

News and Views...The views expressed here in the editorial section are solely the editors views and not necessarily represent that of the CTAS organization

## Hello CTAS, friends and family!

What a month it has been with all of the preparation and hype surrounding the High Country Shoot. For those that were not able to be there this year, you were missed, but not to worry we carried on in true fashion, shooting arrows until our fingers calloused and spilling as many embellished hunting stories as our friends would entertain.

Every year when I hit that wash boarded road heading north out of New Castle, the weight of day to day life is lifted and I know I am on my way back home into the mountains. Despite all fillings knocking loose by the time you are turning onto the last stretch into the campsites, I can't help but smile to see all of the like minds lined up, tents set and bows hanging from the trees. Each site I pass even in the light of the moon I saw bellies rolling with laughter, kids running between the trees picking wildflowers hurdling downed logs, and circles of old friends leaned back in the comfort of old camp chairs. I know I have spoken of it in the past, but this is why I envy the last weekend of June each year. We all love to walk the woods and break a few arrows on poorly placed shots, but at the end of the day it is the comradery and kinship of



the gathering that brings me back year after year. This family that we call CTAS is strong and growing. Each year we add organically to our membership and spread the word of our traditions. This organic growth is representative of how strong an organization this is. We are built by our members and grow by our members. Let's keep the fever alive and living!

Now as we head off into the fall months and kick-off this years hunting season, I wish each of you luck and satisfaction in your pursuit. With your success and adventures, send in your pictures to share with our community!

Shoot Straight - David Hoff, Stick and Strings Editor

## **High County Re-Cap**

What another amazing year for the CTAS Annual High Country Shoot! This year no different than previous events did not disappoint with great attendance and representation from across the west and the nation.

This year's shoot was full of firsts for the club, from little improvements around the common area, a food truck (anyone that did not enjoy the authentic Mexican cuisine missed out!), to new events highlighting our community.

Starting out the weekend prior, a few key individuals selflessly came up into the woods for the weekend to layout courses, begin the prep work for our common area, and take care of the little housekeeping, clearing overgrown paths and downed trees left from the spring and winter months. Throughout the week they worked diligently to set-up and prepare for the masses! Thursday morning, they were welcomed with an exuberant amount of volunteers to set courses, trim trees, and share some shade come the hot afternoon. Thanks to this group, we were ready for a wild weekend of stick slinging fun, running around the woods with 600 of our closest friends.

Friday morning was kicked off, catching up with old friends around a steaming cup of coffee or breaking in some of the freshly placed foam throughout the woods. Throughout the day, the camp spots filled and more filtered in through the tightly wooded forest roads.

Saturday's highlights began bright and early with one of our new events, the Traditional Biathlon. A half mile course set up in a local meadow including 5 targets participants would shoot in between shortened breaths running from station to station. The competition was stiff, but the encouragement and smiles diluted any pain from the participants as they sprinted in the final stretch.

As the sun rose, some found themselves positioned under the infamous water balloon stand, in hopes to cool off their nearby opponent. From children dousing their parents to sisters avenging their elder brothers, each match-up heightened the laughter in the crowd. Later that afternoon, people gathered as the Jug Shoot ensued. This year included upsets early on in the competition, in the end though the local Mike Hayes won out in a blaze of arrows.

Saturday afternoon concluded with some words from Chairman of the Board, Brad Parkhill, just before awarding the winners of the weekends friendly rivalries. In lieu of the traditional Saturday night Chili Dinner, the board greeted the crowd with their choice of an Ice Cream Social, concluding the long days events.

Sunday morning awoke with a few hearty individuals giving the courses one last trip before a wave of volunteers once again took to the woods, pulling targets and returning the woods to as they were with the exception of a few extra notches in the bark from a misplaced arrow or two.

As folks gathered to leave, they not only shook the hands of old friends, but also those of new. The high country shoot had come to a close. As with every previous of the last 25 years, we reminisce and envy the past few days, bouncing along the dusty washboard road toward the small town of New Castle. 364 more days until we meet again for number 27!

# **Thank YOU!**

#### CTAS BOARD MEMBERS

Brad Parkhill (Chairman) brad@parksupply.us

**Mike Koenig** (Secretary) 4koenig@comcast.net

Steve Shuey (Treasurer) colotrad4@gmail.com

Scott Hargrove (Membership) scott@hargroveconstruction.com

Kristi Hargrove (HC Registration) hargrovefamily@roadrunner.com

Chris Reilly (HC Competition) crdirt@q.com

Eric Sawyer (HC Ranges) CoArcher1@aol.com

Mike Hays blackcanyonbows@q.com

Kari Morris solasunrise@yahoo.com

Mark Kadnuck (Store) mark\_kad@hotmail.com

Bill Grammer grambo3@earthlink.net

Ron Rockwell Ron-Karen@comcast.net

**Dirk Dieterich** (Website) kddieterich@gmail.com

Sadie Jo Accashian (Facebook) sadijoaccashian@gmail.com

Barry Smith taxi-smith@hotmail.com

Tavis Rogers tavisrogers@msn.com

**David Hoff** (Newsletter Editor) Hoff.davidb@gmail.com Colorado Traditional Archers Society would like to send out a heartfelt thanks to all who attended the 26th annual shoot. Special thanks go out to all the volunteers who assisted with the shoot from shopping, course lay-out, trailer unloading, setting ranges, putting up/taking down tents, running novelty shoots, working in the booths, cleaning up, hauling targets, reloading the trailer, walking ranges, shooting seminar presentation, showing the Forest Service personnel around, helping distribute raffle items, to being our emergency personnel. Without your assistance the shoot would not be as organized and fun.

Huge thanks go out to all the vendors and persons who donated items to the CTAS Raffle and Youth Hunt Raffle. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Also, a thanks to the people who signed up as a sponsor for the Youth Hunt. Your kindhearted donations allow CTAS to continue a Youth Hunt tradition that has been part of the organization for many years.

Thank you!







#### We Must Protect Colorado And Our Big Game Herds!

August 11th, 2018 Double Tree Hotel Grand Junction, CO Doors open at 12:45pm Purchase Tickets Online at: biggameforever.org (Events)

Pay by Check: BGF Colorado 2117 Canyon Wren Ct. Grand Junction, CO 81507 Cost: Single- \$95 Couple- \$150 Early Bird Table of 10- \$850 Early Bird Cut Off, July 27th Late Table- \$950

### Our Panel of Speakers



President, Custer County, Idaho Western Predator Control Asso.





President/Founder "Save Western Wildlife" Scott Rockholm



Attorney and Proprietor, Budd-Falen Law Offices LLC. Karen Budd-Falen



Director, National Trappers Asso. Matt Lumley BGF, Montana State Director



World Renowned Biologist Valerius Geist Professor Emeritus University Calgary

## **2018 High Country Shoot Photos**



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## **2018 High Country Shoot Photos**









## SEND YOUR PICTURES to hoff.davidb@gmail.com to share your adventures!

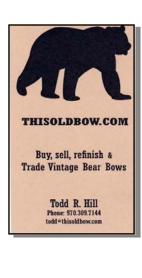


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Questions? - Call Scott 970-209-2281 or Kristi 970-209-2670				

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