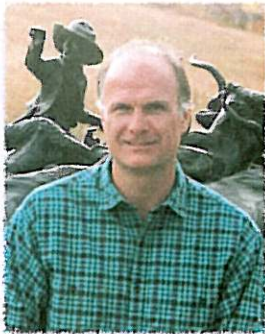


# CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Science and Art...Co-Dependents



**Stephen S. Adams**  
PRESIDENT  
*Boone & Crockett Club*

IN THE FINAL DECADES OF THE 19TH CENTURY, VERY LITTLE WAS KNOWN ABOUT OUR NATURAL RESOURCE BASE. GAME MANAGEMENT, IF THE CONCEPT WAS EVEN THOUGHT OF BACK THEN, WAS VIRTUALLY NONEXISTENT. THE EARLY MEMBERS OF THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB KNEW, HOWEVER, THAT IF WILDLIFE WERE TO EVER SURVIVE THIS ERA OF EXPLOITATION, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONVINCED THAT WHAT WAS GOOD FOR THE RESOURCE WOULD ALSO BE GOOD FOR BOTH WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE.

In the early 1900's, the Club and other concerned organizations sponsored a number of scientific fact-finding expeditions into the western states and territories. Their goal was to bring back hard evidence to convince federal and state officials, legislative committees, editors, publishers, anyone whose attention could



be captured, that immediate steps were needed to reverse the current

natural resource deprivation trends. Their successes were largely a result of diligent efforts to separate conjecture from fact.

But it is only when scientific evidence is woven by a craftsman's hand into practical experience can this new knowledge become valuable. Thomas Jefferson said that, "Knowledge is of little use when confined to mere speculation. But when speculative truths are reduced to practice, when theories, grounded upon experiments, are applied to the common purposes of life...knowledge then becomes really useful."

Like painters who have taken basic colors and combined them on canvas to create works of art, the wildlife resource managers of 50-70 years ago absorbed this new information that was becoming available. They began to look at the assets under their control a bit differently. New game management methods were created that produced the remarkable results we enjoy today.

Through the Boone and Crockett Wildlife Conservation Program at the University of Montana,

the Club is today on a similar path. The Program's charge is to provide the caretakers of the land - the rancher, the farmer, the public lands manager - with new or improved tools that will enable them to better work their magic.

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Solid science is a must. It is the foundation from which good judgments are made. But the application of scientific knowledge is pure art, the process that occasionally demands a fresh pot of paint to create a masterpiece.

# THE BOONE & CROCKETT CLUB

## HOW THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB BEGAN

The Boone and Crockett Club was founded by Theodore Roosevelt at a time when it was one of only two organizations in America dedicated to the conservation of our nation's natural resources.

Roosevelt, who was deeply concerned over the plight of America's wildlife, hosted a dinner in December of 1887 for ten like-minded sportsmen friends.

This influential group recognized that what had happened in the

preceding decade to the vast buffalo herds and the millions of passenger pigeons could easily happen to other species unless efforts were made to control sport and market hunting and provide wildlife the ability to coexist with man.

That evening the Boone and Crockett Club was founded with the mission to promote two major goals: The conservation of critical wildlife habitat and the principle of hunting in "fair chase."



## THE MISSION

It is the policy of the Boone and Crockett Club to promote the guardianship and provident management of big game and associated wildlife in North America and to maintain the highest standards of fair chase and sportsmanship in all aspects of big game hunting, in order that this resource of all the people may survive and prosper in its natural habitats. Consistent with this objective, the Club supports the use and enjoyment of our wildlife heritage to the fullest extent by this and future generations of mankind.