



The Hunter's Journal

June 2022

President's Column

Greetings KCSCI Members,

The Kansas City Chapter of Safari Club International membership elected directors at its April meeting. I wish to thank all of those giving their time and effort to meet a common goal. I see the goal for the KCSCI continuing to grow as the club welcomes new members and many activities which will continue to expand fellowship and friendships.

The KCSCI Board of Directors elected chapter officers for the 2022-2023 term which are as follows:

- Butch Trabuc – President
- Nate Van Campen – Vice President
- Bob Anderson – Secretary
- Charlie Austin – Treasurer
- Other Board Directors:
- Doyle Newhouse
- Frank Zonarich
- Brandon O'Neal
- Glenn Lansford

It is my hope, with the help of the board of directors, to bring the Kansas City Chapter of Safari Club International together and function for the good causes we represent. Conservation and hunting rights are two of the major issues facing us in the future. Having said that, it is my sincere hope that as a chapter of SCI we can indulge in the friendships and programs that bring us all together for these reasons. Being part of the club and participating in these activities is a very rewarding experience to many outdoor enthusiasts.

This past Sunday, May 15th, the KCSCI had a youth fishing event held at the James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area in Lee's Summit. David Haake had the event ready to go with fishing poles and bait. Even though the weather threatened the event in the morning, the skies cleared in time for the youths to catch and release fish and all to enjoy some BBQ of burgers and hot dogs thanks to the grilling provided by Charlie Austin. This event is an example of the youth sponsored events by the chapter and the opportunities for fellowship for the club members. Mark your calendars as the Member Appreciation Picnic will be held June 26th from 2 – 6 PM at the Black Hoof Park in Lenexa. Hope to see you all there!

Enjoy the outdoors!
Butch Trabuc
President



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The Hunter's Journal

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KC SCI Calendar of Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

View more details and RSVP for these events online at www.kcsci.com/meetings

June 26, 2022

KCSCI Member Picnic

2:00 - 6:00 PM

Black Hoof Park, Lenexa, KS

- Free food and drinks (beer and wine available for purchase)
- Raffles
- Live Auction

Please RSVP at kcsci.com/meetings by June 20th.

More details to follow.

July 2, 2022

Free Youth Archery Event

10:00 AM

Archery Excellence, Independence, MO

July 7, 2022

Sporting Clays Shoot at Powder Creek

Time TBD

Powder Creek Shooting Park, 8601 Monticello Road Lenexa, KS 66227

August 6, 2022

KCSCI Member Shoot

12:00 - 2:00 PM

Great Plains Precision Rifle Range, Ottawa, KS



KCSCI Youth Fishing Event 2022



Open Season Sportsman's Expo and KCSCI Banquet 2022



Hunter's Report

35 Years Between Gobblers

By: Charlie Austin

As a young lad kicking around the woods and fields of Richmond County, Georgia, I never dreamed that life would take me all over the world to enjoy my hunting passion. I have hunted in Georgia, South and North Carolina, Texas, Kansas, New Mexico and Arkansas here in the US. In addition I have been blessed to hunt in Africa 7 times and will travel to Zimbabwe this August to hunt the Omay.

My elder brother, Stewart, was the first person to take me afield hunting for rabbits and squirrels. Being 18 years my senior he taught me safety rules and shooting techniques which I still adhere to today. I idolized my big brother and I never failed to ask him to take me hunting when he was home. We always saw the rabbits and a deer or two but never a Turkey.

Back in the early 1970s Wayne Roberts was my best friend and his father allowed the two of us to hunt his farm. Every chance we got I shouldered my Sears 20 gauge single shot he a 410 and off we went for the whole day hunting quail, rabbit and squirrel. You might say that I was hooked on hunting by age twelve yet didn't see a wild Turkey when they were in season throughout my youth.

When I finished college work took me far from home but my desire to hunt didn't diminish. However, it seemed like work always interfered with the desire. Many of us have experienced work and family requirements of life dictating when or even if we could go hunt.

Fortunately work would actually introduce me to an incredibly enthusiastic hunter, Ben Davis, who was my boss at Fort Bliss Texas. I was an operations manager at the main PX and Ben was the Area manager for several military installations in three states.

Ben was 30 years my senior and had suffered a heart attack, thus his wife didn't want him out hunting and fishing by himself. So when Ben learned that I enjoyed both hunting and fishing he began to dictate my work schedule to my immediate supervisor. I could then accompany him on the lake or in the mountains. WOW how lucky for me.

