

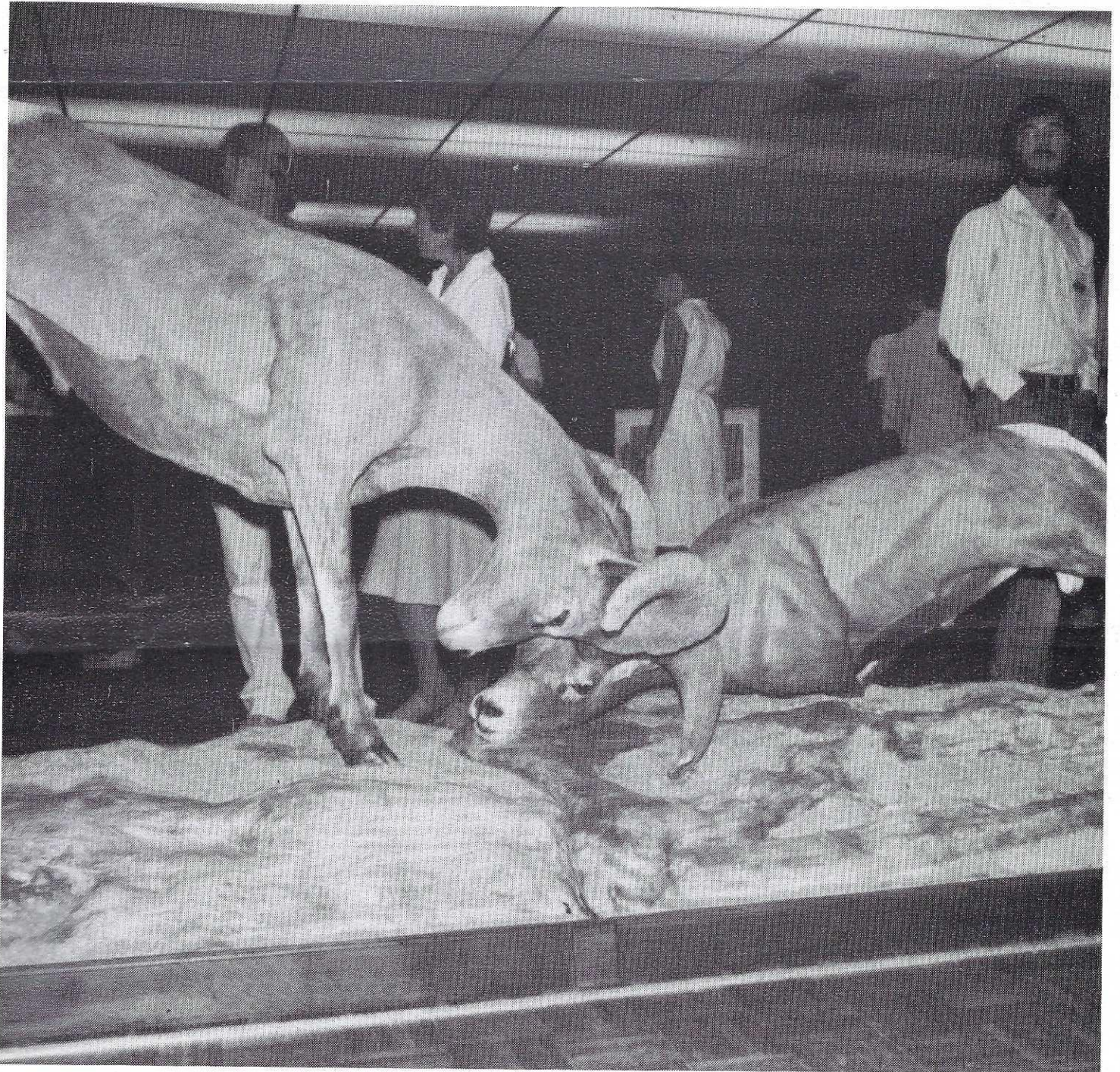
# THE RAM'S HORN

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

Vol. 15

JULY, 1981

No. 4





# TEN YEARS AGO AT THE SHEEP CLINIC

The 6th Annual Sheep Clinic training session for Desert Bighorn Sheep hunters was a huge success at Black Canyon Shooting Range on Sept. 11. In a record attendance 55 out of the 84 hunt permit holders (65%) for this year attended with 36 other guests and 32 Society members for a total attendance of 123. The day long activities included excellent movies by Ned Smith and Jack Walters, a stirring informative lecture on the legal aspects of sheep hunting by George Welsh with thoughts on striving for trophy rams, care and preparation of the trophy to get it safely to the taxidermist by Jeff Sievers, a field course with study of trophy and aging classification on trophy mounts and pickup heads, tracks and droppings, slides and rapid fire movie clip training in trophy recognition.

Jack Walters and Danny Nasca showed us how to don a Mickey Mouse cap (with rubber sheep horns instead of rubber ears) and crawl within 20 yards of the wary Desert Bighorn Sheep. A reasonable man wouldn't believe that was possible but they proved they could do it regularly in their new movie studies of Desert Bighorn Sheep. That reasonable man probably wouldn't wear those horn headdresses in the field during the hunt season but it certainly is a novel, effective technique for getting a close up look at sheep in their habitat between seasons.

The annual business meeting and election of officers for the Society was conducted in conjunction with the Sheep Clinic. The new officers and directors for the '71-'72 year are:

President	Tom Saad
Vice President	Cecil LaVance
Past President	Ed Shannahan
Secretary-Treasurer	Open
Chairman, By-Laws and Resolutions	George Welsh
Chairman, Finance	Bryon Wiley
Chairman, Legislation	Buck Buckner
