew I could not walk fast and urged the others to go and I



would catch up, which I did. At 520 yards what seemed like straight down we spotted the elk. In an attempt to get closer, the guide and Jan decided to go down. Her husband and I waited where we were at. Two reasons; they could be more quiet in their approach and it was quite the trek downhill. We waited with anticipation and finally heard a shot. Jan was able to get her shot at a distance of 120 yards, one shot and down. She was using a Gunwerks ClymR rifle 7 PRC with factory Hornady ammunition.

Once all had settled down the guide motioned for us to come on down. Jan's husband did, but I was skeptical about going further down that mountain and having to climb back up with it getting dark. I opted to go back to the 4 X 4 and wait for the guide. I did not know at the time we would be driving to the area to pick up her cow. I was just happy to make it back to the 4 X 4. I waited, and before long Max came to take us to where Jan and her husband were. I felt bad for all the walking Max had to do, and it was not easy by any means.

Off we went. I was excited to see Jan and congratulate her. All of a sudden on our drive to them a herd ran out in front of us. I was able to shoot my cow elk at 209 yards! It all happened so fast. I wish I would have had more time to see them and experience the entire herd but I had to act fast and I got the last one running out of view. I didn't really have time to think, I had to make it happen. Just like Jan, one shot and down. I was using a Kimber Mountain Ascent 280 AI using handloaded Nosler 160 gr AccuBond ammunition. Had I not decided to go back to the 4 X 4 and wait for the guide I would have missed the opportunity of getting my elk that evening.

Our hunt started and ended that evening. It was a 2-day hunt so we tagged out early. My only disappointment during the experience was that my husband didn't get to see any of it. He was back at the truck and there was no cell service to communicate what was going on with him. I shot my elk about 7:15 in the evening. By the time both were field dressed and loaded on the trailer for transportation it was getting quite late.

Then the real work began. Once back at camp the skinning started. Jan and I left that to the guys and we fixed dinner . . . our work was done! 😊



# Anthony Thebeau - South Dakota Pronghorn Hunt

I applied for the Special Antelope tag in South Dakota with 6 preference points. The odds for being drawn show it usually takes 2 years. However, I wanted to make sure I could go when I was available. This tag is only good for bucks on private land. I chose an Outfitter in the Northwest region of the state in Harding County, SD named TNS Outfitting.

I arrived on a Friday afternoon and glassed up several bucks from the road. Several decent bucks were seen, however, the outfitter knew of one buck that we were not seeing that frequents one of his leased properties. He suggested we go out first thing in the morning. We arrived about an hour before sunrise and glassed the area we thought the buck may be in. It was so open you could see for miles, but no signs of the buck. We drove around the area for a bit and saw some female pronghorn and glassed them up. A few minutes later the buck showed up, but he was far off the road. He seemed nervous that we were there so we drove past him to turn around and came back passed him.

It seems the pronghorn in the area are used to cars, but once people stop and get out, they take off running. We parked out of sight on the backside of where the pronghorn was last seen. We got to within 900 yards on the back side of some hills and slowly stalked to the top of the ridge to within 500 yards. The wind had picked up and I decided to wait for a better shot. The pronghorn unexpectedly started running out of sight to chase another buck off. We took that moment to army crawl to within 300 yards to where the does were last seen anticipating the buck coming back. Sure enough, he came back in a short time. He walked to about 175 yards and he started to sense something was up. I was laying down with a bipod and took the shot. I could hear the whack and he only made it a few feet.

It was the first day of season and within the first hour the hunt was over. I have never been one to pass up something I would take on the last day on the first day. Rough measurements put the pronghorn in the 14-inch category. I'm already putting in for the West River Special Deer tag for Mule deer in the future. My hunt was a success and I enjoyed the beautiful area with the leadership of a quality outfitter.





## Recipes

### Quick Venison Vegetable Soup

- 1 lb Venison Burger**
- ½ cup chopped onion**
- 1 can (15 oz.) tomato sauce**
- 1 ½ cups frozen mixed vegetables, thawed**
- 1 ¼ cups frozen corn, thawed**
- ½ cup raw potato chunks**
- 1 ¼ cups beef broth**
- 1 tbsp. soy sauce**
- 1 tbsp. molasses**

**In large skillet, cook the venison burger and onion over medium heat until the meat is no longer pink; drain. In dutch oven, add venison burger, sir in the remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer for 10 minutes or until soup is hot and bubbly.**