

BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB'S 29TH BIG GAME AWARDS BOOK

TROPHY TALK



JACK RENEAU
B&C PROFESSIONAL MEMBER
Director Emeritus

The excitement of the 29th Awards Program banquet and related activities in Springfield, Mo., is history and will be relived for decades to come in the minds of those who attended. Since July, B&C's staff has been working tirelessly to finalize publication of *Boone and Crockett Club's 29th Big Game Awards* book that will be released to the public in November—just in time for Christmas gift-giving.

The highlight of this information-packed records book is the data for 4,221 big game animals accepted in 37 categories during the 2013-2015 Awards Period that are featured. Trophy owners whose trophies were accepted in B&C's 29th Big Game Awards Program between January 1, 2013, and December 31, 2015, are listed in this book. If you have any doubts about whether your trophy is listed in this book, check the date on your acceptance certificate, or call the Club's records office.

Included in *Boone and Crockett Club's 29th Big Game Awards* are the exciting hunting stories for the 98 trophies that were recognized and presented with the coveted Boone and Crockett Club Medallions and plaques at the 29th Awards banquet in Springfield, Mo., on July 16, 2016. These stories are packed with invaluable tips and hunting information for planning

your own big game hunts in the future.

Among the unique features that make this a must-have book is a special section highlighting the Club's Generation Next youth event that includes short stories from dozens of enviable young hunters, ages 16 and under, who have already succeeded in taking a trophy-of-a-lifetime Boone and Crockett animal. Included is a complete, highly informative review of the 29th Awards Program and trophies by Justin Spring, Director of Big Game Records, and copies of 17 score charts with data of top-ranking trophies accepted in the 29th Awards Program. There are also numerous field photographs, both black and white and in color, for your enjoyment.

Entries received with acceptance dates beginning January 1, 2016, will be listed in *Boone and Crockett Club's 30th Big Game Awards* book that will be released in November 2019.

HOW TO SCORE NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME ERRATA

Official Measurers and readers who have acquired the 4th edition of *How to Score North American Big Game* since it was released a couple of months ago should note and correct two minor errors that have been detected. The first is the "Woodland Caribou" subheading in the lower

left-hand corner of page 15; it needs to be changed to say "Mountain Caribou." The boundary description for woodland caribou is on page 17. The second typo, which is in the caption for Figure 3-E on page 27, incorrectly lists the length measurement depicted on the folding carpenter's ruler as 19-6/8 points when the length is obviously 19-5/8 inches.

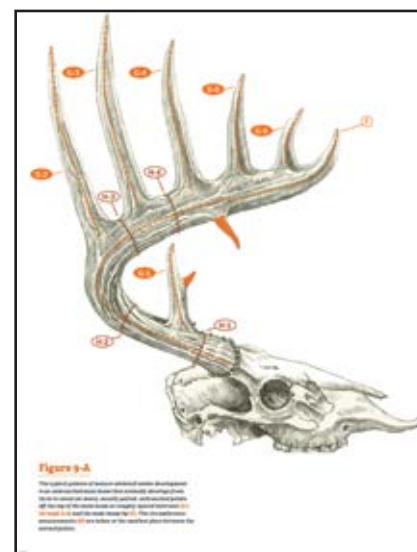
I also need to point out that there are two illustrations that will be replaced when this manual is updated in the future. The first is Figure 3-A on page 26. This figure inaccurately illustrates the location for taking the length of the main beam, which is correctly depicted in Figure 9-A on page 96. So, please refer to Figure 9-A for the proper location for taking the length of antler measurement on deer. We ran out of time when the error was first detected and didn't have time to fix it. The second drawing that needs updated is Figure 16-C on page 170 that illustrates the location of the D-1 measurement on sheep. The drawing is correct, but we just need a better drawing, and we also need another drawing from the inside of the horn base to go with it.

This figure inaccurately illustrates the location for taking the length of the main beam, which is correctly depicted in Figure 9-A on page 96.

OFFICIAL MEASURER BELT BUCKLE

B&C held its first ever Field Generals luncheon in 2010 in conjunction with the 27th Awards Program Banquet conducted in Reno, Nevada. The purpose of this luncheon is to recognize B&C's cadre of Official Measurers for their significant contributions to B&C's records-keeping program and activities.