Chairman, Programs	Gale Grammer
Chairman, Projects	Harry Hazlett
Chairman, Publicity	Bob Carson

The above was taken from the Ram's Horn dated October 14, 1971.

84 hunt permits — maybe with proper funding, sheep transplants, and people like you we could hit that number again. Let's set our sights now.



**ANY OPINIONS ON THE FRONT COVER!!** If you like it, let us know. If you don't like it, let us know that, too. If it is favorably received by Society members we may run a few future Ram's Horns with pictures like this or any full page pictures that pertain to the ADBSS. Personally, I think it makes for a more eye catching publication. The picture was made available by Bob Peers of Quail Run Taxidermy. The rams belong to Bob and his wife Pat who took both sheep in Unit 15C. This was on display at the 1981 awards banquet.

Thanks to Bill Hook and Don Johnson who have been very helpful with many of the pictures and little bits of information that go into the Ram's Horn. Also, thanks to all hunters and Society members who have sent pictures and information, BUT we need to keep it coming. We could still use some more pictures from last year's hunt or any interesting information you come across. Thanks.  
Dan Priest

## THE RAM'S HORN

P.O. Box 5241, Phoenix, Arizona 85010 is the official publication of the Arizona Bighorn Society, Inc., and is published quarterly for the Society's membership. Current Membership: 700.

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# PROJECTS

## SOCIETY ON T.V. AT HOLLY SEEP SPRING

The location was the Kofas and TV was the name of the game. Bill Leverton and Ms. Karen Key of the CBS program "On the Road with Bill Leverton" were there to film the project. They put together an interesting and informative program providing the Society with the exposure we justly deserve. I hope you all had the opportunity to see it.

