



B.B. HOLLINGSWORTH, JR.

**B&C** President HOUSTON, TEXAS

s you review this annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, you will first see a solid operating performance along with many successful and active programs consistent with our mission. You will also see the outstanding volunteer work of many Regular and Professional Members that makes this Club so successful.

We are advancing on our goals of inspiring ethical hunting, promoting professional expertise, and advocating for effective management of habitat and wildlife. And, we are keeping shop with administrative improvements and continued development of financial security for our mission.

First, we concluded a successful fundraising round for our new program, Hunt Right; Hunt Fair Chase (HRHFC). Launched with the essay "The Boone and Crockett Club on Fair Chase" and with strong support from corporate partners, HRHFC will now cover all our activities in promoting the ethics of hunting in conservation. HRHFC gives us the overall vision under which to inspire ethical behavior through our statements, activities and publications. The campaign website huntfairchase.com—launched in July.

We have a new position statement out, and if you have not read it, I encourage you to do so. The title is "Lead in Ammunition for Hunting and Shooting." It is certainly a current hot topic. Visit the Club's web site to read the full statement.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was also discussed at the Club's Annual Meeting in

Tucson, Arizona, and I'm sure vou've seen the outstanding series of articles in Fair Chase magazine about this terrible disease. Because of the huge ramifications involved, I have appointed an adhoc committee

of some of our best and brightest Professional Members to guide the Club in formulating our positions on CWD. Steve Williams and Becky Humphries have agreed to co-chair this group of experts; much more to come on this.

Records entries are on track for another big triennial at the 30th Awards Program in Springfield, Missouri. Mark your calendars for July 2019—you don't want to miss this. If you haven't been to the Youth Awards banquet, you owe it to yourself to go. I think it is the highlight of the show. And speaking of a show, the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium is now open

adjacent to Bass Pro Shop's flagship store in Springfield. Housed in the museum is our National Collection of Heads and Horns, bigger and better than ever. Bass Pro has been terrific in making this move a resounding success, giving the collection and the Club exponentially more exposure.

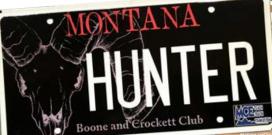
Our Publications Program has been busy with two new books in the works—Records of North American Big Game, 14th edition, showing robust pre-sales, and our first-ever college text book, North American Wildlife Policy and Law, forecast to be completed in May 2018. The third

book, Boone and Crockett Club's 29th Big Game Awards, released last fall, is completely sold out!









The Montana license plate project is averaging about \$10,000 per month and has brought in \$114,700 in net income since inception. Needless to say, this is a welcome addition to cash flow for the Club.

The Associates Committee is hard at work on a new incentive program for Official Measurers to sign up new Associates, as well as continuing to develop editorial content that will education and entertain our readers.

In University Programs, Boone and Crockett Fellows presented four student projects at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference spring meeting in Spokane, Washington. For me it was the highlight of the meeting and really showed us what these programs are all about. In addition, a very successful two-day retreat was held this summer in East Lansing at Michigan State University (go Spartie!).

Conservation Policy, with our

new co-chairs James Cummins and Paul Phillips, along with our D.C. team Greg Schildwachter, David Anderson and Mitch Butler, are hard at work with the new administration in Washington. Current priorities are forest health, update of Endangered Species Act, the Sportsman's Act, and reform of Equal Access to Justice Act. They are looking for Club member participation to really make our impact meaningful, so contact any of them if you

would like to get involved. The 2017 operating results mentioned earlier came in well ahead of budget last year, with our budget goal always to break even. Thanks to staff and the Budget and Finance Committee for the excellent work on the financial end of our business.

All this work is supported by a strong and lean administrative program. One item that was discussed at length in Tucson last December, is the renovation of the manager's house at the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch. The renovation is complete and was paid for by members. The total cost was \$157,000; 38 members stepped up, including Ed Rasmuson, who made a generous challenge match to fund this project. Ranch Manager Mike Briggs and family have moved back in and are enjoying their "new" home. A big shout out and thank you to all who participated! I witnessed the good work on this project firsthand when Mike and his family were gracious hosts for a great dinner of homemade chili in their home. A tour of the ranch followed the next day that included two wolf sightings.

Work on the infrastructure project (the integrated database powering our web site, big game records, point of sale, and accounting) continues, and we are now actively testing systems. Progress is being made with the balance of the funding coming from the endowment.

The Foundation enjoyed another outstanding year, and I would encourage you to read President Terrell McCombs letter on the following pages of this report. Of special note, the endowment now exceeds \$20 million, making the regular distributions to support the Club almost twice what they were just a few years ago.

And finally, a special thanks to the board members of both the Club and the Foundation, and all of the committee chairs who volunteer so much time and treasure on behalf of the Club. You are truly remarkable and what makes this club so special.

I am proud to be a member and especially proud to follow a long line of distinguished gentlemen to serve as your president.

