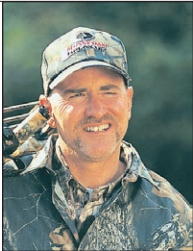


EDITOR'S NOTE



Greg Tinsley
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Boone and Crockett Club

B&C Member Nominated for Conservationist Award

Lowell E. Baier, Executive Vice President of the Boone and Crockett Club, has dedicated a good part of his life and times to the hard fact that the hunter conservationist is

the primary flag bearer and steward for wildland and the animals those lands support. He coined the phrase "the cradle of conservation" in describing Theodore Roosevelt's Elkhorn Ranch in Medora, North Dakota, and became the driving force in seeing that that last piece of the historic property was drawn in under the protection of the federal domain.

Truly, Baier has been involved in these types of causes for more than 35 years, and pretty much all the while with deep, strong roots to your Boone and Crockett Club. The upshot for Baier in 2007 has been his nomination as a finalist for the 2008 Budweiser Conservationist of the Year, an award that recognizes specific achievements, as well as bodies of work, therewith the conservation of our natural resources. In this context, "The Bud" represents one of the most significant honors bestowed to

individuals of integrity throughout the entire hunting and conservation arena. Annually, The Bud goes to one of four finalists during a gala presentation at the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade Show, and with it a check for \$50,000 for the non-profit project of the winner's choice.

As a sidebar, Boone and Crockett's new chief of staff, Tony A. Schoonen, actually worked with Budweiser's brand manager back in 1998 to establish the Budweiser Outdoors Program, which spun out the "Budweiser Conservationist of the Year." Also, the company's "Help Budweiser Help the Outdoors" program, together with other conservation organizations, has raised more than \$8 million for conservation during the past eight years.

Schoonen is excited about Baier's nomination: "To my knowledge, this is the first time for a B&C member to be recognized for a B&C project," he said, adding, "B&C Club member Christine Thomas won the award for a Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation project some time ago, but the hype around the project [overwhelmed] the fact that she was associated with B&C."

Dick Reeve and Frank Cook invited Baier to attend the Boone and Crockett Club annual meeting in 1975, which was held that year in New York City. Although Baier continued to attend the annual meetings as a guest, and began serving the Club in 1977, he was formally elected as a regular member of the Club in 1980.

Subsequently, Baier's list of accomplishments, associated and/or with oversight, for the Boone and Crockett Club, other conservation organizations and conservation in general is staggering. With apologies to Mr. Baier for leaving out perhaps 99.99 percent of his work due to the intentions of this piece and the space restraints of this page, I will list only a few of those highlights.

Right off the bat in 1977 and 1978, Baier worked with the American Museum of Natural History and the New York Zoological Society to transfer and preserve the National Collection of Heads and Horns established by William T. Hornaday in 1906 to the Club. He then organized its temporary display in the National Rifle Association's firearms museum in Washington, DC. Thereafter, the Collection was moved to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, where since 1982 it has been

viewed personally by approximately 7.2 million visitors. Also in 1982, Baier joined the Club's board of directors/executive committee, on which he has served in the areas of strategic planning, professorship, grants-in-aid, and government affairs before moving to First Vice President, Vice President and Executive Vice President.

Prior to that, Baier was also one of the original 20 founding members of the Foundation for North American

In the meantime, together with the members of the Club, I propose that we toast his soul and the souls of men and women just like him, and I close by respectfully nominating those of us who are of 21 years or older to cast our ballots for Baier at www.budweiser.com.

Wild Sheep, which, since its inception, has put over \$50 million into wild sheep conservation projects, making it the most significant single-species organization since the creation of the Audubon Society, Duck Unlimited and Trout Unlimited.

More recently, Baier was the principal spokesperson for 50-plus national conservation organizations and many prominent individuals that facilitated the acquisition of Theodore Roosevelt's 23,550-acre Elkhorn property to federal government ownership, a consuming three-year project that expanded the Theodore Roosevelt National Park by more than one third.

Whether he's the overall or the secondary winner in this upcoming Budweiser Conservationist of the Year opportunity, there's certainly a place in Heaven for people like Lowell E. Baier. In the meantime, together with the members of the Club, I propose that we toast his soul and the souls of men and women just like him, and I close by respectfully nominating those of us who are of 21 years or older to cast our ballots for Baier at www.budweiser.com. ■

LOG ON TO
www.boone-crockett.org
to vote for B&C's Lowell E. Baier as Conservationist of the Year!

The Bud goes to one of four finalists and with it a check for \$50,000 for the non-profit project of the winner's choice.
VOTING BEGINS SEPTEMBER 1ST



* Go to page 16 for details about the Elkhorn Ranch project.