



# STICKS & STRINGS NEWS

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*Published Spring, Summer, and Fall*

Fall 2019 Issue



**The snow is falling** and temperatures are dropping as I sit down to edit this month's edition of the Stick and String News and has me excited for the coming months in a tree stand! It has been a busy time for us since the last time we spoke! Where to begin but other than the snow-magedon at this year's high-country shoot. The crazy weather pattern that brought in nearly a foot of accumulated snowfall to our community on the flat tops did not dampen the spirits as some laughs were still had and arrows still slung. That said, this year was unlike any other. Without the positive attitudes, willingness to help, and the strong community, this year would have ended much differently. Yes, there were trucks stuck, campers swamped, and tents collapsed, but that did not outweigh the support from our community. Each and every one of you played a part in prioritizing the safety of our family only closely followed by ensuring those who decided to gut out the weekend had a good time doing so. The community that we have built over the years continues to amaze and impress me. We are more than a group of bow toting strangers; we are a group that has shown time and time again our servant leadership, kindness, and good-hearted intentions. Times like these make me proud to be a part of CTAS; thank YOU for making the most from mother nature's curve ball.



In other more contemporary news, we are beginning to gear up for our Annual Banquet this year February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>! More information can be found in the pages to come, but this year will be held in the same location, Lakewood Holiday Inn, as previous years. Friday night will be reserved for an informal happy hour gathering at the hotel. Saturday will begin mid-day with the various seminars and displays. The evening will cap off with dinner and our guest speaker, David Neils, to talk about his hunting adventures and tactics. We will have additional communication coming in the following months on registration information, Saturday's agenda, and additional pertinent information for the weekend.

In the final pages of this newsletter edition, you will find some of the recent success photos from our membership along with a short description of their tales. For future prints, please email me, David, at [hoff.davidb@gmail.com](mailto:hoff.davidb@gmail.com) your pictures and stories to share with our extended family.

As always, thank you all for your support and shoot straight!

*David Hoff – Stick and Strings Editor*

# Christmas in June

**AS** introduced on the previous page, it cannot be said enough how grateful the CTAS Board is to our dedicated members for their unwavering support at this year's High Country Shoot. As those that arrived Thursday can recall, the weekend started with a promising blue sky and a mix of showers in between. Friday morning those awoke to a different scene with the initial wave of the cold front touching the edge of the flattops. Throughout the day Friday, the conditions deteriorated, yet we continued to register shooters as they slopped their way through vendor row to the registration tent. Those hardy enough for the spouts of rain throughout the day were lucky to have the courses to themselves and ahead of the brunt of the weather. Friday came to a close as the rain turned to snow and the campground retreated to the warmth of their tents. Knowing the likely forecast for the night, several individuals took turns to sweep the large event tents in the common area of any snow to avoid collapse. A huge thank you is owed to Betty and Mike Koenig as well as Mark Kadnuck for brushing the snow throughout the night. Saturday morning came and the sun rose on a bleak white landscape, reminiscent of the winter months only ending what seemed like yesterday. Immediately all hands were on deck, pulling out stuck vehicles, shaking tents, pulling targets along ranges no longer safe to shoot, and clearing trees for those who needed to make their way back to town. The volunteer theme followed through the rest of the day and into the following. In between breaks of weather, groups of shooters made their way onto the courses to distract from the unseasonal weather. From start to finish the high country shoot was everything that embodies our community; comradery, community, and grit. This group of individuals is a unique breed that is unmatched in the attributes previously mentioned. The pride I take to be a part of this family is unmatched. I say it again, thank you, it is because of a dedicated membership and board that this organization continues to exist in this capacity.