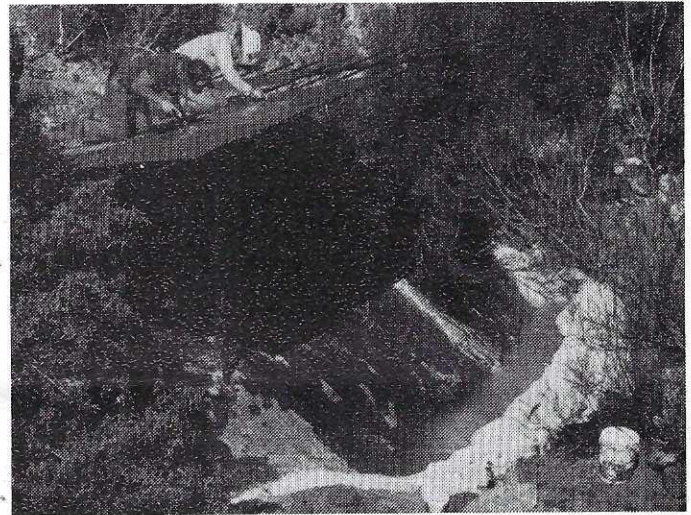
At this project we developed a spring by constructing a small masonry dam and a nonindigenous species fence. This was topped off by constructing a shade to prevent evaporation. Thanks to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service all the material was at the project site and work began at once. The dam and shade were time consuming but the real work was accomplished by the fence building crew. They worked consistently throughout the day and by evening most of the project was completed. For a few, the most difficult portion of the day was the return trip to camp guided by Mr. Dean Bowdoin. I guess they took the scenic tour!

At the campfire we had a report on the status of sheep in the Kofas from Milt Haderlie of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Lowell Whitaker of the Arizona Game and Fish plus a report on the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep in Arizona prepared by Gerry Nikolaus of the ADBSS. As usual the completion of the project went smoothly and by early afternoon on Sunday we were departing from camp. This was a good project as it will provide a year round source of water. We are looking forward to completing more projects with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Who is Mernice Alkire? Well, he was the guy who spent the whole weekend behind the welding mask. Thanks alot Mernice! The Society also wants to express our gratitude to Bill and Karen for completing the TV project under difficult circumstances, but next time Bill, you don't need to show up - just send Karen! A special thanks to the forty-one members and friends who participated and to members of both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Arizona Game and Fish Department for their support. Bob Furlow - it was good to see you at a project again!!



**"On The Road" Crew  
interviewing Tom Boggess**



**Holly Seep Tank**

## ST. PATTY'S DAY PROJECT

The third project of 1981 was held in the North Trigo Mountains. It consisted of building a shade for Ten Sheep Tank and a dam and riprap at a new development called Crotch Tank. In addition to these projects we were able to increase the storage capacity at Recluse Tank by constructing a small masonry dam.

Moving the material the last half mile to the project location was the most taxing for the crew who worked on the shade. By their comments, this was a bear, but after a couple of hours it was behind them and from there on it was easy sailing. Not so for the work crew at the new development. The project turned out to be larger than anticipated and they could have benefited from the shade crew who finished at 2:00 P.M. However, communication was lacking and it was not until they returned to camp from looking for sheep that they were made aware of the need for help. After a fine Mexican dinner prepared by Tim Blank and Alex Holgin and libations we were once again friends and experienced lively discussion at the campfire.

Sunday we all proceeded to the new project and after two hours the project was well in hand. At that time a few left for Recluse Tank to build the masonry dam. The highlight at Recluse Tank was spotting a group of five rams which had been watering at the tank. Two of the sheep were very fine rams and the sighting put the finishing touch to a wonderful weekend.

The ADBSS thanks the thirty-six members and friends who were present and our special thanks to Don Belknap and Dan Schadle for the refreshments. If you missed this St. Patty's project be sure you don't miss 1982's. You may catch the leprechaun in the cactus again!



# 1st YEAR'S HUNT IN ARAVAIPA CANYON

In the fall of 1980 the Aravaipa Canyon Primitive Area was opened to Desert Bighorn Sheep hunting for the first time ever in modern times. For those who don't know it, this herd of sheep is the result of the first successful desert sheep transplant in the nation. The fact that there are any sheep in the area at all is because of the untiring efforts of our Arizona Game and Fish people. We should all try to show our appreciation by supporting them in their up and coming transplant projects.