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### **BOONE AND CROCKETT**

### Club Officers and Directors

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SECRETARY

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TREASURER

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James F. Arnold

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT—CONSERVATION Timothy C. Brady

VICE PRESIDENT—ADMINISTRATION
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VICE PRESIDENT—BIG GAME RECORDS
Eldon L. Buckner

VICE PRESIDENT—CONSERVATION
Tom L. Lewis

VICE PRESIDENT—COMMUNICATIONS

CJ Buck

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DIRECTOR – CLASS OF 2017 Anthony J. Caligiuri

DIRECTOR – CLASS OF 2018 Paul V. Phillips

DIRECTOR – CLASS OF 2019 A.C. Smid

### Foundation Officers and Directors

PRESIDENT

R. Terrell McCombs

SECRETARY

John P. Schreiner

TREASURER

C. Martin Wood III

VICE PRESIDENT

John P. Evans

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul M. Zelisko

### **DIRECTORS – CLASS OF 2017**

Remo R. Pizzagalli Edward B. Rasmuson James J. Shinners John A. Tomke Leonard J. Vallender

### **DIRECTORS – CLASS OF 2018**

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### DIRECTORS - CLASS OF 2019

John P. Evans
Steve J. Hageman
R. Terrell McCombs
John P. Schreiner
C. Martin Wood III

Cover photo © Mark Mesenko



R. TERRELL MCCOMBS B&C Foundation President SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

While the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation experienced one of its most challenging years on record in terms of funding needy projects and meeting some of the significant fiscal demands of the Club, it was nonetheless a very positive year for the Foundation. This year, for the first time in Club history, all budgeted fixed General and Administrative (G&A) annual expenses are being met through the annual 2.5 percent distribution from the Foundation endowment. This is an extraordinary milestone in the budgetary history of the Club and would not have been possible without the steadfast commitment to the Foundation by Club members. I would like to thank each and every member and associate who has contributed to the Foundation since its inception in 1986. It is only through such generous commitment that I am able to deliver such positive and encouraging news to you today.

While the Foundation continues to march toward the ultimate goal of supplementing dues to fund the mission and programs noted in the strategic plan, there continues to be significant pressure on the endowment to fund critical projects. Many such projects have been extraordinary in nature and thus, have often been unfunded or underfunded through the budgetary process. Therefore, it is more important than ever to keep the end goal in mind, which is to continue to increase the endowment principal for the long-term benefit and effectiveness of the Club.

The endowment, as of October 1, 2017, exceeds \$21 million; our ultimate goal is to put it over \$30 million. The

endowment stood at \$9.1 million at the end of fiscal 2010. Today, thanks to you, our dedicated members and associates, it has increased more than 131 percent in the interim period. However, such increases have been needed, as Club demands on the endowment are at an alltime high.

In addition to covering this year's budgeted Club G&A expenses, the Foundation is helping support the Associates Program, Conservation Education, the Theodore Roosevelt

Memorial Ranch, the Records Program, Government Affairs, nearly all the infrastructure project (the integrated database powering our web site, big game records, point of sale, and accounting), some development expenses, as well as other Club expenses. So, as you can see, the current demands on the Foundation are higher than at any point in its history.

However, having said that, I am pleased to report that thanks to growth in the endowment principal through programs such as the Wilderness Warrior Society (WWS), as well as individual member and associate donations, coupled with strong

capital markets and sound strategy by the Investment Committee, we will end calendar year 2017 without encroaching on the endowment corpus. Moreover, if planned and stated financial commitments come forth in the first half of 2018, the same will be true for fiscal year 2018. In addition, I am pleased to state that as of this writing, total WWS pledges have nearly reached \$3.5 million. The Wilderness Warriors Society has had 27 members in its brief history. This is quite an accomplishment when one remembers that WWS founder, current Club President Ben Hollingsworth, originally thought it might be a huge success if he could persuade eight or nine members to join! Again, none of this would be possible without the committed dedication to the Foundation endowment by our members and associates. Thank you.

While the Wilderness Warrior Society the Foundation's major-gifts program—

Wilderness Warrior Society Members at the 2016 Annual Meeting held in Tucson, Arizona.



continues to achieve growth and success, the long-term future of both the Foundation and the Club resides in planned giving. The Roughriders Society is the Foundation's primary planned giving program, and while it has experienced some challenges, today it exceeds \$51 million in bequests. Every member and associate who has ever made a bequest can take great pride in that figure. As I have stated so often, I know of no greater charitable legacy a true sportsman could leave than a bequest to the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation. Since starting the planned-giving program, a little more than seven years ago, to date it has brought more than \$6 million in cash into the endowment. Most of this amount represents matured or accelerated bequests to the Foundation. However, planned giving is clearly a work in progress and needs your continued support. Winton Smith, our charitable gift-planning consultant and a noted tax attorney, would be happy to work with you privately or through your attorney to help plan charitable gift goals within your estate. The Planned Giving Committee, consisting of Buck Buckner, Gary Dietrich, and myself, works closely with Winton as we engage additional members into this critical portion of our development efforts.

In fiscal year 2017, which ended on June 30, total contributions, including auction proceeds,

ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCES GENERAL CLUB ACTIVITIES AS OF JUNE 30, 2017 66% - \$13,814,712 \$20.917.636 RASMUSON CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER & ANDERSON EDUCATION PROGRAM 15% - \$3,185,589 UNDISTRIBUTED EARNINGS 15% - \$3,135,173 WWS pledges, matured or accelerated planned gifts, wine sales, separate development or foundation contributions by members and associates, and the SPENCER & HIXON CONSERVATION GRANTS spring and fall solicitations totaled 3% - \$488.498 more than \$3.5 million. Both the THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL RANCH Club and Foundation are extremely 1% - \$155,625 appreciative of every donor and contributor in this magnanimous RECORDS OF NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME charitable effort. .005% - \$98.788 It is obvious, when one ASSOCIATES PROGRAM recognizes the current demands on

structured to operate on dues alone. The endowment protects and enhances critical Club programs, but it will not always be able to do so without continued growth. If you are not involved in a Foundation program such as the Roughriders Society or the Wilderness Warrior Society, I urge you to make such a commitment. The future BOARD RESTRICTED of our Club depends on it. However, if you are one of **30%** \$6,376,429 the many members currently involved in these programs, I hope you understand that you represent the true backbone of the Boone and Crockett Club. The Club. the Foundation, and their respective

programs could not exist without you.