So in the spring of 1987 Ben insisted that we try our luck for Turkey in the mountains above White Sands, NM. Specifically we hunted in the Lincoln National Forrest. Neither of us knew anything about calling Turkey but Ben tried. Luck prevailed and I managed to take a nice Tom Turkey. No pictures as we didn't have a camera and of course cell phones with cameras didn't exist back then. So we skinned the bird and cooked part of it that night in his camper stove. It was an incredible camp meal. I had never experienced moist flavorful Turkey prior to that night.

In the subsequent years I have seen many a Turkey when deer hunting but never when it was legal to harvest one in season. I retired two years ago and my neighbor, Bill, owns property to hunt. Bill is an avid hunter of deer and Turkey as well as all North American big game. We started hunting his property down in Linn County last year but no luck for me on the Turkey front.

Fast forward to this year and we were in the woods early opening day of Turkey season. We could hear several gobblers but none came to the blind in which I was stationed. I blame my imperfect calling skills for the no Turkey sighting. That morning Bill's father got a shot but missed a nice gobbler.

We went out again several times over the next two weeks but luck wasn't with us. Some mornings the woods were silent without so much as a single gobbler speaking his desires. But then one fine morning everything lined up perfectly and we were at the property well before daybreak. As soon as I got out of the truck I heard a gobbler in the distance. Bill listened intently for a few minutes hearing several gobbles in two different areas. We made a plan to sit at a blind near the far north boundary of his property and he would do the calling. I got in the blind with my 1954 Browning A5 that my father gave me when I was just 14. Loaded with #5 shot I listened as Bill began the calling from a brush pile positioned behind me.

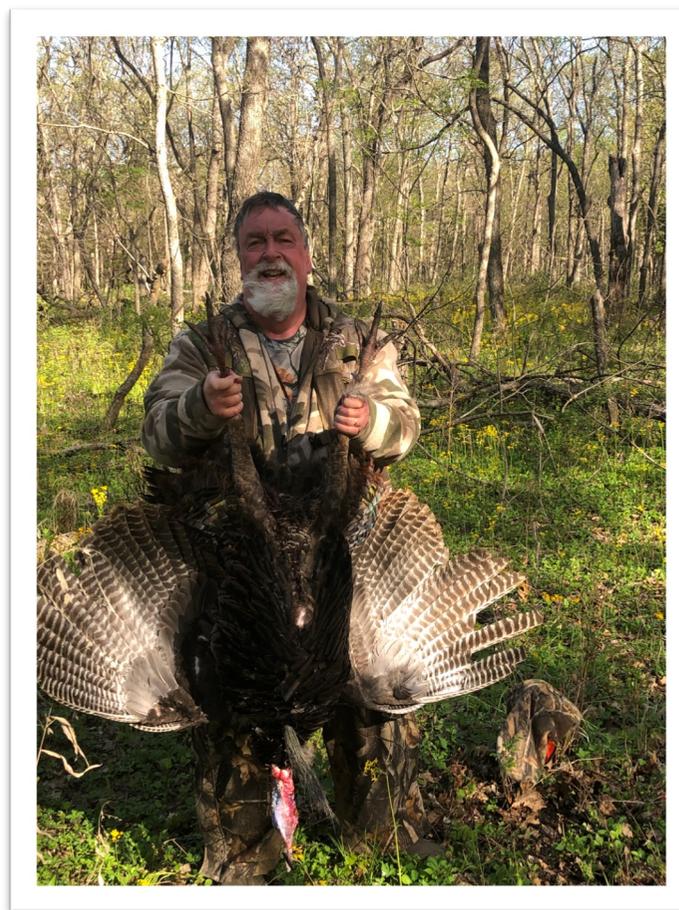
From 6:30 to 8:30 Bill would make the occasional call using several instruments including a mouth call. The sounds he created were a far cry better than the pitiful box calls I'm able to produce. At just after 8:30 a gobbler started answering some of Bill's different calls. The next 45 minutes was simply amazing to be a part of as he worked the bird in our direction. If you've never heard a big Tom gobble within say 15 yards I will tell you it is shockingly loud. Not to mention drumming sounds that are so distinctive to the species.

