

# TROPHY TALK

## 24th Big Game Awards Program



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Director  
Big Game Records

BY THE TIME YOU ARE READING this issue of *Fair Chase*, the 24th Awards Program Banquet, which was held in Springfield, Missouri, on June 15-16, will be history. If you were not able to attend the Banquet, I sincerely hope that you at least had the opportunity to visit and view the 24th Awards Program Trophy Exhibit at Bass Pro Shops. In keeping with past B&C exhibits, this one included some of the finest trophies ever recorded by the Club. Bass Pro Shops' preliminary figures indicate that 12,000 people visited the exhibit the first week it was open to the public.

### SAGAMORE HILL AWARD PRESENTED

The highlight of the 24th Awards Program Banquet was the presentation of the Sagamore Hill Award to Gernot Wober for the new World's

Record Rocky Mountain goat he took near Bella Coola, British Columbia, in 1999. This spectacular billy, which ties the current World's Record at a score of 56-6/8 points, is the largest goat taken since 1949. It would have scored even higher if approximately one inch of the left horn tip had not been broken off.

The Sagamore Hill Medal, which has been bestowed on only 15 previous occasions, is the single highest award of the Boone and Crockett Club. Only one can be presented during an Awards Program, and only if the Judges Panel deems that one trophy is worthy of such singular recognition. The Judges Panel selects the trophy based on the exceptional quality of the trophy, as well as the fair chase aspects of the hunt. Mr. Wober's hunting story for this trophy was featured in the summer 2000 issue of *Fair Chase*.

The Sagamore Hill Award is named after the Long Island, New York, home of Theodore Roosevelt, the Club's founder and its first president. It is given, "In memory of Theodore Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and Kermit Roosevelt."

I can't overemphasize the importance and significance B&C places on the Sagamore Hill Award. This is only the 16th time it has been presented since Robert C. Reeve received the first medal in 1948 for an Alaska brown bear he took that same year at Cold Bay, Alaska. It was last presented at the 21st Awards Program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1992, for a non-typical Coues' whitetail deer taken by Charles E. Erickson, Jr., in 1988, in Gila County, Arizona.

### BASS PRO SHOPS TROPHY EXHIBIT

From May 9-16 the 24th Awards Program Trophy Exhibit was open to the public in a specially prepared exhibit area at Bass Pro Shops. The display was open free of charge to the general public during regular store hours. Again, I hope that you had the opportunity to view the exhibit. While all the trophies on display were exceptional, there was a total of seven new World's Records. In addition to Gernot Wober's new World's Record Rocky Mountain goat mentioned above, new World's Records for grizzly bear, Roosevelt's elk, barren ground caribou, mountain caribou, non-typical Coues' whitetail deer, and tule elk were included in the display.

The new grizzly bear World's Record was taken by David F. Malzac on the Toklat River, Alaska, in 1998. At a final score of 27-5/16 points, this bear exceeds the previous World's Record by a full 2/16ths of an inch. While 2/16ths of an inch may not sound like much, it truly is a significant difference when we are talking about trophy bear skulls.

The Roosevelt's elk not only surpassed the previous World's Record, but it crushed it. This mag-

## SAGAMORE HILL AWARD WINNER



### FINAL SCORE

56<sup>6</sup>/<sub>8</sub>

### LOCATION

Bella Coola, British Columbia - 1999

### HUNTERS

G. Wober & L. Michalchuk

### OWNER

Gernot Wober

### LENGTH

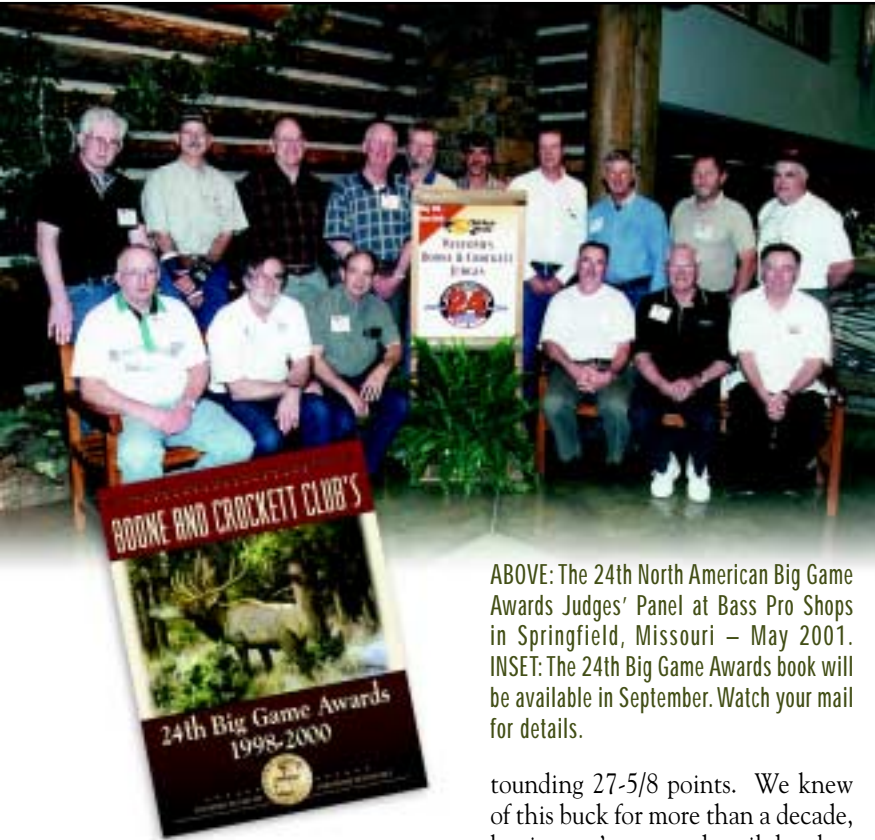
(R) 11<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> (L) 10<sup>6</sup>/<sub>8</sub>