I would like to close by thanking
you for your continued and endearing
support of the Boone and Crockett
Club Foundation.

the Foundation endowment, that

the Boone and Crockett Club is not

BALANCE RESTRICTIONS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2017

PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED

**55%** \$11,406,033

.001% - \$39.250

UNDISTRIBUTED

15% \$3,135,174

EARNINGS



## 

### BECs 29th Big Game Awards Big Success

The event, held from July 14-16, 2016, in Springfield, Missouri, featured 98 of the top-scoring native North American Big Game animals entered between 2013-





THE EVENT WAS SPONSORED BY:

BASS PRO SHOPS | DALLAS SAFARI CLUB |
LEUPOLD | BUCK KNIVES | FEDERAL PREMIUM |
WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION | WEATHERBY | MULE
DEER FOUNDATION | YELLOWSTONE PRESS |
ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION | YETI
| KIMBER | BOOK YOUR HUNT | AMERICASE
| BEAR TRUST INTERNATIONAL | GUIDES
AND OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA | DNZ | GASTON

### Massive 3x3 Whitetail Makes the Book!

This impressive
6-point non-typical
whitetail became
an internet
sensation and
drove tens of
thousands of
sportsmen
to B&C's
Facebook
page to verify
whether or not
it was legitimate.
The buck was
officially entered by



the hunter
Brad G. Julian with
a score of 216-1/8 B&C points. It was
taken in Oklahoma in 2016.

BOONEANDCROCKETTCLUB - OVER 325,000 FOLLOWERS

## BIG GAME RECORDS

he significance of the Records of North American Big Game is reaching its full significance as a year-round inspiration to sportsmen to hunt by the fair chase ethic. Every season, hunters know that to qualify for the records book, the trophy must be taken by fair chase methods. Meanwhile, more poachers are learning that the crime of illegally taking wildlife comes with an extra penalty in those states where our Poach and Pay program adds an extra penalty based on the B&C scoring system for the criminal killing of trophy-quality big game.

Every third year, we hold our Big Game Awards Program, and every six years we publish Records of North American Big Game, now in its 14th edition. As you will see in our report of outreach efforts, we continue to spread the word of these achievements.

The 29th Big Game Awards Program held in July 2016 once again demonstrated that new spectacular specimens continue to come in from the field, testifying to the success of wildlife conservation. More highquality specimens exist because of the growth of more and healthier populations.

The triennial Awards Program is a marking period for the longestrunning citizen-science program in

the world. What began as an index on the restoration of big game that were nearing extinction is now a celebration of restoration and recovery.

We continue to use this story of success and ethical commitment to draw new and reactivated hunters to the challenge and thrill of finding

these animals in the wild.

During the year, several notable trophies made news: the largest hunter-taken non-typical whitetail, the largest elk taken by bow, and an amazing whitetail from Oklahoma. While admiring the Tennessee nontypical whitetail, keep in mind that our records include specimens found in the wild as well as killed by hunters, and in this case, we have a record of a found-specimen that is larger. The Montana elk is a World's Record in the books of our friends at the Pope and Young Club. And the Oklahoma whitetail, although it is not the largest score for a six-point frame, deserved its attention as a viral sensation online.

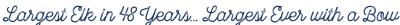
WORLD'S RECORD ALASKA-YUKON MOOSE 266-4/8 R&C DOINTS HUNTER: REX J. NICK LOWER YUKON RIVER, ALASKA

Do trophies have anything to do with conservation?

Most definitely! Big game trophies represent habitat and environmental quality, and are the result of successful game management and conservation efforts, which are guided and funded by sportsmen and sportswomen. Within our 29th Big Game **Awards Trophy Exhibit** were specimens from 33 of the 38 categories of North American big game recognized by B&C, including two WORLD'S RECORD new World's

Records!

PRONGHORN 96-4/8 B&C POINTS HUNTER: MIKE GALLO DONATED TO B&C'S NATIONAL COLLECTION OF HEADS AND HORNS BY HUNTER SOCORRO CO., NEW MEXICO



The Boone and Crockett Club and Pope and Young Club announced that an elk from Montana taken on public land during the archery season in 2016 is a new archery World's Record typical American elk.

The elk's official entry score was confirmed at an astounding 430 points. The bull was taken on a solo hunt early in the Montana archery season by a resident hunter,

"History was made right here in Montana," said Justin Spring, Boone and Crockett Club's director of Big Game Records. This is the fourth-largest bull in our records, which date back to before 1900, the largest since 1968 and the largest from the state of Montana."

"It's a milestone in the success of our commitment to this iconic species," Spring continued. "Animals of this size do not happen by chance. It takes the combined commitment of wildlife managers and biologists, landowners, sportsmen and, above all else, it takes the best habitats we can set aside for elk in elk country."



### **B&C LIFETIME ASSOCIATES**

In 1994, the Boone and Crockett Club launched its Lifetime Associates Program. The program continues to be a great success with nearly 60 new participants signing up this fiscal year.

B&C wishes to extend a thank you to all of our Lifetime Associates for their continued support and welcome our newest Lifetime Associates.