I had repositioned myself inside the pop up blind to face the direction I thought the bird was coming from and Bill actually stretched out under a fallen tree trunk as this bird came close. He was just out of my view but Bill could see him strutting and headed towards the two hen decoys we had placed earlier. Through some fallen limbs and spring grass I got my first glimpse of him just after he let out a thundering gobble. Then his head was down moving in between the fallen tree limbs and one could tell this big bird was determined to visit with a couple of willing hens. I put my shotgun through the blind opening and aimed at a clear area that the Tom was approaching. He stopped in a perfect position allowing me to confidently pull the trigger. I immediately heard Bill ask “did you get him”? I replied yes sir he is down.

As I opened the zipped up door in the blind Bill was ready to give me a high five. The intensity and noise of the previous 5 minutes gone I thanked Bill profusely for giving me the chance to harvest a magnificent Tom Turkey. After all it was his calling skills that brought the bird to me. My neighbor was truly gratified when I told him it had been 35 years since I last shot a Turkey. Big smiles covered both our faces.

The picture accompanying this article doesn’t do justice to the size and beauty of this bird. We guessed him to be well over 20 pounds and with a 9.5 inch beard he is probably a 3 year old specimen. I am looking forward to deep frying strips of fine breast meat in some peanut oil.

You can make a safe bet that I will be back in the woods next Spring but in the interim I need to practice calling.



An advertisement for Frontier Justice. On the left, a woman in a patterned jacket and a wide-brimmed hat holds a rifle, standing in a field with mountains in the background. On the right is a circular logo with a bison silhouette in the center. The text around the logo reads "THE OFFICIAL OUTFITTERS FRONTIER JUSTICE EST. 2015 OF THE KANSAS CITY SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL". Below the logo, the text says "KCSCI EXCLUSIVE FRONTIER JUSTICE MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT Sign up in-store for 50% off an Annual Membership!". At the bottom, there are three store locations: "FIREARMS | RANGES | CLASSES | EVENTS | BOUTIQUE" with the website "www.frontier-justice.com" and contact information for three locations: Lee's Summit, MO; Kansas City, KS; and Omaha, NE. The slogan "FAITH. FAMILY. FREEDOM." is at the bottom right.

George Earl Nichols

February 22, 1945 – February 7, 2022

George Earl Nichols, 76, passed away on February 7th, 2022, surrounded by his family at Overland Park Regional Hospital. George was born in Clifton Springs, New York, the oldest of three children to Earl and Betty Nichols. George is survived by his wife, Donna Nichols, two daughters: Michelle Cooper of DeSoto, KS; Kimberly Watts and her husband Derrick Watts of Shawnee, KS; six grandchildren: granddaughters Heather Inman and Hannah Inman; grandsons Hadyn McGrew, Trevor Watts, Shane Watts, and Andrew Watts; and two great-granddaughters: Madilynn Menear, Mira Bodensteiner. George is also survived by his sister, Nancy Nichols and her partner, Ken Perryman, of Clifton Springs, NY, and his brother, Douglas Nichols and his wife Patricia Nichols of Lyons, NY. He was preceded in death by his parents Earl and Betty Nichols of Port Gibson, NY.

George was a journeyman lithographer in the graphic arts industry for Case Hoyt Printing in Rochester, New York. George specialized in pre-press, four-color separations, and moved to several states before settling in the Kansas City area as a lithographer. George eventually became part owner of Graphics Four, Inc., in Lenexa, KS. He retired from lithography in 2005. In 2006, at the age of 62, George decided to go into the restaurant business as a franchisee owner of Culver's of Kansas City Kansas. Alongside his wife, Donna, as co-owner, and daughter Michelle, as general manager, George ran Culver's of KCK until 2018. George took pride in high-quality customer service and won several awards from Culver's Corporation for being a top franchisee.

Perhaps George's biggest passion was his love for shooting sports. He was an expert trap, skeet, and sporting clay shooter. He was also an avid hunter where he traveled the world including Africa, New Zealand, Argentina, Canada, and Alaska, to name a few. He was a member of the Safari Club International and proud, lifelong member of the National Rifle Association.

George especially enjoyed sharing his love for target shooting with family and friends. One of the highlights of George's life was to hunt with his grandsons. His last hunt was for deer in Independence, Kansas, with three grandsons, his son-in-law, and his brother, Douglas, from New York, who was fortunate to score a Kansas out-of-state tag. George took his last deer on opening day, December 1, 2021. This was bittersweet as he knew he was on his last hunt.

