



# THE RAM'S HORN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
ARIZONA DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP SOCIETY, INC.

VOL. 9

JANUARY 1975

NO. 1

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 1974 sheep hunting season is now history. In terms of hunter success 1974 will be remembered as the best since its start in 1953. Of the 63 permits issued 62 holders hunted. These hunters harvested 41 sheep for a 66% hunter success. Well prepared hunters and nearly perfect weather added to the high success. Future issues of the Ram's Horn will publish full details of hunter success by unit.

Many fine trophies were taken. The green B&C scores ranged from 124  $\frac{6}{8}$  to 185  $\frac{7}{8}$  points. 16 rams were above 155 points. The display of many of these trophies at our annual awards banquet — March 22 — will make it a memorable event. We anticipate that about 8 rams will qualify for this year's trophies.

For the first time, 26 blood and tissue samples were turned in to the AG&F for analysis. These samples will enable the department biologists to establish a data base which will provide a comparison level for healthy, normal tissue.

During the weekend of 11 and 12 January we started our project season and the turnout was exceptional. Let's keep it up and make this the greatest project season yet. See you at the Tuley Mountains 8/9 February!

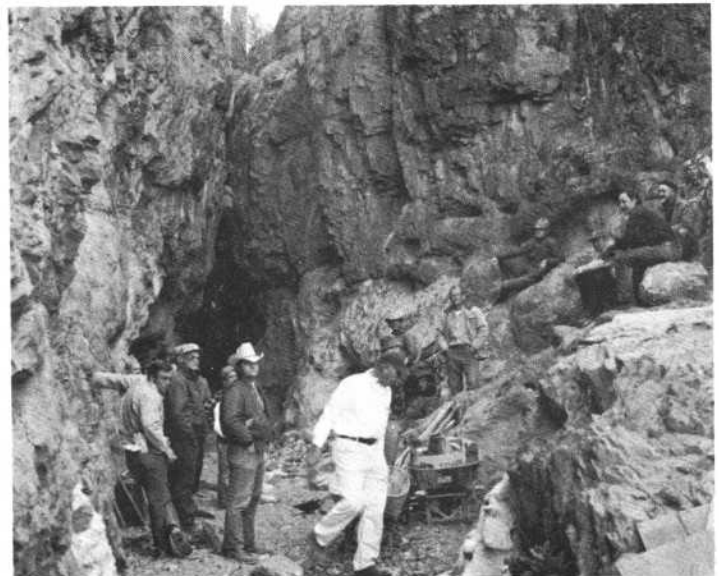
Doug Reynolds

## UPCOMING PROJECTS

Our next project is slated for the weekend of 8/9 February. This project will be for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Cabeza Prieta Game Range way down South on the border of Old Mexico. The task will be a water tank development in the Tuley Mountains under Monti Dodson's leadership. The meeting place will be the Circle K store just west of downtown Gila Bend on Interstate 8, Friday 7 February. Be there at 8 p.m.; the convoy will leave promptly at 8:30 p.m. For this trip — do not bring any firearms along!

The weekend of 15/16 March is scheduled for three separate projects in the Gila Bend Mountains. The meeting place will be the Texaco Service Station in Sentinel, Az on Interstate 8, approximately 30 miles west of Gila Bend. Be there at 9:00 p.m. Friday 14 March.

For any additional information or rides please feel free to contact any of the board members — their telephone numbers are listed on the back page of the insert.



Don Belknap, AG&F, briefs the work crew in front of the entrance to Hidden Tank. Photo by Doug Reynolds.

## NINTH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The Society will hold its awards banquet at the Desert Hills Hotel, 2707 East Van Buren Street, Phoenix on 22 March 1975. Cocktail hour is slated at 6:30 p.m. with dinner following at 7:30 p.m.

The Master of Ceremonies will be George Welsh from the Arizona Game and Fish Department accompanied by "Shultz". Our after dinner speaker will be Dr. Robert Ohmart, ASU, who will present a talk on the future of Bighorn sheep. A motion picture entitled "Bighorn", produced by Bob Stauffer and slides from past waterhole projects will complete the entertainment.

The highlight of the evening will be the award presentations to all hunters whose ram scored 162 or above and thus qualifies for listing in the Arizona Wildlife Trophies book published by the AWF. A special trophy will be presented to the lucky hunter who took the largest ram of the season.

This year's menu will feature top sirloin steak dinner at a cost of \$9.00 per person. The evening will conclude with "Tiger by the Tail" dancing. For information contact the Programs Chairman, Carolyn Langdon, 8132 N. 16th Street, Phoenix, Az 85020, phone 944-7862.

# HIDDEN TANK PROJECT

The weekend of 11/12 January opened up our 1975 project season. Our first project was a clean-up job at Hidden Tank, a place very familiar to many of us from previous seasons. Hidden Tank is located in the New Water Mountains south and slightly east of Brenda, approximately 4 airmiles from I10.

The task consisted of breaking up some large boulders and cleaning out debris collected during the previous seasons. This was done to provide more permanent water holding capacity and to enhance the scouring action of flood waters during the rainy seasons.

The crew, as usual, assembled at Danny Nasca's Chevron Station in Ramsey and then convoyed in to the campsite where we were greeted by our old friends Don Belknap and Dan Schadle from AG&F.

After some fireside comradarie everyone but a few hardy (or thirsty) souls turned in. Next morning everyone was up bright and early and after the breakfast the crew went up the mountain (approximately 1/2 mile) to the tank.

The crew consisted of:

Mason Baur  
 Don Belknap  
 Tom Blake  
 Joe Bormanis  
 John Carroll  
 Ronnie Clark  
 Les Cody  
 John Colvin  
 John Diehl  
 Monte Dodson  
 Matt Dominy  
 Wade Dominy  
 Kevin Eden  
 Terry Evans  
 Ted Harris  
 P. D. Holt  
 John Houzenga

Keith Gundry  
 Bill Foredy  
 Dick Krause  
 John Krause  
 David Mitchell  
 Elwood O'Dell  
 James Peterson  
 Jerry Petrovsek  
 Dan Pfaff  
 Jim Pierce  
 Jesse Polston  
 Doug Reynolds  
 Clarence Rueff  
 Dan Schadle  
 Carl Scrivens  
 Don Scrivens  
 Ned Smith

David Hussey  
 Harry Hussey  
 Bob Gray  
 Joe Gundry

Bill Snider  
 Bob Weaver  
 Steve Weisser

This truly was a great turnout. Our members and friends came from Gila Bend, Yuma and the Greater Phoenix area as well as from Indiana and California.

During the course of the morning some of our troops took short trips in the surrounding area. At least six sheep were sighted as well as a number of deer. The entire area is crisscrossed with sheep and deer trails and many fresh sheep and deer signs were seen within close proximity of the waterhole.

The history of this waterhole goes back to about 1950 when the AG&F first started its development. In 1953 a V-shaped 12' x 12" reinforced concrete dam was constructed in front of the narrow gap in the cliff which leads to the water. A ramp was provided for easy access. By 1962, it was silted up to the top of



This scene shows the clean-up work in front of the Hidden Tank.



The portable jack hammer was invaluable in busting up these large boulders. Bill Snider, Yuma is the operator with Dave Mitchell helping to steady the hammer. In background from left to right Keith Gundry, Joe Gundry and Bob Gray.

## THE RAM'S HORN

P.O. Box 5241 Phoenix, Arizona 85010  
 is the official publication of the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc., and is published every other month for the Society's membership. Current Membership: 458

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the dam and probably during the heavy rains of 1963 the dam was partially knocked-out. It finally gave in during 1965. If you stand on any of the ridges some distance away from the Hidden Tank, sheep trails are visible coming in from all directions, very much like spokes of a wagon wheel converging on the hub. Obviously, this is one of the important waterholes that has been used for centuries.

Saturday evening saw us feasting on the best dutch oven stew in the Southwestern deserts. As usual, our master chefs, John Houzenga and Jerry Petkovsek, did a fine job of preparing this meal. After supper, some more tales of the sheep and desert in general before everyone turned in for a well deserved rest.



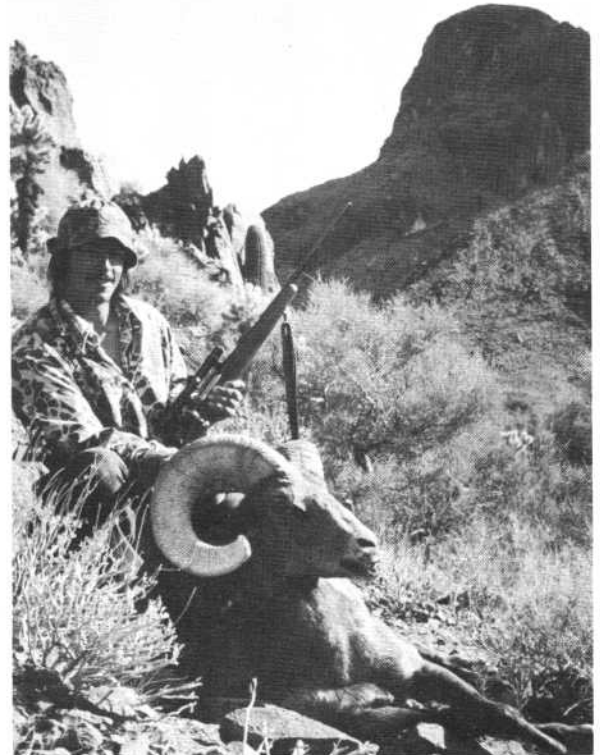
To prepare a meal for 41 hungry men takes a lot of preparation. Here we see our chefs and their helpers working away at the table with some of the dutch ovens up front ready to go. All project photos on these two pages by Doug Reynolds.

Sunday morning, after some warmed-up stew (tastes even better!), up again to the waterhole. The clean-up job was finished shortly after noon and a number of us decided to take a look at another previous project located in the nearby Plomosa's. Lazarus — and that name should bring back memories of all the hard work from 1973 and 1975. This year, however, it sure was gratifying to see the fruits of our labors. Lazarus was full within 6 inches from the top, the rip-rap dam was just like new — and get this — there was no debris in the tank! You couldn't ask for a finer reward. After some reminiscing, we looked around and found plenty of evidence of heavy use. This was a fitting conclusion for a truly great weekend out in the desert. See you at the next project!

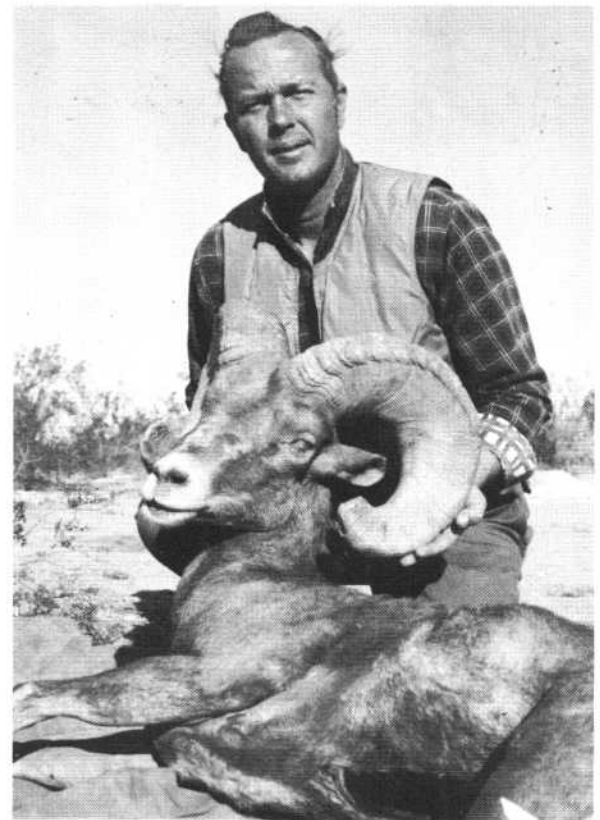
## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

1975 already? Yes, it's that time of year again — membership dues are due for 1975. Take just a few moments and renew your 1975 membership if you haven't done so. How about signing up a friend this year too — we need more members and we're depending on our current members to help the Society grow. Tear out the membership application, fill it in now and take advantage of this year's activities. If you need additional forms please write!

## RAM'S HORN TROPHY ROOM



Jim Machac of Phoenix took this ram on Saturday at 1:15 p.m. in Unit 45B. His hunt lasted 9 days. The horns measured at 31-1/2" on both sides with bases at approximately 14-7/8". The weight was 140 lbs, age 8 years and the Green B&C score was 156 points. Jim was helped by John Houzenga, Wade Dominey and his father Joe. This was the second time Jim had applied for a permit.



Chuck Medrow from Phoenix took his trophy in Unit 41. The Green B&C score was 160 points and his guides were the Arizona Outfitters.

## MEET YOUR BOARD



### Steve Weisser, Treasurer

Steve, a 28-year Arizona resident, joined the Society in 1972 and has been active ever since. An avid bow and rifle hunter, he took the largest ram - 173 points - during the 1973 hunt in the Kofa Mountains. Steve is in the cattle business and is employed by the Scottsdale Feedyard Inc. He and his family - wife Betsy and a 3-year-old son Tyler - reside in Phoenix.

### Dr. Elwood C. O'Dell, Legislative Chairman

Elwood, a native Arizonan from Safford, is a hunting and varmint calling enthusiast. He completed his Grand Slam in August of 1974 and is the only hunter who legally took a second ram during the same year. Elwood is a graduate of the University of St. Louis Dental School and practices in Mesa. He and his wife Kay and their five children reside in Mesa.



#### ATTENTION HUNTERS!

If you took a Ram during the 1974 hunt, please send a picture of you and your trophy and the pertinent specifics to Ram's Horn. We would like to publish it in the Ram's Horn Trophy Room.

### Ned Smith, Vice President

Ned has been a member of the Society since its very first day and in the past has been Finance and Publicity chairman. A native from Safford, Ned has probably seen more places in Arizona than most any one else. While AG&F photographer, Ned provided the Society with many exciting photographs which have appeared in Ram's Horn and various other publications. Presently he is an insurance representative for Alstate.



A devoted hunter and outdoors man, Ned has already collected a Grand Slam of North American Sheep. Ned also is an active varmint caller and belongs to the Mesa club. He also writes about the outdoors for local and national publications and has a regular "Outdoor Sports" column in a Mesa newspaper. Ned and his family, wife Lydia and their children Dawn 9, Wayne 7 and Ronnie 4, reside in Mesa.

## 1975 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February		
8 - 9	Water Hole Project	Tuley Mountains (see story)
12	Board of Directors Meeting	7:00 p.m. Phx Zoo
March		
15 - 16	Water Hole Project (St. Patrick's Day)	Gila Bend Mtn Rng (see story)
22	Annual Awards Banquet	6:30 p.m. Desert Hills Hotel
April		
5 - 6	Water Hole Project	To be announced
9	Board of Directors Meeting	7:00 p.m. Phx Zoo
26 - 27	Water Hole Project for BLM	To be announced
May		
14	Board of Directors Meeting	7:00 p.m. Phx Zoo
17 - 18	Water Hole Project	To be announced

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PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85010

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**MEMBERSHIP INVITATION**

Individuals who are interested in promoting the welfare of the Desert Bighorn Sheep and desire to affiliate with an organization dedicated to this purpose may do so by joining the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc.

The membership roster of the Society includes conservationists, sportsmen, professional wildlife managers, educators, biologists, photographers and just plain folks all interested in the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep.

The Society undertakes an annual program of several (usually 5) major habitat improvement construction projects in cooperation with and under the direction of the State and Federal agencies responsible for management of the Desert Bighorn Sheep.

One of the more important projects of the Society is the conduction of the annual Sheep Clinic training program.

In addition to projects, members of the Society participate in other conservation and game management activities; a special legislative committee of the Society closely watches legislation that may affect the sheep or its habitat and general welfare.

While the opportunities for active participation are numerous, such participation is not a prerequisite for membership. All interested persons are encouraged to join, the Society needs and welcomes your moral and financial support.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

I hereby make application for membership in the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc., and enclose my donation.

Personal Membership  
Annual Minimum Donation - \$5.00

Associate Membership  
Annual Minimum Donation - \$25.00

Renewal                      New                      Date \_\_\_\_\_

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