972. Russell M. Chambers – Haslett, MI
973. Michael A. Demmer – Mason, MI
974. William J. Dunbar – Anchorage, AK
975. Travis W. Fleetwood – Brenham, TX
976. James R. Wendt – Phoenix, AZ
977. Mike Gallo – Merced, CA
978. George Bierman – Montoursville, PA
979. Carlo Bonomi – New York, NY
980. William F. Chaney – Garden City, TX
981. Randall W. Ellis – Piedmont, SD
982. Tommy A. Ford – Waitesboro, TX
983. Robert D. Jones – Kettle Falls, WA
984. C. Candler Hunt – Madison, GA
985. Dan Schilling – Hope, AK
986. Kyle C. Bartsoff – Fruitvale, BC
987. Mark A. Hedges – Plymouth, IN
988. David L. Allison – Plano, TX
989. Michael L. Ritter – Lakeville, IN
990. Aaron D. Molchak – Gulfport, MS
991. Richard D. Shepherd – Elkton, OR
992. William C. Novy – Avilla, IN
993. Ronnie Harrison – Lucedale, MS
994. Brian K. Turner – Hunts Point, WA
995. Beau B. Turner – Hunts Point, WA
996. Craig T. Huff – Cincinnati, OH
997. Robert G. Spencer – Arcadia, OK
998. James S. Earnest – Mission Viejo, CA
999. Jerry Hull – Haslet, TX
1000. Kevin M. Kenney – Hartland, WI



B&C Associates Committee Chairman, John P. Schreiner (left) congratulates Kevin Kenney on being the winning bidder for Lifetime Associate No. 1,000 at the 29th Big Game Awards Auction.

1001. Monty Lewis – Thomasville, GA
1002. Kenneth L. Harrell – St George, UT
1003. Frank Purpera – Blacksburg, VA
1004. Craig Purpera – Angel Fire, NM
1005. Michael D. Gillette – High Point, NC
1006. Robert W. Jacobi – Denton, MT
1007. Marshall B. Hay – Portage, MI
1008. Douglas C. Burt – Great Bend, KS
1009. Matthew D. Wymer – Anchorage, AK
1010. Jimmy Dimanoff – Austin, TX
1011. Bentley J. Yingling – Chatham, IL
1012. Nyle Maxwell – Austin, TX
1013. Robert DeVries – Northbook, IL
1014. William DeVries – Northbook, IL
1015. Douglas Williams – Northbrook, IL
1016. Michael FX Cassidy – Windermere, FL
1017. Duane R. Kramer – Bellingham, WA
1018. Skyler Wolfe – Ann Arbor, MI
1019. William H. Moitz – Holmdel, NJ
1020. Mark A. Dovel – Aurora, TX
1021. Jonathan C. Freeman – Amarillo, TX
1022. Robin G. Hawkins – Swanton, OH
1024. Brad W. Wuest – San Antonio, TX
1025. Eugene Desjarlais – Anchorage, AK
1027. Sean H. Keck – Cadott, WI
1028. Mike Ireland – Turlock, CA
1029. Charles W. Hartford – La Jolla, CA
1030. Jordan D. Davis – Gurley, AL
1031. Carol A. Mauch – Bassett, NE
1033. Michael H. Brooks – Sanford, NC

## CONSERVATION POLICY

The transition to a new presidential administration moved quickly for sportsmen conservationists. Starting before the election, our community of American Wildlife Conservation Partners offered each campaign a discussion on our quadrennial agenda, Wildlife for the 21st Century, Volume 5 (July 2016). Upon taking office, the Trump administration moved quickly to establish its own agenda, and it is based largely on ours. Our objective is to have every incoming administration do likewise, regardless of party, so our issues can remain as priorities instead of partisan fads.

On day one of his service as Secretary of the Interior, Ryan Zinke signed two secretarial orders that overturned the recent ban of lead ammunition and fishing tackle used on fish and wildlife service properties and expands conservation stewardship, improves game and habitat management, and increases outdoor recreation opportunities.

Soon after, the acting director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Greg Sheehan, held the Sportsmen's Access Ramp Up Summit accompanied by Secretary Zinke and Deputy Secretary Bernhardt. This event was the beginning of how the Department of Interior and other landholding agencies could support and advance access to public lands for hunting, angling, and shooting sports. Many participants noted how this attention to conservation is building on the broader agenda established back in 2003 and developed through AWCP, Executive Order 13443, and the White House Conference on Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation in 2008.

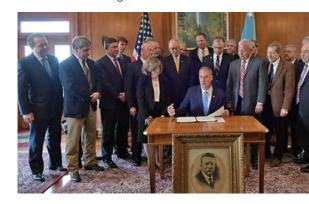
In response to the Trump administration review of national monument designations, the Club joined the public debate in support of reviewing these acts of presidential authority to ensure that their conservation purposes—and not their political clout and fallout—is the focus

for continued use of the Antiquities Act. This is consistent with our continued activity in Congress urging a conservation focus for the larger debate about the future of federal public lands.

Under the leadership of Regular Member Marc Brinkmeyer, the Club engaged with the Western Governors'

Association as a platinum supporter. This formalized our working relationship with the governors on our shared priorities for improving the Endangered Species Act and continuing to reform forest policy for better habitat conditions on federal lands.

On Capitol Hill, two of the most active issues—both very frustrating—are the drive to pass the Sportsmen's Act and a new forest policy that would budget for the still-increasing frequency and severity of wildfire and also speed the pace of restoration that will counter this dangerous trend.



Secretary Zinke signs an order to expand access to public lands flanked by six B&C Members including Steve Williams (WMI), Jeff Crane (CSF), Dave Nomsen (PF), Dale Hall (DU), and Miles Moretti (MDF).

# DENALI CELEBRATES 100 YEARS Peters Glacier Traileik Straightnway Glacier Foraker Glacier

he contributions and influence of the Boone and Crockett Club are seen daily by millions of people viewing spectacular landscapes scattered throughout the United States but perhaps the most magnificent of all is Denali National Park and Preserve. This 6-million-acre park contains some of the most stunning scenery in the world and is home to an abundance of wildlife, large and small. More than 600,000 people take in the splendor of Denali every year and it's all due to the vision of one man, Boone and Crockett Club member Charles Sheldon.