George was incredibly proud of his children and grandchildren who meant the world to him. It brought him so much joy attending various musical performances or sporting events. He lived for Friday night football where he could support his grandsons who were either playing in the band or playing football on the field.

George will be remembered as an amazing husband, father, and grandfather. He was a loyal friend and was passionate about all his endeavors. George's work ethic was second-to-none, and he always strived to be the best that he could be, which he accomplished!



Gary D. Lair

May 20, 1942 - May 18, 2022

Gary D. Lair, 79, of Smithville, MO passed away peacefully on May 18, 2022 at Riverside Place Facility. He was born to the late Reubin and Rosie Lair on May 20, 1942 in Leota, MO. He was married to the love of his life, Sharon, for nearly 25 years. He was employed as an operating engineer in the Local 101 at various locations. He served in the Army National Guard. He loved Christ and was a member of the Family Worship Center in Smithville. Gary was a man of great humor. He found joy in his practical jokes and was a keeper of great stories. He enjoyed dancing with his wife and spending a great amount of time with his family. He was a member of the SCI (Safari Club International) and traveled to places like Alaska, Northern British Columbia, Africa, and Zimbabwe as a big game hunter. Gary was proud of all the trophies he harvested including the 5th largest leopard in the world. He loved to garden and spend time outdoors. He would often give his neighbors and church members food to share. He will be remembered for his great love of his family and will be truly missed by those who cherished him. Gary was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Sharon; children: Shelley (Tony Hallaba) Lair, Cristin (M. Scott) Allen, Cameron Lair; grandchildren: Alex Hallaba, Ava Allen, Eli Allen, and Alayna Lair; as well as his brother: Michael (Marilyn) Lair.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can find official SCI measurers online.

Go to: www.safariclub.org/record-book

Click the link "Find a Measurer in My Area". Enter your zip code and you're set.



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WELCOME NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS!

Bruce Barksdale	Tammy Bartels	Phillip Bertels	William F. Bradley Jr.
Justin Bode	Partic Bottaro	Walter Bradley	Steve R. Brody
Steven Brandjord	Christa Brenneman	Mike Brocato	Jeff Cox
Monte Brown	Clifford Burt	Michael L. Couch	Donna R. Egan
Vince Donze	Josh Dunaway	Kevin R. Dunlap	Dee Garcia
Michael T. Egan	Scot Enge	Jim Frommer	Chris Hodgdon
Clint Garcia	Eric Haeker	James Hanson	Chad Howerton
J.B. Hodgdon	Robert Hodgdon	Josh Hoffman	Kyle Kelso
Jerame Hugunin	Janice Keeton	Mark Keeton	Brian Lassiter
Dan King	Daniel King	Jon Koffman	Howard McCutchan
Bryon Long	John MacGirvin	Thomas Martin	Joe Milkowski
Randy McKinnis	Jacklyn Meyer	John Meyer	Michael Paquette
Jacque Newhouse	Logan O'Neal	Peter Olarian	Dee Ridley
Kent E. Rains	Jeff Rann	Layne Reusser	Dennis Rolan
Taz Ridley	Mark Rigdon	Shaun Robinson	David Schultz
Ahmed Romeya	Don Scaro	Ray Schnarre	John H. Shirley
Brenton L. Scott	Tammy Scott	Christy Shideler	Rodney Taylor
Matt Stegeman	Stephanie Spika Hickey	Johann Swanepoel	Derrick Vidacako
Lisa Todd	Sean Turner	Chris Tymeson	Steve Winter
Dave White	Ellen White	Jim Wilkins	
Anthony Woolsey	Edward Young	Lisa Berryman	

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Connoisseur's Corner by Chris Cagle

The recipe I have today was contributed by our member Robert McCloud, he told me he found it on the Camp Chef website. We really appreciate your help and any of you out there who would like to send me a favorite recipe, booze or cigar, please send it on in. My email is chriscaglerealtor@gmail.com.

Angel's Envy Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey

This hand blended whiskey is made in batches of 8-12 barrels at a time. finished in port wine barrels and unlike any bourbon you've tried. This Kentucky bourbon whiskey is a gold color laced with reddish and copper hues. This whiskey features aromatic notes of vanilla, maple syrup and toasted nuts and the flavors lead to the same with a clean lingering taste.

Enjoy it neat in your favorite whiskey glass, chilled, or with just a splash of water. It works great in your favorite mixed drinks like an old fashioned cocktail.