One of the lucky persons to get a permit for the newly opened area was David B. Terk of Odessa, Texas. He had been to Baja twice on unsuccessful desert sheep hunts and all the while applying for 22 years here in Arizona. Mr. Terk is a dedicated sheep hunter to say the least and obviously the type of hunter all guides want to have in camp on opening day of sheep season.

As his guide I had been in the area a few days prior to the hunt and had Terk's ram located. Mr. Terk arrived the day before opening day and we immediately left so I could show him his hopeful ram. Words can't express the feelings of excitement and anticipation he felt when we finally located the ram again. The ram wasn't alone, but with a younger full curl ram, several young rams, and half a dozen ewes and yearlings. As we sat glassing and discussing the next day's final moment, it became even more obvious that Mr. Terk was a dedicated hunter in every sense of the word, feeling the appreciation and respect the old ram truly deserved.

The ram we were watching I had named years earlier Old Ironsides because of his love to fight every ram he met anytime, anywhere. We returned to camp for a meal and a night of constantly interrupted sleep. Sunrise found us sitting on a favorite vantage point waiting for the sheep to stop feeding and bed down. The old ram bedded first and the rest a couple of hours later. We started our stalk with no problems until we were within 50 yards and then we

realized all the sheep were up and feeding. Mr. Terk tried to shoot, but as they moved off the wrong ram was in front of the ram we wanted and when he moved a ewe took his place. A shot was impossible. We made a quarter mile sprint and found the old ram within ten feet of safety. He had stopped and was looking across the canyon to watch the main herd move off. Mr. Terk made a good shot around 225 yards to complete his first of two grand slams.

I feel very fortunate to have had the honor of sharing in Mr. Terk's personal and unique experience of taking the first desert ram from Aravaipa Canyon in modern times.

For this I say thank you.  
Floyd Lee Krank

I think 1980 will probably be remembered as a great year for ladies and the desert bighorn. There were a number of women who drew sheep permits and three of those women put sheep into the record book, with Vicki Clark taking the largest ram of the 1980 season. But how about eleven-year-old Tracy Contreras! She has to be one of the youngest ladies of all time to take a bighorn, and by the way, she also took a six point bull elk the same year. As with every successful hunt, preparation is the key and Tracy was well aware of this. She spent many, many days before the hunt jogging up and down the hills behind her house. Many Saturdays were also spent getting in shape. When she wasn't running (with hunting boots on by the way), looking at pictures of rams, or going over the things she would take on the hunt, she was practicing with her scaled down 6MM at the range.

The ram pictured is the best one seen during scouting and during the hunt itself. It took only one shot. With preparation like that, a large ram and one shot is only par for the course. Congratulations Tracy!!



**David Terk**



**Tracy Contreras**



# 1981 BARBEQUE

Make reservations now for the 1981 Barbeque and Sheep Hunters Clinic. We must know as soon as possible how many people will be attending so plans can be made.

## SHEEP HUNTERS CLINIC & BARBEQUE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## WILL BE ATTENDING

Barbeque ☐

Clinic ☐

Both ☐

Any questions call A.D.B.S.S. office - 274-9069.

The Barbeque will be October 16, 1981. The Clinic will be held on October 17, 1981.

If you have no coupon (given out at Water Hole Projects) the price is \$5.00 for the Friday evening steak dinner this year. Steaks will be excellent and \$5.00 is a small price to pay anywhere for a steak dinner!

More information will be in the September issue.



**STEPHEN SOLPER  
1980 HUNT  
UNIT 44A**

## The Following Items Are Offered For Sale In Consideration Of Minimum Donations As Specified:



Colorful Blue & Gold Patch

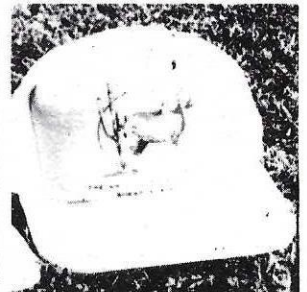


Tie Tack. Sterling Silver or 14K Gold Replica of Desert Bighorn Sheep.