A Yale educated engineer by vocation, and a hunter by choice, Sheldon was drawn to the far north in the early 20th century not by the promise of gold, but for the scientific study of wild sheep. He retired from the business world in 1903 at the age of 36 and set off to hunt and study bighorns.

Sheldon's 1906 trip toward the majestic peaks of the Alaska Range, was one of the first expeditions to that region. From July 1907 to June 1908, Sheldon stayed to hunt, explore, collect, and live an extreme adventure. When he left, he took not only the idea for a national park, but maps delineating boundaries around a proposed park area of almost 2 million acres. His fellow B&C members were very excited about the project, but nearly a decade would pass before Sheldon's brainchild would gain the attention and political momentum necessary for congressional consideration.

It was the approach of the railroad toward Denali that spurred the Boone and Crockett Club to action. Other interested organizations and individuals were enlisted to generate public support for the idea. Edward Nelson of the Biological Survey supported the proposal. The same was true of Stephen T. Mather, then in charge of national parks. The

Club also found a legislative champion in James Wickersham, U.S. Delegate of the Alaska Territory.

On the very day that he became a member of B&C, Stephen Mather wrote to Charles Sheldon, enthusiastically inviting him to visit Mather and his colleagues to discuss Sheldon's proposal for a new national park. Soon thereafter. Mather became involved in the campaign, using

DENAL NATIONAL PARK
CLT. (9)7

In recognition of the 100th anniversary a Winterfest Celebration was held last February at the Park's visitor center. B&C members Tim Brady and John Hendrix attended representing the Club. Brady had the opportunity to offer some remarks about the mission and history of the Boone and Crockett Club and how Club members, particularly Charles Sheldon, participated in the establishment of the park.

his position and influence to bring other notable figures who could effectively work for the park's creation. These included Belmore Browne of the Camp Fire Club and John B. Burnham of the American Game Protective Association.

Despite some political maneuvering and skirmishing, the bill was passed by both the House and Senate in early 1917. Charles Sheldon himself took the legislation to the White House and watched as President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law. It was appropriate that the man who had lived with Denali, and had conceived its creation as a national park, should be present when the mere motion of a pen culminated what for him had been a dream, a cause, and a gift for perpetuity.





Product makers, firearms companies in particular, began financially contributing to the conservation movement over the same concerns that formed the Boone and Crockett Club—dwindling wildlife populations. Manufacturers invest in conservation through product and cash donations, sponsorships, the collection of taxes on equipment purchases, and their executives contributing their leadership and insights on the boards of many local and national conservation organizations.

Today it's not just the gun companies. Other makers of products for sportsmen have jumped in with their commitments. The Boone and Crockett Club is blessed to have such a diversity of corporate partners that help fund the mission critical work of the Club. And its not just Boone and Crockett.

While we have exact figures on the moneys for conservation that have come from other sources like licenses, tag and stamp fees, and taxes it is difficult to calculate the contributions manufacturers have made to conservation and conservation organizations over time. Millions would be a safe bet, if not more.

The Club is also blessed to have a partner like R.J. Reynolds and U.S. Tobacco Company who sees value in educating their customers as to the importance of conservation and an ethical approach to hunting and angling.





























## OUTREACH

In FY2017 the Club conducted a successful fundraising round for the Hunt Right; Hunt Fair Chase program, which is now underway. We published the vision and foundation for this program in the essay "The Boone and Crockett Club on Fair Chase" and attracted the support of many notable corporate sponsors. This has established the core of our program of inspiring ethical behavior.

Expanding from a website where fundamentals are developed and debated, the Club's outreach extends to our conservation and corporate partner relationships, publishing, merchandising, and other programming. These are all platforms to keep fair chase top of mind for all conservationists. Through our alliances with other organizations, we are, in effect, putting fair chase in the mission statements of advocacy groups, the mastheads of many sporting enthusiast publications, and the "user's guide" for many hunting products.

We were particularly proud to award the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) with our 2017 Conservation and Stewardship Award. The award is given annually to the organization or entity that best exemplifies

excellence in conservation and wildlife and land stewardship core values of the Boone and Crockett Club and its founder. Theodore Roosevelt. Two of the Elk Foundation's founders, Bob Munson and Charlie Decker, were recognized



The Munson's and Decker's accepting their Conservation Stewardship Awards from B&C's Tom Price and Ben Hollingsworth, Jr.

at a dinner hosted by the Club in Spokane, Washington, as part of the 82nd North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. RMEF was founded in 1984 in Montana with the mission to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife and their habitat, a mission that Decker and Munson helped formulate and one that guides the foundation's efforts to this day. The organization works to protect and enhance America's most vital elk country, and its stewardship efforts benefit a wide range of wildlife. To date, the conservation group has helped conserve 7.1 million acres and completed more than 10,000 conservation, education and hunting heritage projects across 49 states and eight provinces. When the group began, there were approximately 550,000 elk in North America. Today, there are more than one million wild elk in 28 states.

We continue to promote thoughtful debate on excellence in wildlife conservation by publishing position statements and essays.

### POSITION STATEMENT AND VIDEO

Second Amendment
Rights and Conservation
Within the broader debates
about gun control and
Second Amendment rights,
one key point has been
largely left off the table;
the fact that the North
American Model of Wildlife

### THOUGHTFUL DEBATE

Conservation could not and would not have happened without a citizen's right to own firearms. The Boone and Crockett Club maintains that hunting is crucial to successful wildlife conservation, that gun ownership is fundamental to hunting, and that all three are critical to one another.

20-39

10-19

### ESSAY

### Conservation and Preservation

Preservationists are calling themselves conservationists, in large part, to confuse the public and trade on the historical success of conservation efforts. This essay explores the differences between these two philosophies that produce different results. In truth, preservation is a valuable tool in the conservation toolbox but not as a blanket philosophy for all situations as is increasingly being promoted. This very well could be one of the most significant clarifications of our times.

