

# TROPHY TALK

## 22nd Awards Banquet in Dallas

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS COLUMN THE 22ND AWARDS JUDGES PANEL WILL HAVE CONCLUDED ITS ACTIVITIES IN DALLAS, AND THE 22ND AWARDS TROPHY DISPLAY WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT THE DALLAS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY. ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT IT IS THE FINEST DISPLAY OF NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME TROPHIES THE CLUB HAS EVER ASSEMBLED, AND I HOPE YOU GET A CHANCE TO SEE IT. THE RESULTS OF THE JUDGES PANEL WILL BE COVERED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF FAIR CHASE.

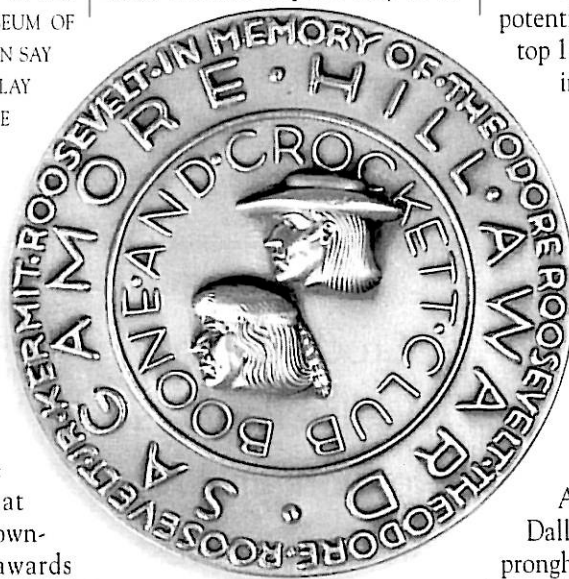
The coveted Boone and Crockett Club medals and certificates will be presented on June 10th at the 22nd Awards Luncheon at The Adolphus hotel in downtown Dallas. The awards presentation will cap the 22nd Awards and Associates' activities that will take place in Dallas during June 8-10. Registration information was mailed to all B&C Associates on April 20th. Call 1-406/542-1888 if you still need to make reservations.

During each three year entry period, we are constantly fielding questions from hunters wanting to know if their trophy is going to be rescored by a panel. Thus, I'm going to use this column to review the basic criteria the Club uses to select the trophies it invites to a Final Awards Judging.

The primary purpose of an Awards Program is to recognize trophy quality and fair chase hunting. The judges rescore each trophy received and certify them for an award or certificate. The maximum number of place awards (e.g. 1st, 2nd, etc.) the Judges usually bestow in each category is five. Occasionally the Judges give an Honorable Mention or Certificate of Merit. The Judges may bestow the prestigious Sagamore Hill Award for a trophy

they feel is the "best of show."

As a basic rule of thumb, the top five trophies in each category receive an invitation. However, more or fewer trophies may be in-



vited in a given category, depending on the quality and number of entries in it.

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All potential World's Records must be invited since only a B&C Judges Panel that convenes every

three years can declare a new World's Record. Based on this single criteria, seven trophies were invited to Dallas.

Further, any trophy with the potential of placing in the all-time top 10 of its category must also be invited. For example, seven bighorn sheep were invited to Dallas because all have the potential of placing in the all-time top 10 for their category. More than five trophies may also be invited in a particular category if there are two or more trophies tied for 5th place. Three pronghorns tied for 5th place during the 22nd Awards and were invited to Dallas, bringing the number of pronghorn invitations to seven.

Trophies taken more than four years prior to the closing date of an entry period (e.g. December 31, 1990, for 22nd Awards) are not normally invited as they are not eligible for an Award. This is to discourage someone from withholding their trophy from an entry period because they know a larger trophy exists that is likely to get a higher award than theirs. Further, the Club reserves place awards for recently taken trophies.

Trophies of unknown origin, picked up, or owned by someone other than the hunter are not normally invited, unless they are in the all-time top ten for their category, since they are not eligible to receive an award. This is because the Club reserves place awards for hunter-taken trophies.

Finally, bison trophies below the all-time top-10 are not invited from the lower 48-states. Only those trophies taken in Canada and Alaska from free ranging herds are eligible for place awards. Bison from the lower 48 states are eligible only for Certificates of Merit.



Jack Reneau

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