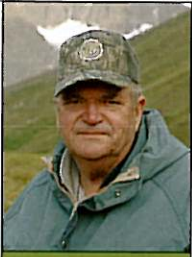


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



C. Robert Palmer
PRESIDENT
Boone and Crockett Club

Preserving Our Future Hunting Heritage

To those of you who only know me through the Boone and Crockett Club meetings, often raising billy about various issues, I thought I would provide you a slightly different

perspective of who I am.

I have been a member of Boone and Crockett Club for several years. My sponsors were Bill Spencer, Phil Wright, and Art Popham. It took three years before the process was completed in 1982. My first assignment by Bill Spencer was to work with the chairman of the Budget Committee, John Batten. I believe I served two six-year periods on the Board of Directors and was president of the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation during the early days of the TRM Ranch. Three years

ago, I once again joined the B&C Board and after serving last year as executive vice-president, I am now your new leader.

In 1953, I started to work for Rowan Drilling Company as a roughneck. I was 18 years old and a freshman engineering student at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. When I retired 50 years later, I had been chairman and CEO of the company for 31 years.

Hunting and fishing have been an important part of my life for a long time. I received my first gun — that fired corks — before my fifth birthday. I made my father a promise that I would not point it at prohibited targets. I held up my end of

Hunting and fishing have been an important part of my life for a long time. I received my first gun — that fired corks — before my fifth birthday. I made my father a promise that I would not point it at prohibited targets. I held up my end of the bargain, and Dad presented me with a Daisy Buck Jones BB gun at age five. I had to wait until I was thirteen to have my first rifle, a Remington single-shot .22, and later my first shotgun was a J. C. Higgins 12-gauge pump.

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Well, my gun interests and ownership have progressed a bit since that time. As many of you know, my wife Rebecca and I now

own John Dickson & Son, a gun-making company in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Boone and Crockett is an elite hunting fraternity, and I am a serious hunter of birds, including pheasant, partridge, dove, and quail. I have done a modest amount of big-game hunting. In addition to whitetail deer, in North America I have taken mule deer, elk, Sitka blacktail deer, caribou, and brown bear. In 1981, I completed my Grand Slam of sheep.

Our first safari to Africa was in 1982 with dear friends, Ken and Dorothy Brady. Ken became a Boone and Crockett member and his son, Tim, is currently Club Treasurer. We hunted in Botswana for 28 days. Harry Selby and Steve Leversidge were our Professional Hunters. Since then, I have made five additional safaris — one more to Botswana, three to Tanzania, and one to Zambia. Rebecca has been with me on three, and on each of the last five safaris the principal hunters have included my son and grandsons. I travel along principally as historian, photographer and "Minister of Finance." Our last safari was in 2003.

In 2005, as a result of Rebecca's bidding in the FNAWS ladies luncheon during the B&C meeting in San Antonio, I made a hunt in Spain for Gredos ibex and Spanish red stag preceded by a stop in Scotland with the Bob Model and Steve Mealey for a red-stag stalk. I may no longer scramble up mountains stalking sheep, but the excitement of the chase is still there.

So now that you know more about me than you cared to know — it's back to work trying to protect the legacy and vision of those who have gone before us. My personal goal and commitment is to increase the Club's endowment to at least \$20 million. I envision this funding to come from Club members, associates, and organizations that support the Boone and Crockett Club's mission. I see this effort as Job Number One — and I accept the challenge. I appreciate the confidence of the Club members who have chosen me as their leader. I consider it an honor to serve, joining the long line of distinguished B&C presidents who have served over the past 118 years. ■