### POSITION STATEMENT

### Big Game Trophies and Hunting

The word "trophies" has become analogous to a "four-letter word" on our watch and is being used as a wedge to pry away the public support for all hunting. This new position statement marks the beginning of an effort to set a few things right.

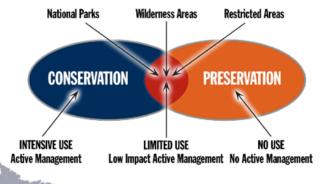
### POSITION STATEMENT

### **Predator Management**

Since the reintroduction of wolves, and before, the issue of predators—where, how many and what to do, or not do with them—has been a significant conservation and public relations challenge for sportsmen, NGO, and state and federal agencies. A serious public disconnect exists that must be filled before any meaningful progress can be made.

Visit the Club's web site to read all of our position statements and essays.

BOONE-CROCKETT.ORG



## B&C MEMBERSHIP

297 Members as of June 30, 2017

### NEW MEMBERS

Chad J. Bishop (Professional) Missoula, MT Clay E. Brewer (Professional) Rochelle, TX Marc A. Brinkmeyer (Regular) Sandpoint, ID Stanley Burger (Ex-Officio) Kooster, South Africa Michael L. Evans (Regular) Kooster, South Africa Michael L. Evans (Regular) Charlotte, NC Colin M. Gillin (Professional) Charlotte, NC Colin M. Gillin (Professional) Alpine, TX Kevin Hurley (Professional) Belgrade, MT N. Eric Johanson (Regular) Sylmar, CA J. Mitch King (Professional) Helena, MT Joshua J. Millspaugh (Ex-Officio) Missoula, MT Torsten C.H. Morner (Professional) Savannah, GA Melissa J. Reynolds-Hogland (Professional) Missoula, MT Benjamin A. Strickling III (Regular) Midland, TX Steve P. Thompson (Professional) Granite Ray CA

#### MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED

Robert D. Marcotte, Sr. (Emeritus) 1925-2016

Craig A. Cook (Regular) 1956-2016

Jack E. Beal (Emeritus) 1929-2016

R.L. Wilson (Professional) 1939-2016

Robert M. Lee (Regular) 1927-2016

Jack Ward Thomas (Honorary Life) 1934-2016 CONSERVATION EDUCATION

The B&C University Program is now operating in all phases of premier post-graduate education efforts. We are establishing, developing, operating, and delivering results from endowed professorships across the country. We also continue to educate younger and non-professional adult learners through our education outreach at the Rasmuson Wildlife Conservation Center (RWCC) on the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch (TRMR).

We have an active pipeline of new programs, existing programs with maturing curricula and research portfolios, and graduates contributing to the profession. The Club now has professorship programs at three universities, fellowship programs at four universities, and a new program taking shape at the University of Georgia.

We currently have 43 undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral fellows who are actively engaged in Boone and Crockettsupported research. These fellows include some of the most talented scholars and emerging wildlife professionals in our nation. They are winning awards of recognition and have made nearly 100 scholarly contributions in this year alone. Our seven active programs were supported in 2016 by more than \$6 million in research funding, obtained from sources other than Boone and Crockett endowments.

Developments include an annual

gathering of B&C Fellows at The Wildlife Society Annual

Conference, the annual conference for professionals in wildlife conservation.

The focus of the Montana program is to conduct meaningful research that affects management and policy. The program will train students to be leaders, and place them in leadership positions. Themes within the program include: private and public land management issues, disease-related issues, corridor management and migration issues, and harvest issues (including harvest management and access).

University programs presented four student projects

at the B&C meeting in Spokane on March 9, 2017. The program included projects at four education levels: postdoctoral, doctoral, masters and bachelors. Daniel Thompson, a doctoral student advised by Perry Barboza at Texas

A&M University, presented research from Alaska on the responses of moose to high

Programs represent biological and geographic diversity.

**B&C University** 

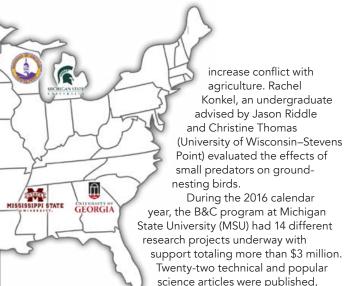
MONTANA

summer temperatures that have been implicated in the decline of moose populations in Minnesota. Jon McRoberts, a postdoctoral fellow working with Josh Millspaugh (University of Montana) presented detailed work on habitat use by

whitetail deer in Missouri that are being applied to new models for management.

Laura Warner, a master's student advised by David Hewitt (Texas A&M University–Kingsville) described work on mule deer in the Texas panhandle where expanding populations may





in the review process. Funding was secured for the Michigan Deer Disease Initiative, a large-scale, multi-year partnership that will use cutting-edge analytics and complementary field studies to improve our ability to inform deer disease-management strategies. An article in *Michigan Farmer* magazine highlighted our research on wild turkey harvest management programs, and we were invited to testify in front of the Michigan Natural Resources Commission about this work. The coming year promises

and an additional nine articles are

to be equally productive, with four additional students joining the B&C Quantitative Wildlife Center and new research projects exploring brown bear population dynamics in Alaska and wolf population expansion in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan.

