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Safari Club International

EUROPE COMMITTEE

Special points of interest:

- Message from SCI European Committee Chair
- One With Nature Hungary Hunting Expo
- Message from FACE Secretary General

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First edition #1

MARCH 2021

Dear SCI European Member

Dear Friends,

One year has past from the creation of our Committee coinciding with the most difficult time that our Club has lived because the pandemic.

However despite of the difficulties has led to, we had worked to the best of our ability in such circumstances to defend sustainable hunting and biodiversity.

We hunters, are living through particularly hard times due to inconsiderate attacks by anti-hunting groups and by the media. It is not only the future of the new generations to have the right to continue hunting, but it is also the survival of the game and very often, the future of the people living with them.

For all this, we all hunters must

be united leaving partisan and useless quarrels. We must work together altruistically, pupil and teaching the young and not so young showing that we are true ecologists not only with words but with actions.

We have to learn to communicate more and better and not only by feelings but above all, by scientifically proven facts.

We are the most powerful and influential hunting organisation of the World but we need to keep growing, be stronger, more dynamic, more quickly reactive.

To achieve our goals, we need you more than ever. Being member of the SCI is the best way. We need more members and more means to counter



our enemies who are many and powerful.

A good and easy way to do that is maintaining your membership and encouraging your hunter friends to be part of the great family that is the SCI. If only each of us brings a new member to SCI and to his Chapter, we will be moving in the right direction.

Keep safe and good hunting.

Dr. Miguel Estade
SCI European Committee Chair



One With Nature - Hungary, 25 September to 14 October

The Hungarian Government intends to carry on with the organization of the 'One With Nature' World of Hunting and Nature Exhibition held between 25 September and 14 October this year. The basic reason for the exhibition and its events are strengthened by the desire of those frustrated tourist who until now been locked in and wish to

travel again. The Expo will embrace to hold various venues in different Pavilions and part of the country, just to name few: International Hall; World Conservation Forum; Conference Center; Fish, Water, Mankind, Hall of Traditional Hunting Methods; Hungarian and International Trophy Show. SCI and SCIF will have its own large area in the International Hall. We hope to meet many

hunting and non-hunting visitors at our stand, which will be manned by international bilingual members. During their trip they can visit other part of our wonderful country, see for example our European Equestrian Championship, experience (taste) our exquisite Hungarian cooking, and so many other things. Do come for an experience in a lifetime.

Bela Hidvegi (Int. Director)

SCI Welcomes New Ambassador from Botswana to Washington D.C.



SCI CEO Laird Hamberlin welcomed the new Ambassador of Botswana to Washington DC – the Honorable Onkokame Kitso Mokaila. The Safari Club International Foundation was also represented by SCI's Conservation Director Dr. Chris Comer and Conservation Manager Joe Goergen. Safari Club has enjoyed a productive relationship with Botswana and conversations about reopening the borders for international tourist hunting are

ongoing. Botswana was set to reopen for international hunting this spring, however the global pandemic shutdown the season and delayed the tangible benefits hunting generates for wildlife conservation and rural communities.

Many unknowns remain surrounding the prospect of a 2021 hunting season due to travel restrictions, but Botswana remains committed to fully implementing their new sustainable use wildlife management strategy.

Conservation and Buffalo Hunting in Zimbabwe



The Communal Areas Management Program for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) is a Zimbabwean community-based natural resource management program. It is one of the first programs to consider wildlife as a renewable natural resource, while addressing the allocation of its ownership to the indigenous population.

In short, it promotes sound wildlife management as a way to better the community and discourage poaching.

See more at

<https://safariclub.org/conservation-and-buffalo-hunting-in-zimbabwe/>

The reservations system ceased taking new bookings as of February 11, 2021, although the website is still active

Air Namibia Shuts Down Operations

Air Namibia has shut down all its operations, grounding its entire fleet and cancelling all flights.

The reservations system ceased taking new bookings as of February 11, 2021, although the website (airnamibia.com) is still active. The company announced its shutdown via Twitter and Facebook, advising passengers to register claims for refunds.

SCI members with questions about hunting travel, COVID-19 related restrictions and other

questions, may contact SCI's Hunter Information Service at safariclub.org/contact.





Dear SCI Chapter members in Europe

I am delighted to address you as FACE Secretary General.

It's a pleasure to work closely with SCI on hunting and conservation matters in Europe and further afield. At the moment, we are facing some big challenges including proposals to ban all lead in ammunition, proposals to ban hunting in a new category of strictly protected areas, a reformed EU agricultural policy and attempts by some Members of the European Parliament to restrict trade in wildlife.

Covid-19 has not helped, but it is positive that there were no major restrictions in hunting in Europe the past season, rather mixed approaches in different countries. Covid-19 means that we are living in a world of online meetings, and this has increased the speed at which decision are made and how they are made, which is creating some problems for our line of work.

In the coming weeks, we will be working together with SCI and others to deal with proposals to restrict wildlife trade

in the European Parliament's Resolution on the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Animal rights organisations look for every opportunity possible, but by working together we can put the facts in front of decision-makers. Of course, facts don't always work in today's world, so we need to be strong on how we communicate these facts.

I look forward to our continuing cooperation.

Dr. David Scallan



SCI Adds Airgun Category to World's Largest Record Book



SCI is excited to announce the addition of an airgun category to the SCI Record Book, the largest compilation of big game animals in the world. Additionally, hunters submitting records in the airgun category will be eligible for SCI World Hunting Awards.