The third such luncheon, held at the 29th Awards Program on July 15, 2016, in Springfield, Mo., was the most popular event held to date. It was attended by nearly 118 of B&C's approximately 1,300 Official Measurers from across North America, their families, and guests. Each Official Measurer was presented with a very handsome and unique belt buckle created by Montana Silversmiths to thank



BOOK REVIEW



Boone and Crockett Club's 29th Big Game Awards
\$54.95 per copy, plus S&H.
Associate and Official Measurer discounts apply.

29th Awards Program Poster
The posters will ship, rolled securely, in a poster tube.
\$10 each, plus S&H.
Associate discounts apply.

Official Measurer Belt Buckle
\$49.95 per buckle, plus S&H.



**ORDER BY CALLING TOLL FREE, 888-840-4868
OR ORDER ONLINE AT BOONE-CROCKETT.ORG**

them for their service and to remember the occasion.

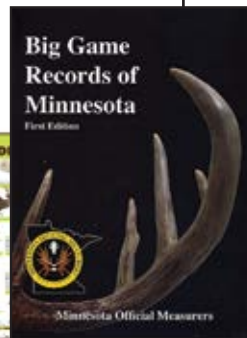
A limited number of these unique belt buckles are still available to Official Measurers who were not able to attend but would like one. They are the first-ever Official Measurer belt buckle, and once they are sold, they are sure to become a collector's item—no more will be produced.

29TH AWARDS PROGRAM POSTER

Associates were pleasantly surprised to find a copy of the 29th Big Game Awards display poster included with their fall 2016 issue of *Fair Chase* magazine. This poster is double-sided (16.25x21.25 inches) and suitable for framing. It features images and data of all 1st Place Award winners and the two new World's Records

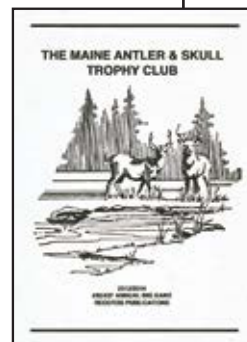
Awards Program Exhibit at Bass Pro Shops in Springfield, Mo., this past summer. The reverse side of the poster highlights photos and data on the other award-winning trophies at the 29th Awards Program.

Personally, I think this poster is a very exciting keepsake of the 29th Awards Program. It is the first time the Club has actually produced a poster since the 11th Competition (now called Awards Programs) back in 1964. The Club produced Competition/Awards Program posters for the 1st (1947) through the 11th Competitions. Beginning with the 12th Competition, the Club discontinued the posters and produced information about the award-winning trophies in a photo brochure. In addition to the 29th Awards Program poster, the Club also released the usual photo brochure.



BIG GAME RECORDS OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Official Measurers (MOM) is excited to announce the release of their 1st edition of *Big Game Records of Minnesota*, which is a compilation of big game trophies recorded from the Land of 10,000 Lakes. This book is a compilation of trophies from the Minnesota Record Book, Minnesota Deer Hunter's Association, along with new trophy entries from MOM. This is a high quality, 8.5" x 11" hardcover book with over 250 pages containing over 13,000 trophy entries. It also has numerous photos along with several stories of successful hunts. The newly designed book contains big game records organized by county for easier lookup and research. It also contains a complete section for shed antlers. MOM is an enthusiastic group of dedicated men and women trained and certified to accurately measure and score all of Minnesota's big game animals, including whitetail deer, black bear, moose, elk, and wolves. (The latter category is not recognized by Boone and Crockett Club.) Copies of *Big Game Records of Minnesota* are for sale through MOM's website, mnmom.com.