B&C's education program also engages a variety of groups of school-aged and adult audiences. Spring K-12 field trips totaled 16 school groups visiting the TRMR, which included 255 students and 44 teachers; these numbers include 19 students from Arizona and 15 students from Montana participating in a three-day Intertribal American Indian Studies program. We took our programs on the road to four outdoor classrooms teaching over 725 students, teachers and parents about plant identification, signs of wildlife, wildlife anatomy, and the B&C scoring system—all in the context of defining conservation. Other NGOs have visited the RWCC including the Northwest Montana Nature Photographers, the Montana Wilderness Association, University of Montana Geology students and professors and biologists collaborating on a first-of-its kind "Road Ecology" paper as well as the Inter-Agency Grizzly Bear Committee with social event sponsored by Mr. Robert Model.

## A group of young people exploring public lands near the TRM Ranch.

### Poach and Pay Program Leads the Fight in Anti-poaching Research

Long recognized as the standard for evaluating the quality of North American big-game trophies to identify conservation successes or failures, the Club's big-game scoring system is now being used as a valuable enforcement tool in several states to ensure that the severity of the penalties for poaching trophy-class, big-game to enganimals is more in line with the severity of the crime.

Funded through a partnership between the Boone and Crockett Club and Leupold & Stevens and in partnership with many state wildlife agencies, the research phase of the Poach and Pay program is spearheaded by Vickie Edwards, a former wildlife biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and an official Boone and Crockett measurer. Edwards' research will gather data to be used to identify what is and what is not working with state fine and restitution programs, and which state agencies are already utilizing B&C's official scoring system to assess higher fines for the poaching of a trophy animal. Edwards report is expected to be released in early 2018.

### National Conservation Leadership Institute

Now in its 12th year, the National Conservation

Leadership Institute (NCLI) continues to engage and develop a wide range of conservation professionals to expand a leadership capacity that can overcome some of our most daunting challenges. The 36 members of Cohort 11 graduated in May 2017. Additionally, the growing NCLI community continues to gather at national and regional conferences to further build the network, deepen relationships, as well as identify and address current and future issues of concern. B&C sponsorship reached NCLI's highest level of sponsorship this year achieving Platinum status.

### B&C STAFF

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RANCH ASSISTANT Kadie Briggs

CUSTOMER SERVICE/ RECEPTIONIST
TJ Gould

### BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB HEADQUARTERS

250 Station Drive Missoula, MT 59801

Phone: 406-542-1888 bcclub@boone-crockett.org

#### **TRM RANCH**

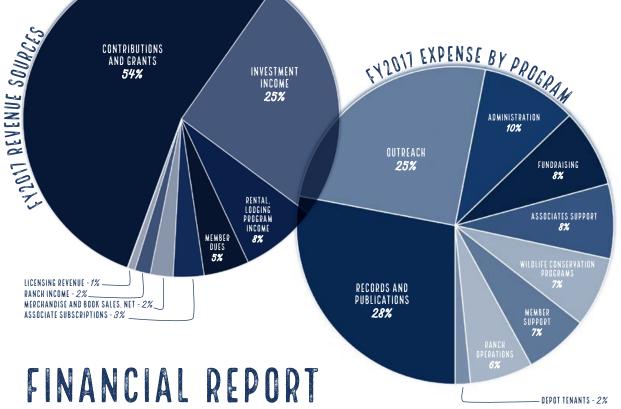
PO Box 234 Dupuyer, MT 59432

Phone: 406-472-3380 trmranch@boone-crockett.org

#### RASMUSON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER PO Box 230

Dupuyer, MT 59432

Phone: 406-472-3311 luke@boone-crockett.org



Marshall J. Collins, Jr. - Treasurer

The Club and the Foundation are pleased to report that we have finished with positive cash operating net income of \$182,445, which was \$131,528 ahead of our original budget (**Table 1**).

Our top three revenue generating sources came from generous contributions, program income and member dues. We decreased our spending in Fundraising, Administration, and Outreach program while increased spending in Records & Publication programs. Spending in all other areas was relatively the same as the previous fiscal year. Generous support of the capital expenditure fund has continued to help maintain our fixed assets and to support future needs. From a balance sheet standpoint, the Club is in a very satisfactory position. Our cash flow is seasonal but strong. The Club has no long-term debt at the end of the fiscal year and has a very strong current position.

During the year, the Club has made substantial progress with its infrastructure project which is designed to bring our information technology forward into the 21st century. The kick-off for our new website and the linking of all information is currently forecast to

begin just after the start of the new calendar year. While the completed project will cost far more than was originally budgeted, our members will be

pleased with the results that the new IT systems will produce.

The Foundation, as the fundraising arm of the Club, continues to provide ongoing financial support with a monthly allocation from the invested endowment funds to cover certain Club expenses and a planned distribution from unrestricted contributions

donated throughout the year. These funds come from contributions from our Members, Associates, and others in the conservation community who support the Club's missions. Altogether, the Club received over \$985,776 in support from the Foundation in FY2017.

The budget for FY2018 has been approved by the board of directors. Once again, there was a marked effort to tie the budget to the Strategic Plan; in particular the FY2018 budget includes funding to support Conservation Policy activities. We fully expect to make our financial budget for the current year and, to do so, we will need the continued support of our Members, Associates, and the conservation community at large.