Arizona  
Desert  
Bighorn  
Sheep  
Society



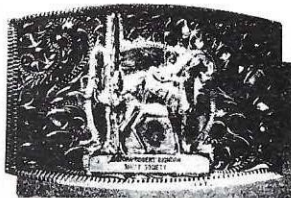
Colorful 6"x4" ADBSS Decal



Lightweight Outdoor Caps. Blue & White, Yellow & White

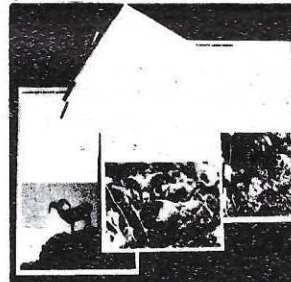


T-Shirts in Blue, Tan or Yellow with Society Emblem. 2 1/2". (S, M, L or XL)

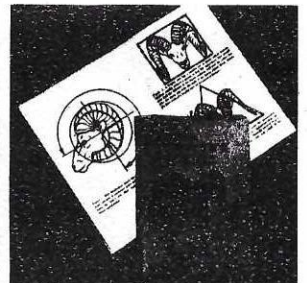


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Guide — A collection of facts and articles by knowledgeable sheep hunters.

## FORWARD ORDER TO:

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State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## ORDER FORM

Patch .....	\$1.50
Decal .....	1.50
T-Shirt .....	6.00
Buckle .....	31.00
Hunter's Guide .....	1.00
Caps .....	5.00
Stationery - 14-pak .....	2.50
Stationery - 8-pak .....	1.50

## Postage prices are as follows:

Cap — 1.00 ea.  
Buckle — 1.25 ea.  
T-Shirt — 1.75 ea.  
All other items are .75 ea.

CAPS: Specify color and size.

T-SHIRTS: Specify size, style — emblem, front or back, color.



## AWARDS BANQUET

You missed out if you weren't at the 1981 ADBSS Awards Banquet. Take a look at the pictures on the opposite page and you'll see a little of what you missed. Make plans to be there next year as the displays of mounted sheep and other related articles were fantastic.

Our guest speaker of the evening was Mr. Lanny Wilson of the B.L.M. Lanny had many excellent slides of sheep and sheep habitat and he provided everyone with very interesting facts on sheep management. Another guest of honor was Mr. John Russo of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Mr. Russo received a Certificate of Recognition for his past work with the desert bighorn going back into the 1950's. He was also honored for his efforts with the Aravaipa transplant which has now become an established sheep herd in the Aravaipa area. Mr. Russo also mentioned that he was not alone in the early stages of the transplant. Mr. Paul Webb of the Arizona Game and Fish Department deserves many thanks also. Thanks.

These banquets seem to get better and better as the years go by! See you there next year.

*Door prizes were donated by the following:*

Jeff Sievers Taxidermy  
John Gannis Liquor  
Sunset Sports Center, Tempe  
B & B Lumber  
Quail Run Taxidermy  
Arizona Art Craft Taxidermy (Craig Lynch)  
Collectors Covey (Texas) Bubba Wood  
Metro Art Gallery  
Bob Hancock Bird Taxidermy

Recipients of awards for outstanding sheep were:

Vicki Clark	Tom Martin
Tracy Contreras	J. H. Walker
David Terk	Celeste Musgrove
Frances Boggess	Richard Fraker

Much credit goes to Harry Hussey for a job well done!

## FIRST ARIZONA RAM TAKEN WITH MUZZEL LOADER

The hunt was, of course, very exciting from the time I found out I was drawn. I chose to hunt in this unit because seven or eight of my friends from the Verde Valley had taken rams there. One of these friends offered to assist me on the hunt. His wife, Susan Nelson, had, the year before, taken the largest Nelson ram on record in Arizona. A close friend of mine, Howard Schwab, was also drawn for the 15B hunt.