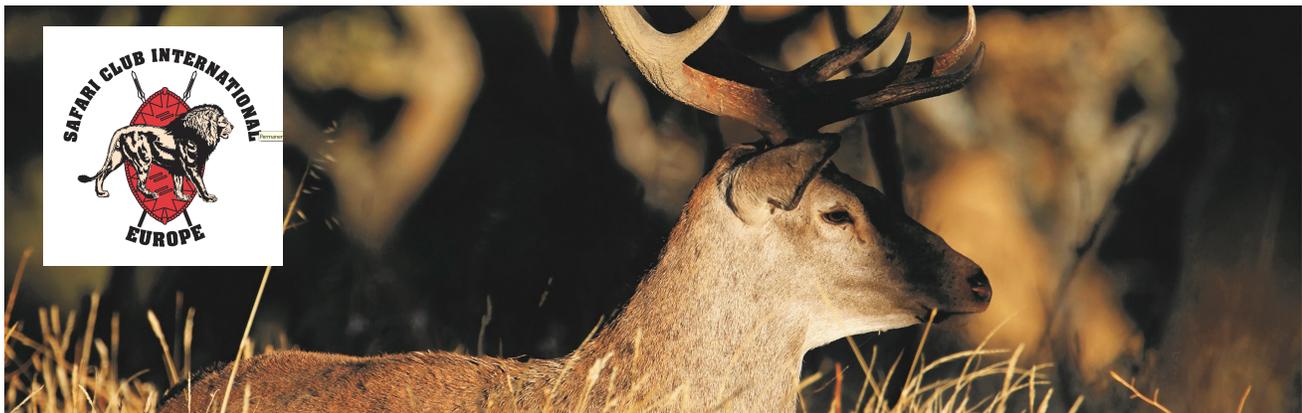
With the legalization of airguns for hunting in many U.S. states, their predominant use in Europe, and the interest expressed by SCI members and non-

members alike, the SCI Record Book Committee unanimously voted to approve the creation of a separate category for these weapons.

See more at

<https://safariclub.org/sci-adds-airgun-category-to-worlds-largest-record-book-and-world-hunting-awards/>

Follow the SCI Europe Committee at FACEBOOK @SCIEuropeCommitte





SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL EUROPEAN CHAPTERS

Kingdom of Denmark Chapter
<https://scidenmark.com/>

London Chapter
chapteradmin@scilondon.com

Royal Nordic Chapter
<https://royalnordicchapter.com/>

Central Hungarian Chapter

Ukrainian Chapter
Ukraine.SCI@gmail.com

Helvetia Chapter
<https://www.sci-helvetia.ch/>

Iberian Chapter
<https://www.sciiberianchapter.com/>

Italian Chapter
<https://safariclub.it/>

Lusitânia Chapter
sci.lusitania@gmail.com

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HUNTING REPORT

Why am I a hunter? - by Mette Karin Petersen



I started out as a beater – and extremely passionate about the hunting dogs. At first, I didn't understand the "why" of hunting. Why was it fun to kill animals, couldn't we just look at them? After a while I realized that pulling the trigger was such a little part of hunting. Hunting is about the process, not the result. It's about blending in with nature – being a part of it, trying to understand how it works, and how we can navigate and support best possible. In 2017 I passed my hunting license course. At the same time, I started at University on Leisure Management. First semester we had the course "Innovation and Entrepreneurship" for the purpose of starting a fictive business. I've always wanted my own business, so I thought, why not start a real business. At that point I was a new hunter but had already found a problem to solve in the hunting industry. It was time consuming and difficult to understand the industry of hunting trips for new hunters, as well as traveled hunters.

I wanted to make it easier and more transparent. I started Hunters Match – a platform that collected all hunting trips offered by Danish hunting agencies. It was a well visited website for hunters, but unfortunately there wasn't enough money for me to make. After a year I killed my darling – I closed my first business. At that point I was known as a

passionate, industrious and extrovert girl. Due to building my business, I had been in contact and visited every single hunting agency and relevant shops in Denmark, which resulted in a huge network in a very short time. It led me into working as a freelance for different hunting businesses. Mainly I was working with marketing strategies and also executed on some of them. Next to all this I was still studying. I got dispensation to work fully focused on the hunting industry and turn my degree into a specialization in hunting tourism, mainly in South Africa. I spend a hole semester working in Limpopo and Kimberly area to get first-hand experience also. January 2020, I graduated my degree in Leisure Management with at specialization in Hunting Tourism and Marketing. I wanted to keep working in my own business, but got a job offer that I just needed to say yes to. I started straight away in Blaser Group Denmark as a marketing and sales employee. After a little year I came to a decision, that I needed more creative freedom and I wanted to have a positive impact on the hunting industry.

Since January 2021 I've been self-employed. I have a handful of different companies that I help with communication and marketing. Next to that, I've just become a board member of SCI Denmark. I happily said yes to this, because it fulfills my passion for being able to have a positive impact on the hunting industry – mainly through communication. I find it extremely important, maybe more than ever due to social medias, that our communication is info based, well explained and that we always have in mind, that non-hunters can get to that article, photo or video.

Why am I a hunter?

There's not just one answer to that. Hunting gives me unique moments in nature. Moments I would never get as a runner or mountain biker. As soon as I grab my rifle, my focus is on being exactly in that moment. All my senses are amplified. I notice the snow falling of the leaves, I hear the birds are crisping and I see the little mouse running through the forest. I share my experiences with friends. Friends that I've made through hunting. Actually, it's some of my absolute best friends now. Hunting is a life-long education and I enjoy every step of it. Not at least, I'm one of those hunters that also highly appreciate and admire the wild meat that I get from being a hunter. The last two years we've only been eating wild meat at home. That's a huge privilege, I know. I only hunt what we can eat, and I always make sure to empty the freezer before a new season begins. Bonus is that wild meat has a lower carbon footprint compared to commercial meat, as well as it's sustainable and ethical butchered.

***I've just become a board member
of SCI Denmark***
***Follow Mette's work and hunting adventures on
Instagram @jaegerinden_***