*- David Hoff—High Country Shoot Chair*



# High County Competition Results

## Results from this years High Country 3-D Competition Rounds

### Pee-Wees

Boys: 2<sup>nd</sup> James Ryan (68) 1<sup>st</sup> cash Tidd (164)  
Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Ada Tidd (118)

### Cubs

Boys: 3<sup>rd</sup> Brady Mclaughlin (163) 2<sup>nd</sup> Trey Merritt (366) 1<sup>st</sup> Gus (374)  
Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Raegan (275)

### Youth

Boys: 1<sup>st</sup> Nathan Cole (130)  
Girls: 2<sup>nd</sup> Kristyn Mentink (246) 1<sup>st</sup> Ashlee Cole (320)

### Young Adult

Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Katelyn Mentink (220)

### Fred Bear

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> Monty Klatt (96)  
Ladies: 1<sup>st</sup> Heidi Nelson (7)

# Youth Hunt Recap

The 2019 CTAS Youth Hunt was held at Mike Lawson's ranch again this year. We are so fortunate to have the support of the Lawsons! It's certainly a privilege to be able to take our kids to a world class property to hunt. We had four archers this year; CT Suskey, Rory Blanck, Grant McFarland and Brandon Madsen. Grant and Brandon had been on the hunt before but since we had space they were able to join us again. There were a lot of deer on the ranch this year, so all the archers had many encounters. On Thursday night, before everyone had even arrived in camp, our youngest archer, CT, had already harvested his doe! It was quite the exciting start to the hunt. Brandon hit a doe on Friday evening but wasn't sure if it was a kill shot. The next day, Dean, Brandon and CT went looking for the doe. This provided an excellent opportunity to have the boys follow a blood trail. Unfortunately, they found the arrow with only a little hair on it and the blood trail disappeared. This year we had six tags and only four hunters. Please check with friends and family to see if we can find more kids to go on the youth hunt next year. Kids between the ages of 12 and 17 who shoot a traditional bow and have completed their hunter safety course are eligible. We will have six tags available next year. We would like to thank everyone who helped out with the hunt this year; Steve Shuey, Denny Behrens, John Bailey, Diane Calim and Clint Suskey. Without you, this wouldn't happen and we appreciate everything you've done for the youth hunt and CTAS. We're always looking for mentors and help with camp.

Let us know if you would be interested! Email or contact any of the CTAS board members for information on next years hunt!

Karen and Dean Derby

# Happenings

## 2020 Rabbit Hunt

<b>When:</b>	January 18-19, 2020
<b>Where:</b>	Main Street Coffee House—124 W. Main St, Rangeley, CO
<b>What:</b>	Join in on this years Rabbit Hunt outside of Rangeley, CO! Bobbie and Daniel Fiscus have been gracious enough to once again host this years Rabbit Hunt get together. Break up the winter slump and come out to enjoy some good laughs. The group will meet Saturday morning and hit the field for a full day of hunting the sage country.
<b>Contact:</b>	Bobbie Fiscus—970-629-0039; Daniel Fiscus—970-629-3946

## Shooting Clinic - Tom Clum

<b>When:</b>	February 1, 2020
<b>Where:</b>	Gunnison County Fairgrounds Auditorium
<b>What:</b>	Certified coach and accomplished archer, Tom Clum will be hosting an all day shooting seminar in the heated auditorium of the Gunnison County Fairgrounds. Cost will be \$200 for the whole day. Contact RMS Gear or Scott Hargrove for additional details.
<b>Contact:</b>	Scott Hargrove—970-209-2281

## 2020 Banquet

<b>When:</b>	February 7-8, 2020
<b>Where:</b>	Holiday Inn—7390 W Hampden Ave. Lakewood, CO
<b>What:</b>	Friday Night Happy Hour followed by Saturday seminars, vendor booths, and evening auction and banquet dinner. Saturday night's banquet dinner will include our yearly awards as well as guest speaker David Neils, to talk about his hunting adventures and tactics. Further registration details, menu, and agenda will be sent out in the coming weeks. Please plan to join and enjoy the time to catch up with the new and old friends in the organization!
<b>Contact:</b>	Barry Smith—303-919-2755



# Chairman's Column

**Hello to all of our loyal and determined members and vendors,**

It was quite a Summer for CTAS members that tried to participate in our 2019 High Country Shoot. Everyone but a few had registered for the event. Our loyal vendors made plans to travel hundreds and some a thousand miles to join us at the rendezvous. Our spirits were high and your Board of Directors and dozens of volunteers were organized and ready to perform.