Opening day found Walt Nelson, Howard, myself and Terry Tasa, another friend, ascending Arch Mountain right next to Lake Mead. This was my first trip to sheep country and I was quite impressed. I and most of my friends have been, for several years, muzzle load and archery hunters. I have taken six big game species with a muzzle loader. They are turkey, javelina, elk, whitetail deer, mule deer and, best of all, the desert bighorn sheep. So it was natural for me to hunt sheep with a muzzle loader even though I knew this might be the only chance I got.

The first day we walked all over Arch Mountain and saw about thirty sheep. About thirteen were rams and about eight were legal. Of those eight only two were really worth giving a long look. These two rams were about 200 yards away (too far for me) and in a tough spot. Before we could start a stalk these rams were gone. We went on back toward the vehicle and at about 5:00 p.m. we spotted five rams feeding about one and one-half miles away. All were legal but only one had heavy horns. It was too late for a stalk that day so we returned the next morning before light and waited. When it got light enough we saw the rams again and started our stalk. About halfway through the stalk the rams came around a hill and spotted us. We froze and watched them. They were about 200 yards away. My partner was using a 30-06 and I told him to go ahead and shoot because they were too far for my 50 cal. (I was confident at ranges out to 135 yards.) By the time he decided to shoot they were about 350 yards away. He missed all five shots as they ran over a rocky bluff. We ran to the edge of the bluff expecting to find them in the next valley. I cocked and set the trigger on my muzzle loader when I came to the edge of the bluff. The rams weren't out in the valley - they were bedded down about three ledges down from me. As they all got up I picked out the one I was after and put a 50 cal. roundball right behind his shoulder. He went down and stayed down. The range was only about 60 yards. I had to hold my sights about a foot low because my rifle was sighted in for 135 yards. We halved the carcass and packed it out on two pack boards about one and one-half miles.

My partner, Howard, took his ram on the fifth day. He didn't take his with a muzzle loader but only because he wasn't carrying his. I didn't realize that I was the first to take a desert bighorn with a muzzle loader until George Welsh of the Arizona Game and Fish Department told me the next day. I appreciate very much the award that the Society gave me at you banquet. It has a special place below "George" on my wall.

Thanks,  
Dan Evans.