### BASE CIRCUMFERENCE

(R) 6<sup>4</sup>/<sub>8</sub> (L) 6<sup>4</sup>/<sub>8</sub>

### GREATEST SPREAD

8<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>



ABOVE: The 24th North American Big Game Awards Judges' Panel at Bass Pro Shops in Springfield, Missouri – May 2001. INSET: The 24th Big Game Awards book will be available in September. Watch your mail for details.

nificent animal was taken by Karl W. Minor, Sr., on the Campbell River, British Columbia, in 1997. Karl's trophy scores 396-5/8 points, which is 8-4/8 points greater than the previous World's Record.

There are two new caribou World's Records, which were featured in a previous issue of *Fair Chase* with their complete hunting story. The first is a mountain caribou taken by C. Candler Hunt on Prospector Mountain, Yukon Territory, during the 1998 hunting season. This bull, which scores 453 points, is one point greater than the previous World's Record taken in 1976. The second is a barren ground caribou, scoring 477 points taken by Daniel L. Dobbs near Iliamna Lake, Alaska, during the 1999 caribou season. This beautiful bull shattered the previous World's Record, which was taken by Rodger Hedgecock in 1987 near Mosquito Lake, Alaska, by 11-7/8 inches.

A non-typical Coues' white-tail deer, scoring 186-1/8 points, taken in 1941 by Peter Chase in Hidalgo County, New Mexico, has finally been recognized as the World's Record. It replaces the former World's Record by an as-

tounding 27-5/8 points. We knew of this buck for more than a decade, but it wasn't accepted until the closing days of the 24th Awards Program when the trophy owner completed all the entry requirements.

Finally, Quentin Hughes' tule elk, which he took in 1990, is the first World's Record bull in a new category established during the 24th Awards Program. Quentin took his bull (351 points) on Grizzly Island, California. It has been returned to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, where it has been on display in the Boone and Crockett Club's National Collection of Heads and Horns for the past several years.

The next issue of *Fair Chase* will include a complete summary of all the trophies in the exhibit, as well as a summary of the B&C medals and certificates presented at the Awards Banquet. All the trophies in Springfield also will be featured with a full-page photograph and their hunting story in the book, **Boone and Crockett Club's 24th Big Game Awards, 1998-2000** that will be released in September 2001. This book will include a listing of the more than 4,100 trophies accepted in the 24th Awards Program (1998-2000). Please check the next issue of *Fair Chase* for ordering information. ▲▲▲

## LONGHUNTER MUZZLELOADING BIG GAME RECORDS BOOK

The National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association recently released the third edition of their Longhunter Muzzleloading Big Game Record Book. This hard-cover, 8-1/2" x 11", volume of over 200 pages is a compendium of information on current big game trophy animals taken with muzzleloading firearms. The book is printed on high-quality gloss paper in a handsome and durable binding. It is filled with photos of successful hunters and top scoring animals in 32 categories, including typical and non-typical specimens where appropriate, of native North American big game recognized by the Longhunter. Included are hunting stories for trophy animals, scoring standards and charts, muzzleloading fair chase rules, and information on geographic boundaries for the various categories. This extensive coverage makes the Longhunter Muzzleloading Big Game Record Book the source of information for muzzleloading hunters who are serious about pursuing trophy-class animals in North America. These books are available for immediate shipping at \$40 per book plus \$7.50 for shipping and handling. Checks made payable to the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association should be sent to the Longhunter Muzzleloading Big Game Record Book, NMLRA, PO Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021. Credit card orders can be made by calling 812/667-5131.



### BOOK REVIEW NOTICE

There are many state, provincial, and private organizations publishing local records books that use the Boone and Crockett Club's copyrighted scoring system with the express written permission of the Club. Since there is no single reference source for these books, and because there are many hunters who collect them, we will review them as time and space permit. Only those books that use the Boone and Club's copyrighted scoring system and terminology will be considered for review. However, the Boone and Crockett Club cannot vouch for the accuracy of the data contained in these publications. Many of the books include trophies that were not scored by certified Boone and Crockett Club official measurers. If there is a question about the status of a trophy listed in any of these books, the Boone and Crockett Club's records books and archives are the final reference source to settle any and all discrepancies.