

# MEET THE NEW B&C PRESIDENT

FROM THE  
PRESIDENT



**B.B. Hollingsworth, Jr.**  
PRESIDENT

**Growing up in Arlington, Texas, I was fortunate to have a childhood that opened my mind and heart to the outdoors. My father was not a hunter, but he was an avid angler who introduced me to fishing from an early age. I can still taste the delicate, delicious trout expertly prepared by my mother on our family fishing trips to the Red River, New Mexico. When I was 13, I bought my first gun—a Stevens bolt-action .410 gauge shotgun—at the local hardware store. It was a life-changing moment that opened the world of hunting and fair chase. Although a busy high school football schedule made it difficult to find hunting time, I went afield whenever I could, deepening the roots of my outdoor heritage.**

My first exposure to the Boone and Crockett Club came through the Records

program, after which I became an Associate member and reader of *Fair Chase*. The concept of fair chase resonated with me immediately because as a hunter-conservationist, I strongly believe in ethical, sportsmanlike, lawful hunting. Through service in the Club in various capacities and hunts throughout North America for sheep, whitetail deer, mule deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, and bear, my commitment to fair chase remains strong. As my presidency begins, I am grateful for the experiences that prepared me to lead the Club. As a student athlete at Rice University, I learned how to overcome adversity and balance academics and athletics, developing leadership skills as quarterback of the football team that prepared me for the business world. I was fortunate to direct two Fortune 500 companies and serve on the Rice University Board of

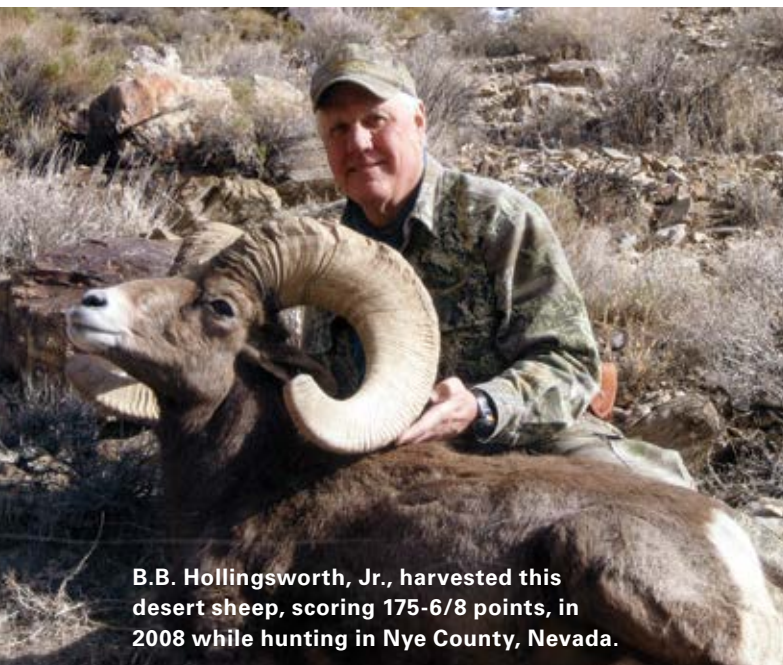
Trustees, learning valuable lessons in organizational leadership and financial management that will be useful during my presidency, as they were during my tenure in the Club Foundation's management group and various committees (development, membership, nominating, budget and finance, and associates).

One of the greatest lessons I have learned in my years with the Club is the importance of mentorship. I have benefited from wonderful mentors such as F.R. Daily, Gary Dietrich, and others who have invested remarkable time and energy to impart valuable wisdom and advice. As entire generations of Club members and wildlife professionals approach retirement, now is the time to train and mentor future members of our Club and the profession it supports. Likewise, it is critical to mentor the next generation of hunters. Every year my son-in-law and I take my three grandchildren, all of whom can age deer on the hoof, on a hunting trip to a Texas ranch. By introducing my grandchildren to hunting, firearm safety, and wildlife management, I form important bonds with them that make mentorship an incredibly rewarding experience.

As a passionate hunter-conservationist, it is a great honor for me to be a Club member, much less president. I have never been involved in an organization in which members spend more time and treasure than in the Club. Our members are one-of-a-kind. Alongside an excellent staff and devoted

membership, I will address diverse issues during my presidency. A time of transition in Washington could represent an unprecedented opportunity to advance conservation in our nation and abroad. In the coming months, the Club will establish a new endowed professorship at the University of Georgia and raise funds to create a full-fledged professorship at Texas A&M University. We also welcome new leaders in a host of positions throughout the Club and look forward to continually strong leadership in the management group. I will oversee development of new position statements and work to address various threats to wildlife, including invasive species, water scarcity, and disease. In addition, I look forward to the "Hunt Right, Hunt Hard" program, an outreach initiative intended to strengthen the image of North American hunters. As we work to maintain our fundamental values and adapt to a future marked by political and financial uncertainty, this program will reaffirm our Club identity and deliver the important message that hunting is indeed conservation. As president, I look forward to working with you and giving back to the Club that has given me so much. ■

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B.B. Hollingsworth, Jr.", written in a cursive style.



**B.B. Hollingsworth, Jr., harvested this desert sheep, scoring 175-6/8 points, in 2008 while hunting in Nye County, Nevada.**