

# IN THIS ISSUE

**“The only constant is change” is a profoundly simple statement that has long been one of my absolutely favorite truisms. This painful embrace has served me well through the years, both personally and professionally.**

It also is the history of conservation in North America. From the decimation of our natural resources in the quest of fulfilling manifest destiny, to the realization today that many of our future wildlife professionals enter this specialty with not much more than a warm, fuzzy feeling, versus the historical upbringing being “out amongst ‘em”, out amongst ‘em has always been an apprenticeship that lends a depth of character to the wildlife biologist that is irreplaceable.

“Martha is Dead” is a brilliant look back at the passenger pigeon gone now a hundred years. Dr. Wurman’s

review left me to lament the remnants of another great population that once inhabited my Kansas lands. All I have left to tug at my soul and remind me of the past are the dimming buffalo wallows and the occasional boney artifact gifted to me by the banks of a constantly changing Chikaskia River.

Amy Quinn and Dr. William Porter’s article “A New Approach to Teaching: Inspiring a Passion for Wildlife Conservation” provides insight into these educators strategy to expose a group of students to the complexities of wildlife management. These non-hunter students need our guidance desperately! And, we need them, too. It also drives home, for me, the significance of the student who still comes from a hunting background. They, in particular, have an inside track to conservation greatness. Let’s concertededly foster these individuals forward. We

must think of their upbringing as an Ivey League degree and treat it accordingly.

Spend time with the latest Boone and Crockett Club Position Statement on captive wildlife. I’m proud of our Club for drawing a clear and decisive line in the sand. It seems a hazy, self-serving dilemma rearing its head in many regions of our country. It really is fairly simple, but for the horse being so far out of the barn in places, yet nicely corralled in others. B&C did a nice job of taking a step back and dissecting out the best path forward.

I can’t forget to mention the changes to *Fair Chase*. Welcome to *Fair Chase* 3.0; bigger and brighter, educational, and adventuresome. I hope you find it even more challenging and its consumption more rewarding than before. ■

*Mark B. Steffen MD*

FROM THE EDITOR



**Mark B. Steffen**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



From the decimation of our natural resources in the quest of fulfilling manifest destiny, to the realization today that many of our future wildlife professionals enter this specialty with not much more than a warm, fuzzy feeling, versus the historical upbringing being “out amongst ‘em”, out amongst ‘em has always been an apprenticeship that lends a depth of character to the wildlife biologist that is irreplaceable.