Alec Bradley Pensado Cigar

This cigar was first created to pay homage to the Cuban traditions of cigar making rolling the filler triple capping the head and box pressing the finished cigar. Blended with proprietary estate grown corajo from Honduras. Pensado would be named the "Cigar of the Year" by Cigar Aficionado and has a rating of 96. It is a medium to full cigar that comes in six sizes. My favorite is the Torpedo, 52 ring by 6 1/8 inches.

Stuffed Venison Back Strap

Backstrap (deer, elk or a small beef tenderloin)

Salt and pepper

Olive oil

One pound of bacon, cut into 1/2 inch pieces

Two cups of mushrooms, chopped

Several cloves of garlic, chopped

Eight ounces of cream cheese

One cup of bread crumbs

Preheat your grill to medium high heat. Trim all the silver skin from the backstrap, and butterfly it open lengthwise, do not cut all the way thru, you want it open like a hot dog bun. Season with salt and pepper

Set the backstrap aside and heat up a skillet. chop the bacon into 1/2 inch pieces and brown in the skillet. Once the bacon starts to brown add the mushrooms, garlic.

Once the mushrooms are cooked remove from the skillet and put in a mixing bowl. Add the cream cheese and breadcrumbs to the bacon mushroom mixture and mix well together.

Spoon the mushroom, bacon mixture evenly inside the entire length of the backstrap. Close the butterfly and tie off with butchers twine. Brush the backstrap with olive oil and place on the grill. Keep rotating the backstrap so it cooks evenly and get some nice grill marks. If the mixture starts to flow out, place on foil to finish cooking to about 120 degrees. DO NOT OVER COOK. Remove from the heat and cover LIGHTLY with foil and let it rest for 15 minutes. For serving, slice into one inch steaks and serve with your favorite side dishes.

*Hope you all get to enjoy these,
Chris Cagle*

Chapter Information

DID YOU KNOW?

It's important to renew your national memberships through our chapter!

It allows us to earn valuable benefits for the chapter and help us keep our records up to date.

To RENEW please call Fred Robertson at 913-299-6759 and he will take care of everything for you.

KC SCI BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President:	Butch Trabuc	620.363.2739	btrabuc@kcsci.com
Vice President:	Nate Van Campen	816.769.8676	nvcampen@kcsci.com
Treasurer:	Charlie Austin	913.515.0836	caustin@kcsci.com
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	Glenn Lansford	913.901.7565	glansford@kcsci.com
	<i>Open Position</i>		

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Treasurer:	Pam Todd	ptodd@kcsci.com
Board Members:	Paul Kalicki	pkalicki@kcsci.com
	Rodney Heinsohn	rheinsohn@kcsci.com

KC CHAPTER PAST PRESIDENTS

David Haake	2019 - 2022	Kevin Anderson	2000 - 2002
Robert Anderson	2016 - 2019	Kevin Dunlap	1998 - 2000
David Soine	2014 - 2016	Pete Olarian	1996 - 1998
Brian Bode	2012 - 2014	Pat Diecidue	1994 - 1996
Mike Hagen	2010 - 2012	Fred Douglas	1992 - 1994
Bryan Schanze	2008 - 2010	Taz Ridley	1989 - 1992
Brian Bazin	2006 - 2008	Bill Tott	1988 - 1989
Byron Lange	2004 - 2006	Don Kirn	1986 - 1988
Tom Sollner	2002 - 2004	David Neighbor	1985 - 1986



**The Kansas City Chapter of
Safari Club International
Invites You to
Become a Member**

If you are not currently a member of KC-SCI, but have an interest and would like to know more about our organization, please contact:

Fred Robertson at (913) 299-6759
or visit our website at <http://www.kcsci.com>.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
KANSAS CITY CHAPTER SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

Name: _____ Home Ph#: _____

Address: _____ Work Ph#: _____

City: _____ Cell Ph#: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Spouse Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Occupation: _____ Member-Sponsor: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$85.00 for my membership fees to Safari Club International including my subscription to the Safari Magazine and KC Chapter due or/ charge my credit card below

Name on Card: _____ Credit Card: MC__ VISA__ AMEX__ DISC__

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:

Fred Robertson
7612 Corona Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66112



7612 Corona Ave
Kansas City, KS 66112

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION WORLDWIDE.



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*In a civilized and cultivated country, wild animals only
continue to exist at all when preserved by sportsmen."*

- Theodore Roosevelt