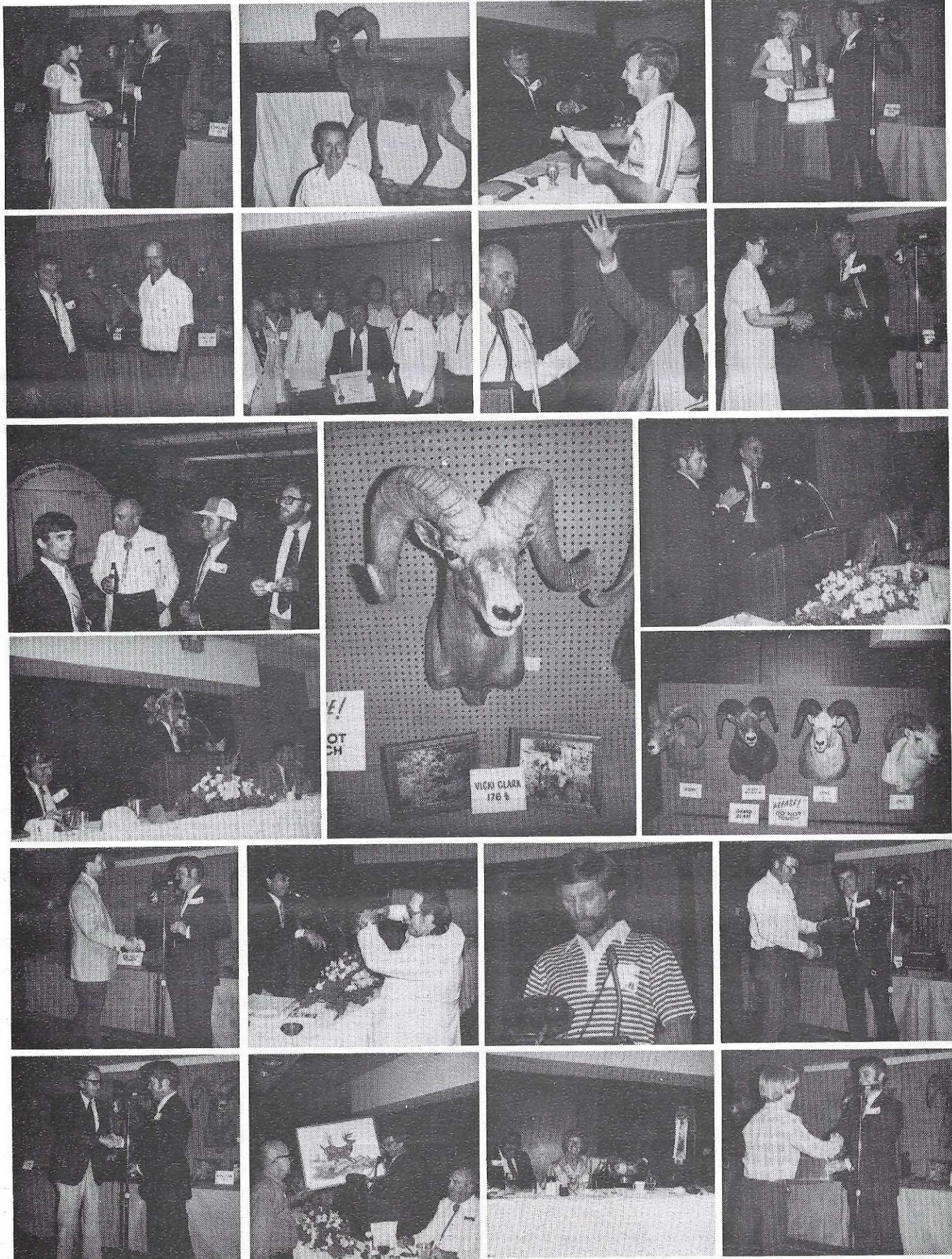
Ed. Note - The ram pictured is the first ram in modern times to be taken with a primitive weapon and unit 15B was the area where the hunt took place.



**Dan Evans**



# 1981 AWARDS BANQUET



Thanks to Lyle Sietsema for pictures



## Whats Coming Up In Next Rams Horn

What's in store for future issues of the Ram's Horn? I know some of you liked the rundown of Region III (Kingman) in the March issue so in the next issue we will have a rundown on Region IV (Yuma). Richard Remington of the Arizona Game and Fish will provide the information. There will also be a report on the Rocky Mountain Bighorn herd in Region I in another future issue. That's the Blue River country near the western New Mexico border. The New Mexico Rocky Mountain bighorn herd is doing well and some of those sheep have moved into Arizona. Also, the Arizona Game and Fish did a Rocky Mountain bighorn transplant in this same area and those sheep are doing fine.

### Board Meeting Information

Don't forget our Board meetings the second Wednesday of every month. All Society members are welcome and are needed so please try to make the next one-mark your calendar now. The meetings are at: Stuckey's Insurance Agency, 531 E Bethany Home Rd. Phoenix.  
Time: 7:00 P.M.

### Schedule of Events to Come

#### Six Projects Anticipated in '82

Although we have not yet finalized the dates or locations, the ADBSS is considering doing four projects with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and two projects with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Another special for 1982 could be a coordinated project with the Foundation. Watch the Ram's Horn for the dates and locations.

In the September issue we will run a list of all those who helped with the water hole projects throughout the year. Along with this we will have a run down of what took place at the last major project of the year which was in the Kingman Area.

*Don't forget to send in your ad for the ADBSS Membership Directory!*

## 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 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 membership donation. DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Annual Minimum Donation Is \$12.00

☐ RENEWAL ☐ NEW MEMBER DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEL. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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# RAM'S HORN

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