Then at the last minute our vision of the event started to change. Although we knew it had been a wet Spring and numerous trips were made to the shoot site to insure the property had dried up enough for our arrival, the picture became more bleak with the news of an unexpected Winter snowstorm. The undaunted and determined shook off the bad news as exaggerated and hyped up by the weather forecasters on the evening news. Hey, we are outdoors people and hunters, this was no different than going into our hunting camps or a weekend camping trip..... boy were we wrong! The rain and snow came down on an already soaked and wet campsite. The hardiest of our bunch that weren't smart enough to stay home and adhere to the weather warning were all at the shoot site determined to enjoy the event.

Well we had some issues, to say the least! There were collapsed tents, muddy impassable roads, 6 inches of snow and cold, stuck vehicles, general kaos and did I mention lots of mud! Our vendors couldn't do business and people struggled to walk the often dangerous terrain on our ranges. Wow, what a mess!

The thing is, we survived! The positive spirit that exists in our organization took on an energy and force of its own. People rose to the challenge and did whatever they could to have fun, make the most of it, chip in and help others. It was truly amazing to watch our members chip in to help fellow shooters. Most everyone lent a hand to help someone else, somewhere throughout the weekend.

Although it may appear to have bombed out, the sheer will and spirit of the people was so impressive that this event will be remembered for decades. The tow truck driver made some money, he was very expensive for some of us but our own board member Tavis Rogers had a free towing service! He rose to the occasion jumping in to help a couple of dozen people get out of the mud and off the mountain, thank you Tavis! It was truly heartwarming to see everyone helping each other to safety and to get off the mountain.

I for one enjoyed the camaraderie, friendships and teamwork! I will never forget the event and regardless of how I felt at the time, the end result for me is that I was proud of our volunteers and board members for their tenacity, commitment and passion for our way of life. Thank you to everyone who made it out alive and for making it an unforgettable experience.

Sincerely,

Brad Parkhill

Chairman of the Board





# Fall Success



*"Colorado Bighorn ram, a dream come true for me, the result of 26 years applying for the tag. 3 months scouting, 13 days hunting. Thanks to Billy Grammar, Joe Ship and Phil Zimmer for long hours glassing, and again Phil Zimmer for photography and meat-packin' "*

*Scott Hargrove—CO Bighorn Sheep*



*"A life long dream of adventure for Alaska was fulfilled this fall as I took a trip into the Alaskan bush for Moose via Beaver Float Plane. Dropped off to our own resources, we both found success before traveling back to civilization. A trip not to be forgotten quickly. "*

*David Hoff—AK Moose*



*Phil Zimmer with his high country Colorado Mule Deer*



*Eric Sawyer successful in the Artic of Alaska for Caribou*

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*South Cox with his high country Colorado Mule Deer*



*South Cox in Nevada for Elk*



*Jake Downs in Nebraska to start out his successful season.*



*Jake Downs' WY Antelope*



*CT Suskey's Deer on the CTAS Youth Hunt!*





**CTAS Membership Form:** New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

YOUTH (12-17) \$15.00 \_\_      INDIVIDUAL \$25.00 \_\_      FAMILY \$35.00 \_\_

\*\*\*Family Membership includes Head of Household/Spouse & Children under 21 year of age

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

(By providing your email address you are authorizing us to send you CTAS related emails even if you receive your newsletter by mail instead of email)

Do you want to receive your newsletter via email? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Additional Family Members:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_      Name: \_\_\_\_\_ - Age \_\_\_\_\_

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**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CTAS AND SEND WITH APPLICATION TO:**

CTAS, c/o Scott Hargrove, Membership, P.O. Box 596, Crested Butte, CO 81224

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



CTAS newsletter  
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