THE MAINE ANTLER & SKULL TROPHY CLUB, #34/#35

The latest edition of *The Maine Antler & Skull Trophy Club* (#34/#35 for 2013/2014) records book, which has been published by the Maine Antler and Skull Trophy Club (MASTC) since 1979, is now available. It includes hundreds of photos; current entry listings; overall records for deer, bear, moose, and turkey; Triple Crown Club and Royal Crown Club information; and Maine sheds. It also includes exciting hunting tales, charts illustrating number of entries for deer for the past 10 years, total entries per county, and features the "Top Ten" listing for each species such as the widest moose antlers; and much more. New to this edition is a complete list of hunters with multiple MASTC entries. This latest edition has massive amounts of information and is the complete encyclopedia of Maine's hunting tradition! A single copy costs \$35; two copies, \$63; and three copies are \$30 each. These prices include shipping within the United States. You can send your check to MASTC, 150 Ames Rd., Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. Or you can place your credit card order by calling 207-564-7614.

BOOK REVIEW NOTICE

There are many state, provincial, and private organizations publishing local records books that use Boone and Crockett Club's copyrighted scoring system with permission of the Club. Since there is no single reference source for these books, and because there are many hunters who collect them, we will review them as time and space permit. Only those books that use the Boone and Club's copyrighted scoring system and terminology will be considered for review. Please note that the Boone and Crockett Club cannot vouch for the accuracy of the data contained in these books. Some of the books may include trophies that were not scored by certified Boone and Crockett Club Official Measurers. If there is a question about the status of a trophy listed in any of these books, the Boone and Crockett Club's records books/archives are the final reference source to settle any and all discrepancies.

TROPHY TALK

BEAR & CAT SKULLS

Bear and cat skulls are among the simplest trophies to score since only the length and width of the skull are measured and added together. The techniques for scoring the length and width of skulls with levels and c-clamps, skull scoring boxes, wooden blocks, and calipers are discussed in complete detail on pages 37-47 of the 4th edition of the new scoring manual, *How to Score North American Big Game*. I am not aware of any serious scoring problems we are having at this time with bears and cats; however, we continue to receive score charts for both bears and cats scored to the nearest eighth of an inch.

Official Measurers should remember that skulls are measured to the nearest sixteenth of an inch. When the records office receives a score chart added in eighths, we notify the trophy owner to contact his/her Official Measurer to have the trophy rescored to the nearest sixteenth of an inch. We cannot simply convert eighths to sixteenths because the measurer may have rounded one or both of the measurements up or down and we have no way of knowing that. **To avoid delays in processing trophies in the records office, please don't forget that skulls are measured to the nearest sixteenth of an inch.**

YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

In my opinion, Boone and Crockett Club's Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch (TRMR), eight miles west of Dupuyer, Mont., on the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountain Front, is one of the most beautiful places in North

America. It's a four-hour drive to the TRMR from B&C's headquarters in Missoula through some of the most scenic habitat in North America, to say nothing of the spectacular beauty of the ranch itself once you get there. Any reason to go there is a good excuse for me to do so.

The TRMR's 6,000 acres is home to an incredible array of wildlife, including whitetail and mule deer, elk, moose, cougar, black and grizzly bears, wolves, and even an occasional pronghorn. It is key winter range to as many as 2,000 mule deer and 500 elk migrating each year out of the Bob Marshall Wilderness to the west of the ranch.

My wife Susan and I recently accepted an invitation from Luke Coccoli, the Club's conservation programs manager at the ranch, to serve as volunteers for the first-ever NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) at the TRMR. It is the first such program held in the state of Montana. There were 25 students and 11 volunteers.

YHEC is an advanced hunter education program designed to build and further develop skills taught in basic hunter education courses. The challenge is conducted under simulated hunting conditions to provide the best practical environment for reinforcing and testing a young hunter's skills. This event featured rifle, shotgun, and archery shooting; a hunter safety trail with shoot-don't-shoot situations; and a wildlife identification test. Phil Ehrlich, an Official Measurer from Alamosa, Colo., and I administered the hunter safety trail, and Susan ran the wildlife identification program.

State teams compete nationally every year at NRA's Whittington Center, Raton, N.M., and at Mill Cove Environmental Center, Mansfield, Pa., (alternating years). ■



B&C's TRMR hosted the first NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge in Montana. There were 25 students and 11 volunteers who participated in the advanced hunter education program. YHEC is designed to build and further develop skills taught in basic hunter education courses.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUSAN RENEAU