TABLE 1

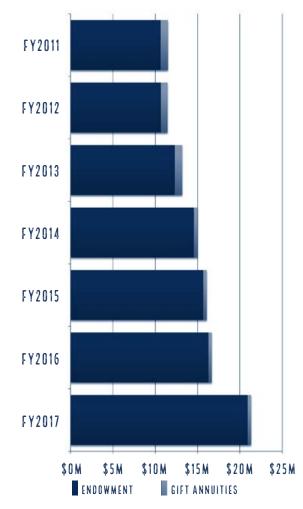
### HISTORY OF OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES

For Past 5 Years

	ACTUAL FY2013	ACTUAL FY2014	ACTUAL FY2015	ACTUAL FY2016	ACTUAL FY2017	BUDGET FY2018
TOTAL REVENUES	2,662,315	2,858,052	2,925,018	3,138,285	3,245,183	3,243,595
TOTAL EXPENSES	-2,809,018	-2,793,167	-2,925,657	-3,115,797	-3,245,503	-3,408,353
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES*	-54,960	-80,471	26,146	49,032	-14,157	-26,450
DEPRECIATION	173,571	175,712	183,334	185,507	185,649	192,360
TOTAL CASH OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)	-28,092	160,126	208,841	207,995	182,445	27,602

 $<sup>\</sup>mbox{*}$  FY2015 - Capital Exp. Fund was started with Member Contribution

## CHART 1 INVESTMENT BALANCES For Past 7 Years



## CHART 2 TRAILING RETURNS

## INVESTMENT REPORT

Paul Zelisko - Investment Committee

The Investment Committee is charged with investing the Foundation's Endowment assets in a prudent manner taking acceptable risks with the focus on long-term investment performance.

As of June 30, 2017, our total investments were \$21.3 million (Chart 1). The increase in value of \$4.6 million from the previous year is the net effect of contributions, expenses, dividends and capital appreciation throughout the year. The current portfolio balance includes our funds at D.A. Davidson, the Depot mortgage and the Charitable Gift Annuities. Our current target asset allocation strategy is 65% Equity and 35% in Fixed Income Securities.

**Chart 2** shows the annualized returns of our portfolio and benchmark since the inception of the Endowment as of June 30, 2017.

**Table 1** shows our one year annual return since 2014. YTD 2017 we had a 7.2% return on the portfolio. Our passive strategy is generating benchmark like returns.

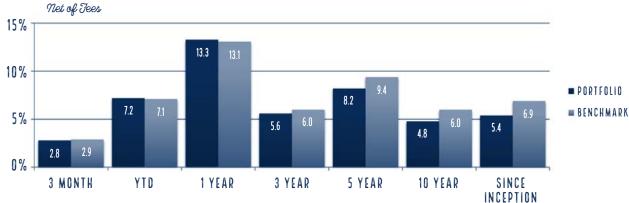
The
Investment
Committee
meets regularly
to review our
balances, asset
allocation,
strategy,
investment
policy,
performance and
the returns, risks
and volatility in
the Equity and

Fixed Income

## ANNUAL RETURNS NET OF FEES Catendar Year (as of June 30, 2017)

	YTD	2016	2015	2014
TOTAL RETURN	7.2%	8.7%	3%	6.1%
BENCHMARK	7.1%	8.8%	.3%	7.4%
+/- BENCHMARK	0.1%	-0.1%	6%	-1.3%

portfolios. In our meetings we exercise our due diligence to ensure we ask the right questions and take prudent exposures to the Equity and Fixed Income markets for the level of risk desired.



## COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended June 30, 2017

	2017
Revenue	
Member dues & subscription revenue	
Member dues	407,150
Associates subscriptions	262,218
Trophy database subscriptions	14,347
Total member dues & subscription revenue	683,715
Merchandise sales	396,867
Less: direct & allocated costs	(193,091)
Net merchandise sales	203,776
Contributions	4,439,779
Change in value of split-interest agreements	324,542
Licensing revenue	65,877
Ranch	140,352
Investment income/(losses)	2,237,461
Rental, lodging & program income	692,988
Other	5,488
Funds available for program & support services	8,793,978
Expenses	
Support services	
Fund-raising	303,800
Administration	372,457
Building tenant operations	59,397
Total support services	735,654
Funds available for program services	8,058,324
Program services	
Wildlife conservation programs	248,838
Conservation projects & outreach	958,720
Records & publications	1,069,170
Ranch operations	245,131
Membership support	272,808
Associates program	290,945
Total program services	3,085,612
Increase (decrease) in net assets	4,972,712
Net Assets	
Beginning of year	24,486,166
End of year	\$29,458,878

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended June 30, 2017

ASSETS	2017
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$551,244
Receivables, net of allowance	121,169
Donor promises to give, net of discount and allowance	303,487
Inventories	221,866
Prepaid expenses	120,043
Total current assets	<u>1,317,809</u>
INVESTMENTS	
Endowment	20,437,633
Planned Giving	409,680
Total investments	20,847,313
Donor promises to Give, Net of Current Portion	144,786
Depot, Ranch, Furniture and Equipment, Net	4,798,969
Agency funds	71,814
Split-interest agreements receivable	3,547,241
Total assets	\$30,727,932
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	163,034
Accrued liabilities	359,541
Agency funds payable	71,814
Deferred subscription revenue, current	189,125
Deferred revenue - other	46,711
Planned Giving payable, current portion	11,897
Lines of Credit	179,930
Total current liabilities	1,022,052
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	
Deferred subscription revenue, long-term	66,829
Planned Giving payable, net of current portion	180,173
Total long-term liabilities	247,002
Total liabilities	1,269,054
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	11,358,479
Temporarily restricted	6,453,970
Permanently restricted	11,646,429
Total net assets	29,458,878
Total liabilities and net assets	\$30,727,932

### Boone and Crockett Club and Foundation

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## HONDRARIA Anne M. Flowers Paul H. Holmes Winifred B. Kessler Lin-San Manuel Volunteer Fire Department Robert Model C. Robert Palmer Jim Peter Remo R. Pizzagalli Jack Reneau Michael Wigan

## MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Boone and Crockett Club to promote the conservation and management of wildlife, especially big game, and its habitat, to preserve and encourage hunting and to maintain the highest ethical standards of fair chase and sportsmanship in North America.

### **BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB**