

# THE RAM'S HORN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARIZONA DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP SOCIETY, INC.  
A NON-PROFIT, TAX EXEMPT CORPORATION

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No. 2



**"SWEET SUCCESS"** — *Bill Hunter of Phoenix, assisted by Dan and Dean Priest*



**"I DID IT"** — *David Hussey of Phoenix. A nice ram from the Tinajas Altas. Assisted by Dan and Dean Priest, Ed Shannahan and Harry Hussey.*

## Annual Awards Dinner Set For April 12

The Safari Hotel Convention Center will once again be the site for the 13th Annual Banquet. The center, located at 4611 North Scottsdale Road, has proven to be an excellent setting for the festivities.

For those who register by April 10, there will be a special Early Bird door prize. There will also be a special raffle offering a Remington Model 870 Pump 12 gauge shotgun.

Cocktails will be served at 6:30 with New York sirloin dinner at 7:30. Tickets are \$15 each, which includes a chance to win a special door prize.

Our own Bill Hook will be Master of Ceremonies. The internationally known sportsman, Joe Foss will be the principle speaker. Joe's accomplishments are legend. He is a former Governor of South Dakota; served as Commissioner of The American Football League; and a Congressional Medal of Honor winner.

Please forward your reservations as soon as possible. We have included a BANQUET RESERVATION FORM here in the newsletter for your convenience. Just clip it out and forward it with your check. Call Harry Hussey at 942-8104 for further information. Harry also needs door prizes.

### THIRTEENTH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATIONS

RETURN BY APRIL 10, 1980

Please hold reservations in my name. (Tickets will be held at the door)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. in party \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose check payable to A.D.B.S.S., Inc.

Mail to:  
A.D.B.S.S., Inc.  
P.O. Box 5241  
Phoenix, AZ 85010

Amount enclosed:

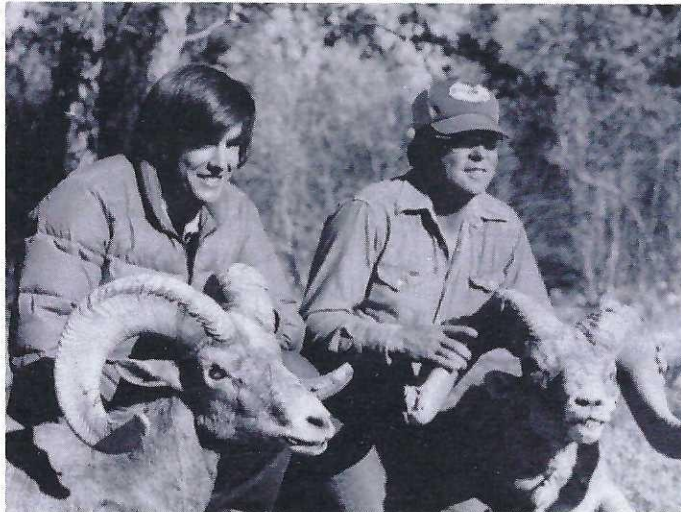
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# HUNT PICS '79



*Al Personey and a nice ram from the Plomosa's*



*The Bianconi's: L. Bill Jr. R. Bill Sr. Two nice rams from Willow Beach. "A Fabulous Father & Son Outing"*



*Bob McDowell of Montana with his Castledome ram. Assisted by Tom Saad*

## HOUSTON CONVENTION:

### Foundation for No. American Wild Sheep Booming Success; ADBSS Represented

An estimated 700 sheep hunting enthusiasts/conservationists joined together in Houston to raise over \$200,000 for the Foundations Conservation Projects. The fund raising spirit ran sky high as one Texas gentleman bid \$24,000 for the opportunity to hunt Bighorns in Wyoming - can you believe it!!!

The A.D.B.S.S., Inc. was represented and gave a report on the 1979 Arizona Sheep Hunt Harvest and a slide show presentation on its Waterhole Development work. The Society received many commendations for its accomplishments, including the recent publication of Sheldons Journals. This rare edition is going to become an overnight collectors item.

The Sheep Societys involvement and association with the Foundation is a vital component of the overall conservation effort concerning North American Wild Sheep. This link provides a two-way flow of communications and exchange of information that is important to the overall objectives of each organization.

### Foundation For No. American Wild Sheep Nat'l. Confab Comes to Phoenix in '81

In three short years the Foundation's Annual Convention has achieved national and international recognition, as being one of the very best gatherings of conservationists that exists. The recent Houston Convention was a top quality production and Arizona has accepted the challenge to make the 1981 convention an even bigger success!!!

The sportsmen of Arizona will have a unique opportunity to attend this fabulous event right on their home turf. Arizona is certainly a great location for this convention since it offers the highest quality desert sheep hunting north of Baja. The convention is scheduled for Phoenix in late February 1981. Make a note of that date — you won't want to miss this BIG, BIG EVENT.

## 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 quarterly for the Society's membership. Current Membership: 700.

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# Why Should Arizona Hunters Be Restricted To One Desert Sheep In A Lifetime?

*The answer is simple . . . they shouldn't be!*  
TOM SAAD, Editor.

I think if you seriously consider the following points, that you will agree the current Arizona regulation is a dangerous precedent and accomplishes nothing.

One of the greatest fallacies in our democratic society is that you can mandate equality and "fair play" by enacting laws, rules and regulations.

The "One Sheep A Lifetime" rule does two things:

1. It precludes a successful sheep hunter from applying again and therefore it theoretically reduces the odds of drawing a permit to all those hunters who have not taken a desert sheep in Arizona.

I know people who have applied for hunt permits for antelope, elk, and Kaibab Deer for 10 years and have never drawn a permit. I also know people who think hunting antelope and elk are just as sacred as hunting Desert Sheep. Therefore, hunters should be restricted to a set number of animals of each species during his lifetime. Example: no more than 3 antelope; 4 elk and 5 javelina. **That's the only "fair and equitable" thing to do!!!**

**HOGWASH!** The only fair and equitable thing to do is require that successful hunters skip a few years before they can apply again, including desert sheep.

Nevada, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado hunt limited populations of sheep by permit only and they don't restrict their hunt to one per lifetime — why should Arizona?

Keep in mind, if you support the concept of "One Sheep A Lifetime," you don't have much to say when all Arizona big game is restricted to one a lifetime. **WAKE UP!!** Don't say it can't happen. I remember when I used to go deer and javelina hunting every year and hunted throughout Arizona with no restrictions as to areas — even Kaibab.

*"To allow successful sheep hunters to apply along with those who faithfully apply each year would not be fair."*

BOB HOUSEHOLDER,  
Founder - Grand Slam Club

My interest in sheep, sheep hunting and sheep guiding goes back to 1950. Arizona's first bighorn hunt was in January, 1953 and the second was in December of that same year.

Interest on those early hunts was not high. No more than 50 persons applied for the 20 permits in the first few years and the lows were 36 in 1956 and 32 in 1957. Then in 1958, the area north of the Bill Williams River was opened to 20 additional permits. That same year, more non-residents were drawn than residents so the Game and Fish Commission put the 10% lid on.

The author originated the Big Ten of Hunting in 1955 but the idea took 3-4 years to catch on. So with the additional permits, the publicity given the Big Ten and the Grand Slam, applicants began to soar.

John Russo was given the assignment of studying the sheep of Arizona by the game department in 1950. Two years later John appeared before the Game Commission with his survey results. He recommended 20 permits and also, one ram per hunter in his lifetime. That rule remains in effect today and, with the ever increasing interest in Arizona sheep, I think it's a good rule.

To allow successful hunters to apply along with those who faithfully apply each year would not be fair. There have been years when total applicants out-numbered permits 40 to one but that does not tell the whole story. Quite often, individual units have 100 applicants for each available permit. Allowing successful hunters to apply again only increases the chances of others NOT being drawn. This would only add to hunter's woes and today, they have enough problems. I have never felt that "drawings" as such were the whole answer, but after nearly a half century of hunting, I sure can't come up with a better or more fair solution.

Things are bad enough in Arizona as it is. There was a time when we had 90 permits but today they are down to about 50. Available permits go down . . . applicants go up. Let's not make things more difficult by allowing successful hunters to re-apply. One can visualize the mountain of mail the department would get if it allowed this idea to become a reality.

I would love to hunt desert sheep again, but not at the expense of some poor guy who has been applying faithfully year after year — unsuccessfully. I am sure he would resent it. Wouldn't you?



**FACTS AND FIGURES:**

**DESERT SHEEP HUNT '79**

	1979 Permits		Drawing		Permits Iss.		The Hunt		Harvest
		1st Choice	2nd Choice	1st Choice	2nd Choice	Hunters Afield	% Success		
15 A&B	7	207	165	6	1	7	7	100%	
15 C	9	227	190	9	0	9	8	89%	
15 D	3	26	51	2	1	3	1	33%	
16 A&B	1	34	31	1	0	1	1	100%	
33	3	194	45	3	0	3	1	33%	
37 A&C	1	23	52	1	0	1	1	100%	
39	1	34	39	1	0	1	1	100%	
40A	2	58	51	1	1	2	2	100%	
40 B Mohawks, Gilas	2	21	14	1	1	2	1	50%	
40 B. Coppers									
40 B Tinajas Altas									
40 B Craters, Aguilas	2	19	27	2	0	2	1	50%	
41	2	43	37	1	1	2	1	50%	
43 A&B	2	74	69	2	0	2	1	50%	
44 A Harquahala	1	30	33	1	0	1	1	100%	
44 A Buckskins	1	20	26	1	0	1	1	100%	
44B	4	208	156	3	1	4	4	100%	
45 A	4	453	288	4	0	4	4	100%	
45 B	2	82	193	0	2	2	2	100%	
45 C	4	158	262	0	4	4	3	75%	
46 B	1	26	35	0	1	1	0	—%	
Totals	52	1937	1764	39	13	52	41	79%	

The above chart reflects the important statistics concerning 1979 Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep hunt drawing and harvest.

**THE DRAWING** — There were 1937 total applicants; 534 were non-residents.

**PERMITS ISSUED** — Out of the 52 permits issued, 39 went to first choice applicants and 13 went to hunters based on their second choice of hunt units . . . interesting isn't it?

**THE HUNT** — Happy to say that all 52 permit holders went into the field. Forty-one rams were harvested for a success of 79%. Measurements according to green Boone & Crockett scores show that six rams scored over 168 points; of these six, one scored over 185 points and two were right at 180 points. The average of all rams was 152 B&C pts. Fifteen rams scored below 150.

Age wise, 17 rams or 41% were 7 years or over; four of these rams were 10 years or up. Twenty-four rams or 58% were 4 to 6 year olds.

**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.*

**THE RAM'S HORN**

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