

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send In Your Field Photos Today

Please send your letters to us at Boone and Crockett Club, 250 Station Drive, Missoula, MT 59801. You can also send your letters via e-mail to bcclub@montana.com. We welcome a lively exchange of ideas and suggestions. Associates are encouraged to send their hunting and trophy room stories along with photographs. We try to publish as many letters as possible. Letters are published as written but may be edited for brevity.

POLAR BEARS - FINALLY

Finally, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Department of Management started to issue permits for sport hunted polar bear importation into the U.S. from Canada. The permit process is a bit pricey at \$1,025.00 but quite simple.

There are 12 management units open to polar bear hunting but only 5 are eligible for import.

I suggest that anyone wanting to hunt polar bear in Canada check with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service before booking a hunt to make sure the unit they are planning on is open.

For more information, call or write to:
Office of Management Authority
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 N. Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203
(800) 358-2104 or (703) 358-2104



Enclosed is a picture of the polar bear I harvested on January 28, 1996, in the western arctic. Also pictured are myself on the right and taxidermist, Kurt Fox, of Fox Studios, Cold Springs, New York, who mounted my trophy.

Sincerely,
Pete Studwell



This moose was taken by Helen Rusten widow of Dr. Elmer Rusten who was very active in the Boone and Crockett Club thirty years ago. Helen took this moose in Alaska in 1948. Her guide was Ward Gay.

NEW LIFETIME ASSOCIATES

Following is the list of new Boone and Crockett Club Lifetime Associates since Summer 1997.

27. Embry Rucker, Jr.
Prosepect, KY
28. Peeler G. Lacy
Laurel, MS
29. Mark W. Streissguth
Snoqualmie, WA
30. John L. Hendrix
Anchorage, AK
31. Vernon D. Holleman
Temple, TX
32. Wayne Sheets
Wheaton, MD
33. David Shaffer
Vandergrift, PA
34. Jay T. Gunter
Hawthorne, NV
35. N. Eric Johanson
Camarillo, CA

If you're interested in the Boone and Crockett Club's Lifetime Associates Program please contact our headquarters toll-free at (888) 840-HUNT or (406) 542-1888.

The cost for the Lifetime Associates Program is \$1,000.

We do offer two payment plans other than full payment:
1) four quarterly charges to your credit card of \$250; or
2) twelve monthly charges to your credit card of \$83.34.

See order form in the center of this issue for more details.

ANOTHER LOOK AT FIELD PHOTOS

Both non-hunters and hunters alike, are often disturbed by the dominionistic attitude toward nature reflected in hunting photos. A while back, you initiated a discussion in *Fair Chase* about elements in a photo that would convey greater respect toward the hunted, the hunt, and the hunter. You gave special credit to those hunting photos that emphasized the integrity of the animal and its habitat rather than the role of the hunter and that of hunting technology. I appreciate this discussion and would like to further it by sharing with your readers a hunting photo that, in my opinion, captures the essence of our discussion.

The enclosed photo shows a mature red deer taken by a friend of mine in Germany. It shows a majestic and beautiful animal in its wholeness, displayed with dignity and respect. The viewer is drawn to the picture rather than appalled by exposed blood and guts. The backdrop is almost mystical, re-

vealing the habitat of young oaks in which the bull was taken on an early morning hunt. This photo speaks to me, as the animal and its habitat blend into one. Yet, the presence of the hunter is felt. The hunter's close companion, a German wirehair pointer, is taking the place of the hunter and that of hunting technology.

Hunting is a powerful interaction with nature. It is meaningful to the individual since it allows for participation in nature. Unlike other outdoor activities such as hiking or bird watching, the hunter seeks the intimate integration with nature and its processes. A picture will never capture the essence of that integration nor the interactions of the hunter with the hunted. Yet, we as hunters need to be careful to not objectify nature. Instead, through our hunting photos we should convey the meaning and harmony of our relationship with nature as a hunter.

Thomas Baumeister



Check out the Boone and Crockett Club's official web site at:

www.boone-crockett.org

Browse through over 40 pages of information that includes all 17 score charts and instructions for measuring, plus our secure shopping area and more!

ASSOCIATES IN THE FIELD



Top: Joseph C. LoMonaco with his Dall's sheep (172-3/8) taken in Alaska in 1992.

Middle: B&C Official Measurer, Stan Rauch with an impala he took while on safari in Zimbabwe this past August.

Left: This Stone's sheep was harvested by Ron Kober in the Findlay Mountains of northern British Columbia in August 1997.